

PHILOSOPHY

College of Arts and Sciences • Department of Philosophy

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy
- Bachelor of Science in Philosophy

Philosophy at SIUE

At SIUE, pursuing a degree in philosophy allows you to follow your interests. Since classes in the College of Arts and Sciences are often centered on a discussion, you can be an active participant every day. Philosophy is fun, but it also requires hard work. In order to help develop your ability to solve complex problems, generate ideas, communicate clearly, respond to others, adapt to change and think creatively, faculty in the Department of Philosophy will challenge you throughout your course of study. Being challenged each day helps students develop deep analytical skills that will translate into everyday life, as well as their chosen profession.

What is Philosophy?

Philosophy is the attempt to think carefully, critically, and systematically about the most challenging questions that face humanity. Philosophy is the oldest academic discipline, with roots that can be traced to ancient Greece and to thinkers who asked probing questions to help them understand themselves and the world around them. Philosophy is sometimes called “the queen of the sciences” because every major academic discipline—from math to psychology—was part of philosophy, at one time. Today, philosophy continues to spawn new cutting edge fields, such as cognitive science. Some classic philosophical questions include:

- What makes something good?
- What is a person?
- What is virtue?
- What makes something just or unjust?
- What are minds and bodies, and how are they related?
- What is knowledge, and how is it best acquired?
- What makes something beautiful?

Career Opportunities

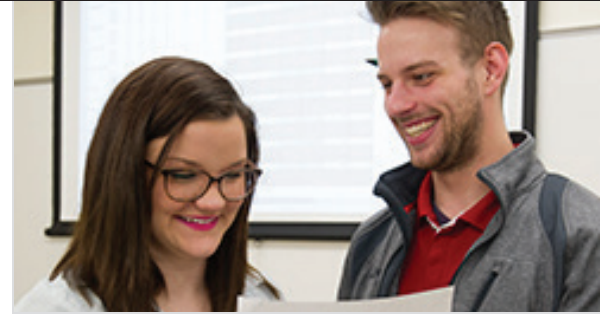
A degree in philosophy focuses primarily on clear thinking and writing. Due to this focus, students will be prepared for a wide range of careers, including law, medicine, bioethics, finance, diplomacy, journalism, public relations and business. Students earning a degree in philosophy are also well-prepared for graduate and professional school. Philosophy students tend to score higher on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and the verbal and analytical writing portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) than students from other majors, and are among the highest scorers on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT).

Famous philosophy majors include: Thomas Jefferson, Carl Icahn, George Soros, David Souter, Steven Colbert, Mary Higgins Clark, Phil Jackson and Bruce Lee. Philosophy majors can end up wherever they desire since the basic skills they develop help ensure they will thrive wherever their interests take them.

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science program, students must:

- Complete all academic development courses required by the University.
- Complete any courses required to address high school deficiencies.
- Complete RA 101, PHIL 207 or PHIL 213 with a grade of C or better (Note: RA 101 does not count for credit toward the major in philosophy).



Faculty

Matthew C. Cashen, PhD

2007, Washington University

Michelle E. Catalano, MA

2010, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Judith K. Crane, PhD

1999, Tulane University

Raymond C. Darr, MA

1984, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Saba Fatima, PhD

2012, Binghamton University

Gregory P. Fields, PhD

1994, University of Hawaii

Richard J. Fry, PhD

2013, Georgetown University

Erik R. Krag, PhD

2012, University of Tennessee

William S. Larkin, PhD

1998, University of California-Santa Barbara

Bryan L. Lueck, PhD

2007, The Pennsylvania State University

Greg Littmann, PhD

2004, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Erik J. Meade, MA

2001, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Christopher H. Pearson, PhD

2007, University of Washington

Alison Reiheld, PhD

2010, Michigan State University

Edward W. Schallert, MA

1990, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Matthew Schunke, PhD

2009, Rice University

Robert B. Ware, DPhil

1995, Oxford University

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Sample Four-Year Curriculum - Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy

	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER
YEAR 1	ENG 101 English Composition I	ENG 102 English Composition II
	Foreign Language 101 (BICS)	Foreign Language 102 (BICS, EGC)
	RA 101 Reasoning and Argumentation, or PHIL 213	ACS 101 or 103 Oral Expression
	QR 101 Quantitative Reasoning, or MATH 150 or higher	Breadth Life Science (BLS)
	New Freshman Seminar	100-200 level PHIL Elective (BHUM)
	Total	Total
YEAR 2	PHIL 300 (BHUM, EGC)	PHIL 307 or PHIL 304 (BHUM)
	Breadth Fine and Performing Arts (BFPA)	PHIL (Value Theory) (BHUM)
	Breadth Physical Science (BPS)	Minor
	Life, Physical or Social Science with a Lab Experience (EL)	Minor
	Breadth Social Science (BSS)	Elective
	Health Experience (EH)	Total
YEAR 3	PHIL (Metaphysics and Epistemology) (BHUM)	PHIL (Cultural Pluralism) (BHUM, EUSC)
	PHIL Elective (BHUM)	PHIL (Religion) (BHUM)
	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	PHIL Elective (BHUM)
	Minor	Minor
	Minor	Minor
	Total	Total
YEAR 4	PHIL 480 Senior Assignment (SRA)	PHIL 490 Philosophy Seminar
	Minor/Elective	Elective
	Elective	Elective
	Minor/Elective	Elective
	Elective	Elective
	Total	Total

Sample Four-Year Curriculum - Bachelor of Science, Philosophy

	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER
YEAR 1	ENG 101 English Composition I	ENG 102 English Composition II
	RA 101 Reasoning and Argumentation or PHIL 213	ACS 101 or 103 Oral Expression
	QR 101 Quantitative Reasoning or MATH 150 or higher	Life Science (BLS)
	Breadth Social Sciences (BSS)	100-200 level PHIL Elective
	New Freshman Seminar (NFS)	Breadth Information and Communication in Society (BICS)
	Total	(PHIL 207 or PHIL 213) Total
YEAR 2	PHIL 300 (BHUM)	PHIL 304 or PHIL 307
	Breadth Fine and Performing Arts (BFPA)	PHIL (Value Theory)
	Breadth Physical Science (BPS)	Breadth Life, Physical or Social Sciences (BLS, BPS or BSS)
	Breadth Life, Physical or Social Science (BLS, BPS or BSS)	Life, Physical or Social Sciences with Lab Experience (EL)
	Life, Physical or Social Science with a Lab Experience (EL)	Minor
	Minor	Health Experience (EH)
YEAR 3	PHIL (Metaphysics and Epistemology)	PHIL (Cultural Pluralism) (EUSC)
	PHIL Elective	PHIL (Religion)
	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	Breadth Life, Physical or Social Science (BLS, BPS or BSS)
	Breadth Life, Physical or Social Science (BLS, BPS or BSS)	Minor
	Minor	Minor
	Total	Total
YEAR 4	PHIL 480 Senior Assignment	PHIL 490 Philosophy Seminar
	Breadth Life, Physical or Social Science (BLS, BPS, BSS)	Elective
	Minor	Elective
	Minor/Elective	Elective
	Minor/Elective	Elective
	Total	Total

TRANSFER STUDENTS – To maximize your transfer experience, complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer **AND** satisfy either 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.

Graduation Requirements

- Complete all specific program requirements.
- Complete all University requirements, including:
 - All general education requirements
 - A minimum of 120 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 on a 4.0
 - Bachelor of Arts only: one (1) year of the same foreign language

- Bachelor of Science only: one (1) additional lab experience course
- File an Application for Graduation by the first day of the term in which you plan to graduate.

Contact Information

Department of Philosophy
College of Arts and Sciences
618.650.2250



This information is concurrent with the 2017-2018 Academic Catalog. Courses are subject to change at any time.