



FACULTY OF ARTS

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? What are my responsibilities toward other living beings?

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 an undergraduate degree in another Major may choose to add a **Minor** in Philosophy as a secondary area of interest.

SAMPLE CAREERS

Our graduates' abilities to analyze complex questions, construct arguments and debate issues are useful in all walks of life. These skills are very highly regarded in the fields of education, journalism, research, government, administration, counselling, policy-making, business, and law. Philosophy students have a strong track record of being accepted into prestigious graduate schools in Canada and abroad, as well as into professional programs, such as Law School.

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 Nature
- Philosophy of Education
- Philosophy of Literature
- Philosophy of Mind
- Philosophy of Religion
- Social and Political Philosophy

SAMPLE FIRST YEAR

PHIL-1001(6) Introduction to Philosophy

Plus:

RHET-1101(3) Academic Writing: Humanities or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)

21-24 credit hours Electives, depending on interest, e.g.:

HIST-1014(3) Europe and the Mediterranean World to 1700

HIST-1015(3) The Atlantic World: Europe and the Americas, 1700-1989

GERM-1001(6) Introductory German

CLAS-1011(3) Greek Society

POL-1012(3) The Canadian State and Indigenous Peoples

3 credit hours of Humanities or Science courses

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.

“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. Philosophy), who was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for graduate studies at Oxford University

REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

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

HOW TO APPLY

For details on application requirements and deadlines, and to apply online, please visit:
uwinnipeg.ca/apply

For more information contact a student recruitment officer at welcome@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9844.

In any case where the University’s Academic Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

CONTACT US

Dr. Adam Scarfe, Chair

P: 204.786.9369

E: a.scarfe@uwinnipeg.ca

Angela McGillivray

Department Assistant

P: 204.786.9878

E: ad.mcgillivray@uwinnipeg.ca