

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

Why Philosophy?

Philosophy is the attempt to think carefully, clearly and critically about the nature of the world, the significance of life, and the goals that people should pursue both as individuals and as a society. As these pursuits involve inquiring into the reasons and justifications for various beliefs and attitudes, philosophy also deals with the nature of knowledge and the standards for rational justification.

Philosophy at SIUE

SIUE's Philosophy Department provides students the opportunity to study both broadly and deeply in philosophy with professors from a wide range of specializations and a variety of philosophical methodologies. To ensure breadth, majors are required to take courses from at least five of the following areas: History of Western Philosophy, Metaphysics and Epistemology, Value Theory, Cultural Pluralism, Religion and Special Fields. To ensure depth, majors must take a Philosophy seminar involving focused cooperative study of a given topic, as well as a Senior Assignment course involving directed independent research on a chosen topic. The program emphasizes the development of critical thinking, careful interpretation, and compelling writing skills.

Career Outlook

A strong liberal arts background provides an excellent foundation from which to launch exciting careers in a variety of fields. In addition to opening the door to the pursuit of a graduate degree in philosophy, a major in philosophy is highly desirable in any career that places a premium on independent thinking and effective communication. Therefore, in addition to preparing one for an academic career, a major in philosophy is excellent preparation for careers in such fields as law, journalism, politics and business.

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the bachelor of science or bachelor of arts program, students must:

- complete all Academic Development courses required by the University;
- complete any courses required to address high school deficiencies;
- complete PHIL 106, PHIL 207, or PHIL 213 with a grade of C or better.

Note: PHIL 106 does not count for credit toward the major in philosophy.

Exit Requirements

- Complete all specific program requirements.
- Complete all University requirements including:
 - all general education requirements
 - a minimum of 124 credit hours
 - at least 30 of which must be completed at SIUE
 - At least 60 of which must be completed at a regionally accredited 4-year institution
 - A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0
 - Bachelor of Arts only: one year of the same foreign language
- File an Application for Graduation by the first day of the term in which you plan to graduate.

Application Deadline

Please refer to SIUE's undergraduate application deadlines.

Faculty**Professors**

Suzanne L. Cataldi (Chair), Ph.D.

1991, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey

Gregory P. Fields, Ph.D.

1994, University of Hawai'i

Ezio Vailati, Ph.D.

1985, University of California at San Diego

Robert B. Ware, D.Phil.

1995, Oxford University

Associate Professors

Judith K. Crane, Ph.D.

1999, Tulane University

William S. Larkin, Ph.D.

1998, University of California Santa Barbara

Assistant Professors

Matthew C. Cashen, Ph.D.

2007, Washington University

Greg Littmann, Ph.D.

2004, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bryan L. Lueck, Ph.D.

2007, The Pennsylvania State University

Christopher H. Pearson, Ph.D.

2007, University of Washington

Alison Reiheld, Ph.D.

Michigan State University

Matthew Schunke, Ph.D.

2009, Rice University

Instructors

Raymond C. Darr, M.A.

1984, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Erik J. Meade, M.A.

2001, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Edward W. Schallert, M.A.

1990, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Sample Four-Year Curriculum - BA/BS

	FALL	SPRING
YEAR 1	ENG 101 English Composition I (3) BA: Foreign Language 101 (4) or BS: SPC 103 or 105 (3) Introductory Fine Arts and Humanities (FAH) (3) Introductory Natural Sciences and Math (NSM) (3) Introductory Social Sciences (SS) (3) Total 15 (16)	ENG 102 English Composition II (3) BA: Foreign Language 102 (IC) or BS: CMIS 108 or STAT 107 (3) PHIL 106, PHIL 207 or PHIL 213 (3) Introductory FAH, SS or NSM (3) Introductory FAH, SS or NSM (3) Total 15 (16)
YEAR 2	PHIL Elective (Value Theory) (3)** PHIL Elective/Skills (3) Intergroup Relations (IGR) (3) Distribution Social Sciences (3) Distribution Fine Arts and Humanities (3) Total 15	PHIL Elective (Cultural Pluralism, Religion, or Special Fields) (3)** PHIL Elective (3) Distribution Natural Sciences and Math (3) Minor (3) Elective (3) Total 15
YEAR 3	PHIL Elective (History of Western Philosophy) (3) PHIL Elective (3) Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) (3) Minor (3) Minor (3) BA: Elective (2) or BS: Elective (2) or (3) Total 17 (18)	PHIL Elective (Metaphysics and Epistemology) (3) PHIL Elective (Cultural Pluralism, Religion or Special Fields) (3) Minor (3) Minor (3) Elective (3) Total 15
YEAR 4	PHIL 480 Senior Assignment (3) PHIL Elective (3) Minor (3) Minor/Elective (3) Elective (3) Total 15	PHIL 490 Philosophy Seminar (3) Elective (3) Elective (3) Elective (3) BA: Elective or BS: Elective (3) or (4) Total 15 (16)

**Contact CAS advisement for course selection

TRANSFER STUDENTS Maximize your transfer experience - complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer **AND** satisfy the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS, or AAT (early childhood, special ed, or math) degree from an IAI community college. If 'Minor' requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact listed. Transfer Credit Equivalency Guides are located at siue.edu/transfer/

BA degree requires two semesters of same foreign language.

Academic Advising Information

Considering a major in Philosophy?

Contact Professor William Larkin:

wlarkin@siue.edu, 618.650.2643, PH 2207

College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Advising, 618.650.5525

A-G: Leslie Daugherty, ledaugh@siue.edu

H-O: Brian Eikenhourt, beikenh@siue.edu

P-Z: Brink Chance, brchanc@siue.edu

Contact Info

Department of Philosophy

SIUE, Campus Box 1433, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1433

618.650.2250

