PHILOSOPHY (PHIL)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Arts and Humanities

Abstract

The Department of Philosophy offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees with emphasis on contemporary Anglo-American philosophy and the interaction of philosophy with other disciplines. Students often enter the doctorate program without an M.A. degree, but the M.A. may be earned on the way to the Ph.D. While the Ph.D. program is suitable primarily for students who wish to enter a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, the M.A. program is appropriate for those who want to deepen and expand the knowledge they gained as undergraduates or who wish to develop competence in philosophy to apply to some other professional field.

Financial Assistance

The Department administers a number of graduate assistantships and fellowships. Virtually all applicants admitted to the doctoral program are offered support, typically a combination of teaching assistantships and fellowships.

Contact

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Website: http://www.philosophy.umd.edu

Courses: PHIL (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/phil/)

ADMISSIONS

General Requirements

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/))

Program-Specific Requirements

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (optional)
- Writing Sample (one required, up to one more optional)
- CV/Resume
- Description of Research/Work Experience (optional)

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/application-process/step-step-guide-applying/).

Application Deadlines

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline
Domestic Applicants	
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	January 10, 2026
International Applicants	
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A,E,G,H,I and L visas and immigrants	January 10, 2026

Other Deadlines: Please visit the program website at http://www.philosophy.umd.edu

REQUIREMENTS

- Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/philosophy-phil/philosophy-phd/)
- Philosophy, Master of Arts (M.A.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/philosophy-phil/philosophy-ma/)

FACILITIES AND SPECIAL RESOURCES

A number of other departments and programs at the University offer graduate students additional opportunities for coursework and research.

In addition to the excellent libraries on campus, students may use other libraries in the Washington/Baltimore metropolitan area, such as the Library of Congress, the Center for Hellenic Studies, and the Eisenhower Library on the campus of Johns Hopkins University.

The Department sponsors a series of colloquia by visiting and local speakers throughout the academic year.