



# THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

For more information visit [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca) or contact a student recruitment officer at [welcome@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:welcome@uwinnipeg.ca) or 204.786.9844. In any case where The University of Winnipeg Course Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

## Philosophy

*Philosophy is the use of reason and dialogue to understand and try to answer questions that are common to all human beings about what is of value, what is real, and what we can know.*

Philosophy is concerned with questions that any person, at any time or place, can wonder about and seek to answer. Such questions include: Can we prove that God exists? What is justice? What is the best life for me? How can I know when I am right and when I am mistaken? Where do my ideas come from?

The Philosophy Department at The University of Winnipeg has had a long and successful commitment, distinctive among Manitoba's universities, to teaching philosophy historically. Students read texts by authors from every period in the history of philosophy and from many parts of the world. This allows students to consider a wide range of answers to philosophical questions as well as to understand the origins of the ideas that influence our thinking about ourselves and our society today.

This program leads to a **Bachelor of Arts degree (3-year, 4-year, or Honours)** with a Major in Philosophy.

Students taking a 4-year degree in another Major may choose to add a Minor in Philosophy as a secondary area of interest.

### SAMPLE CAREERS

Although philosophical study and conversation are valuable primarily because of the richness they add to our lives, they also successfully prepare philosophy majors for rewarding careers in a variety of fields. Our graduates are sought in the job market for their ability to think clearly, argue creatively, and analyze complex questions. While these abilities are useful in all walks of life, they are very highly regarded in the fields of education, journalism, research, government, administration, counselling, policy-making, business, and law. Our Department has a strong record of its students being accepted at excellent graduate schools in Canada and abroad, as well as at law schools and other centres of professional learning.

### SAMPLE COURSES

**Introduction to Philosophy** is a first-year course that presents basic philosophical problems and appropriate methods for discussing them. Central issues in ethics, religion, logic, knowledge, science, and metaphysics are examined.

**Philosophy of Art** is a second-year course which examines some of the fundamental problems and questions of aesthetics including what is the definition and purpose of art, the nature of beauty, the sources of genius and originality, the problem of forgery, and the possible connection between art and the moral good.

### MORE SAMPLE COURSES

Environmental Ethics  
Classical Philosophy  
Renaissance Philosophy  
Moral Philosophy  
Philosophy of Mind  
Philosophy of Religion  
Philosophy of the Social Sciences  
Social and Political Philosophy

## WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...

"I was fortunate to have excellent professors in both Philosophy and Religious Studies, and look back on a time which was full of the kind of social, intellectual, and spiritual development that an academic community should provide at its best." - *Bill Blaikie (BA '73 Philosophy and Religious Studies) was the Member of Parliament for Winnipeg's Elmwood/Transcona riding for 25 years as well Deputy Leader of the NDP and Dean of the House of Commons.*

"Happiness for me is growing in as many ways as I can, and the time I've spent at this University has allowed me to flourish academically and personally. I have the faculty to thank for that—they have been caring and professional. The close relationships I have formed are crucial to who and where I am now." - *Ariel Zylberman (BA Hons. '03 Philosophy) was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for graduate studies at Oxford University in 2003.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Since 1991, four of the Governor-General's Silver Medal winners (highest academic standing for BA Honors degree) have been Philosophy Majors.
- Many second-year Philosophy courses—such as Environmental Ethics and Moral Philosophy—do not require that you have taken an introductory course in Philosophy.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S PHILOSOPHY STUDENTS' CLUB

The University of Winnipeg's Philosophy Students Club meets alternate Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. to discuss philosophical issues, and also hosts presentations of student papers. During the term, the club meets in the Philosophy Common Room on the fourth floor of Graham Hall.

## SAMPLE FIRST YEAR

*NOTE: This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. For many of our programs, you may choose another set of courses and still be well on your way to a degree. Also, for most programs you do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.*

One of:

PHIL-1001(6) Introduction to Philosophy OR PHIL-1002/6 Values and the Human Condition OR PHIL-1301(6) Introduction to Logical Reasoning

RHET-1101(3) Academic Writing: Humanities or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)  
21 credit hours Electives, depending on interest.

Many Arts students take courses that fulfil the University's Science requirement in their first year. See The University of Winnipeg Course Calendar for a complete list of options.

## REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Students must meet The University of Winnipeg's general admission requirements. No specific courses are required.

## HOW TO APPLY – Domestic Student

Apply online at [uwinnipeg.ca](http://uwinnipeg.ca) or pick up an Application for Admission from your high school counsellor's office or the Admissions Office at The University of Winnipeg. To meet Scholarship deadline submit your application and \$80 application fee by **March 1st**.

## HOW TO APPLY – International Student

Apply online at [uwinnipeg.ca/index/intl-apply](http://uwinnipeg.ca/index/intl-apply) and submit all official documents by mail. To meet Scholarship deadline submit application, fee, and documents by **March 1st**. International application fee is \$100, which includes a one-time courier fee.

## CONTACT US

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