The department offers a varied and challenging undergraduate curriculum that allows students to acquire a solid general education in philosophy or to concentrate in more specialized areas. Studying philosophy provides good preparation for some popular careers. Recent data show that philosophy majors do very well on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), for example. We don't find this surprising, since studying philosophy develops capacities to analyze complex arguments and to think critically.

**PROGRAMS**

Majors

- Philosophy Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/philosophy/philosophy-major/)
- Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Major (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/philosophy/philosophy-politics-economics-major/)

Minor

- Philosophy Minor (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/arts-humanities/philosophy/philosophy-minor/)

**ADVISING**

Philosophy majors must be advised each semester before registration. Contact philadv@umd.edu for more information.

To review the academic plan for this major, go to http://arhu.umd.edu/academicsadvising/academic-plans/.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**Honors Program**

The Philosophy Honors Program allows exceptional students the opportunity to work closely with a member of the Philosophy faculty on a project, typically a 30-40 page philosophical paper (i.e., “Honors Thesis”), during the final two semesters of his/her undergraduate career. The two semesters of independent study with the faculty advisor culminate in the student presenting and defending the Honors Thesis before a committee consisting of 2-3 faculty members in addition to the advisor. Successful students will graduate with Honors in Philosophy.

Requirements and Procedures

- A prospective honors student should normally have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and a GPA of 3.75 in philosophy classes with no grade below a "C" in any philosophy course.
- A prospective honors student should find a willing faculty advisor in the spring semester before the senior year.¹
- The student must present a proposal to the prospective advisor at the end of the spring semester.¹

  ¹ Or, for students graduating in December, the semester prior to the student's next to last semester

**Student Societies and Professional Organizations**

The Philosophy Club holds weekly meetings during the semester to discuss philosophical topics of interest to members.

**Scholarships and Financial Assistance**

The Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) administers all types of federal, state and institutional financial assistance programs and, in cooperation with other university offices, participates in the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. For information, visit: http://financialaid.umd.edu.

**Awards and Recognition**

The W.E. Schlaretzki Prize is given to the most outstanding graduating senior each year. The Joseph and Beth Duckett Scholarship is given to the most outstanding junior.