

Accelerated Master of Arts in Philosophy

The Accelerated M.A. provides KU undergraduates who have majored in Philosophy an opportunity to complete the M.A. in Philosophy within a year of completing their bachelor's degree. Talented students who are planning to continue their studies at the doctoral level or to continue to law school will receive a competitive advantage by acquiring a master's degree in half the time traditionally required for a terminal M.A.

More details regarding the Accelerated M.A. program can be found in the department's Graduate Handbook (<https://philosophy.ku.edu/ma/>).

Admission to Graduate Studies

Admission Requirements

- All applicants must meet the requirements outlined in the Admission to Graduate Study (<https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/admission-to-graduate-study/>) policy.
- Bachelor's degree: A copy of official transcripts showing proof of a bachelor's degree (and any post-bachelor's coursework or degrees) from a regionally accredited institution, or a foreign university with equivalent bachelor's degree requirements is required.
- English proficiency: Proof of English proficiency (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/english-requirements/>) for non-native or non-native-like English speakers is required. There are two bands of English proficiency, including Admission and Full proficiency. For applicants to online programs, Full proficiency is required.

Admission Requirements

1. Completion or progress toward completion of a Bachelor's in Philosophy degree from the University of Kansas
2. GPA of 3.5 in Philosophy
3. GRE is not required, though the department will consider GRE scores if submitted with application materials

For additional information, including relevant deadlines and a list of required supplemental documentation to be submitted with the online application, please visit the graduate page of the Philosophy website (<https://philosophy.ku.edu/ma/>), or contact the department Graduate Program Coordinator (<https://philosophy.ku.edu/staff/>).

Degree Requirements

Students must complete all of the following requirements for the Accelerated M.A. within one calendar year post-bachelor's:

24 credit hours of graduate course work (500-level or above) in philosophy post-bachelor's with a grade of B or higher. At least 15 of these hours must be in courses numbered 800 or above.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|----------|---|-------|
| PHIL 800 | Proseminar (To be taken in the first year of study) | 3 |

Two graduate-level courses (500 or above) in each of the following 3 areas

For courses that can count toward multiple areas, the semester course schedule will indicate which topic and distribution area(s) are relevant

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| History of Philosophy | | 6 |
| PHIL 506 | Chinese Thought | |
| PHIL 557 | Kant | |
| PHIL 558 | Seventeenth Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 559 | Eighteenth Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 560 | Nineteenth Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 570 | Nietzsche | |
| PHIL 582 | Existentialism | |
| PHIL 590 | Phenomenology | |
| PHIL 592 | Contemporary Continental Philosophy | |
| PHIL 605 | The Philosophy of Plato | |
| PHIL 607 | The Philosophy of Aristotle | |
| PHIL 608 | Hellenistic Philosophy | |
| PHIL 648 | Theory of Knowledge | |
| PHIL 650 | Metaphysics | |
| PHIL 654 | Philosophy of Mind | |
| PHIL 805 | Plato | |
| PHIL 807 | Aristotle | |
| PHIL 820 | Topics in the History of Philosophy: _____ | |
| PHIL 824 | Hume | |
| Metaphysics and Epistemology | | 6 |
| PHIL 620 | Philosophy of Natural Science | |
| PHIL 622 | Philosophy of Social Science | |
| PHIL 630 | Philosophy of Mathematics | |
| PHIL 638 | Philosophy of Language | |
| PHIL 648 | Theory of Knowledge | |
| PHIL 650 | Metaphysics | |
| PHIL 654 | Philosophy of Mind | |
| PHIL 666 | Rational Choice Theory | |
| PHIL 850 | Topics in Recent Philosophy: _____ | |
| PHIL 860 | Topics in Philosophy of Science: _____ | |
| PHIL 868 | Topics in Philosophy of Language: _____ | |
| PHIL 872 | Topics in Theory of Knowledge: _____ | |
| PHIL 877 | Topics in Philosophy of Mind: _____ | |
| Value Theory | | 6 |
| PHIL 504 | Philosophy of Sex and Love | |
| PHIL 662 | Aesthetics | |
| PHIL 666 | Rational Choice Theory | |
| PHIL 668 | Political Philosophy | |
| PHIL 670 | Contemporary Ethical Theory | |
| PHIL 671 | Feminist Theories in Ethics | |
| PHIL 674 | Philosophy of Law | |
| PHIL 676 | Medical Ethics: Life and Death Issues | |
| PHIL 850 | Topics in Recent Philosophy: _____ | |
| PHIL 880 | Topics in Ethics: _____ | |
| Additional Electives | | 3 |
| PHIL 500 | Studies in Philosophy: _____ | |
| PHIL 593 | Marxism and Critical Theory | |
| PHIL 600 | Readings in Philosophy: _____ | |
| PHIL 610 | Metalogic | |
| PHIL 612 | Modal and Non-classical Logics | |
| PHIL 833 | Nietzsche | |

Final Examination:

All Accelerated MA students must pass an oral examination conducted by a committee of three philosophy department faculty. The examination can include any material from the student's M.A. program. In advance of their final semester of course work, the student will work with the Director of Graduate Studies to identify three faculty members to serve on the student's examination committee. The specific format of the exam is then decided by the student and the committee, often in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies. A frequently used option is for the student to select (and perhaps subsequently revise) a paper written for a class and to use the topic of that paper as the focus of the examination.

Time Limits and Other Restrictions

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5 in the first semester of graduate study in order to maintain eligibility for the program. They will be subject to a formal mid-year review to ensure satisfactory progress towards completion of the degree.

A student who receives a bachelor's degree in Spring or Summer begins the M.A. portion of the degree that Fall. The student must then complete all requirements for the Accelerated M.A. by the first day of classes the following Fall.

If a student does not complete the Accelerated M.A. requirements within one year post-bachelor's, the student may petition the department for admission to the standard 30-hour M.A. In extraordinary circumstances, for example, serious illness, students may petition the department to remain in the Accelerated M.A.

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- communicate, in written and oral form, key aspects of (a) the history of philosophical thought, and (b) the major currents in contemporary debates across the different branches of philosophy.
- evaluate the cogency of argumentative discourse, provide reasons for this evaluation, and express these reasons clearly to a variety of audiences.
- argue clearly and persuasively for their position, recognizing its weaknesses and developing its strengths.
- recognize, examine, and critically assess normative standards of social relations, practices, and institutions, including a wide range of human activities depending on value judgments.
- demonstrate, in written and oral form, an understanding of key.
- identify and extract arguments from texts, evaluate the cogency.
- articulate an oral argument that clearly and persuasively presents.
- articulate an oral argument that clearly and persuasively presents.
- develop a written argument that clearly and persuasively.
- demonstrate understanding of and sensitivity to professional.
- identify, pursue, and develop argument and analysis.