

Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy

The Philosophy Department at the University of Kansas comprises 14 full-time faculty members and about 35 graduate students. The department fosters teaching and research that reflects a broad range of philosophical orientations and fields of philosophy. The department's chief strengths are in ethics, philosophy of science, and history of philosophy (ancient, modern, 19th century). The department is in Wescoe Hall, the main humanities building.

The Ph.D. degree requires 39 hours of graduate course work, including a first-year graduate tutorial and a research tutorial. Ph.D. candidates also must satisfy the University's Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship requirement, pass both a departmental examination over the research tutorial and an oral comprehensive examination, and write and successfully defend a dissertation.

Admission to Graduate Studies

An applicant seeking to pursue graduate study in the College may be admitted as either a degree-seeking or non-degree seeking student. Policies and procedures of Graduate Studies govern the process of Graduate admission. These may be found in the Graduate Studies (<http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies/>) section of the online catalog.

Please consult the Departments & Programs (<http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/>) section of the online catalog for information regarding program-specific admissions criteria and requirements. Special admissions requirements pertain to Interdisciplinary Studies degrees, which may be found in the Graduate Studies section of the online catalog.

Admission to the Ph.D. in Philosophy

Apply to the graduate program via the Office of Graduate Studies online application system (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/>).

In addition to the general admission requirements (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/apply/>) from the Office of Graduate Studies, applicants are expected to have taken the following seven courses or their equivalents as preparation for graduate work:

1. symbolic logic
2. history of ancient philosophy
3. history of modern philosophy
4. history of 20th-century analytic philosophy (roughly from Frege to Quine)
5. history of 19th/20th-century Continental philosophy
6. value theory
7. metaphysics/epistemology (broadly construed to include philosophy of language and philosophy of mind).

Students may be admitted without some of these courses, but they are expected to make up the deficiencies early in their graduate careers and outside of the minimum hours required for degree.

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 (<http://www.philosophy.ku.edu/>) website, or contact

the department Graduate Academic Advisor, **Aley Pennington**, a (ckreienhop@ku.edu)/(leypennington@ku.edu) (aleypennington@ku.edu).

Ph.D. Degree Requirements

A student preparing for a doctorate in philosophy must meet general requirements and, before officially enrolling in PHIL 999 Dissertation, must satisfy these special requirements:

Complete at least 39 credit hours of graduate work in regular philosophy courses numbered 500 or above with grades in each course of at least B- and an overall grade-point average of at least B in all graduate philosophy courses. At least 24 of these hours must be at the 800 level or above (including PHIL 800 Tutorial and PHIL 901 Ph.D. Tutorial). Beyond the 39-hour requirement, additional hours in PHIL 999 Dissertation are required as appropriate in accordance with the rules of the Office of Graduate Studies and the Department.

1. Complete PHIL 800 **Tutorial** with a grade of B- or higher in the first year of enrollment.
2. **Formal Philosophy Requirement:** Complete PHIL 610 Metalogic, PHIL 611 Topics in Symbolic Logic: _____ or PHIL 666 Rational Choice Theory with a grade of B- or higher.
3. **Ph.D. Course Distribution Requirement:**

Code	Title	Hours
Metaphysics and Epistemology		
Select two of the following:		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 850	Topics in Recent Philosophy: _____	
PHIL 860	Topics in Philosophy of Science: _____	
PHIL 868	Topics in Philosophy of Language: _____	
PHIL 870	Topics in Metaphysics: _____	
PHIL 872	Topics in Theory of Knowledge: _____	
PHIL 877	Topics in Philosophy of Mind: _____	
PHIL 888	Topics in the Philosophy of the Social Sciences: _____	
Value Theory		
Select two of the following:		6
PHIL 504	Philosophy of Sex and Love	
PHIL 555	Justice and Economic Systems	
PHIL 662	Aesthetics	
PHIL 668	Political Philosophy	
PHIL 670	Contemporary Ethical Theory	
PHIL 671	Feminist Theories in Ethics	
PHIL 672	History of Ethics	
PHIL 674	Philosophy of Law	
PHIL 676	Medical Ethics: Life and Death Issues	
PHIL 677	Medical Ethics: Professional Responsibilities	
PHIL 850	Topics in Recent Philosophy: _____	
PHIL 880	Topics in Ethics: _____	

PHIL 884 Topics in Social and Political Philosophy: _____

PHIL 885 Topics in Law and Philosophy

PHIL 886 Topics in Applied Ethics: _____

Ancient Philosophy

Select one of the following: 3

PHIL 508 Early Greek Philosophy

PHIL 605 The Philosophy of Plato

PHIL 607 The Philosophy of Aristotle

PHIL 608 Hellenistic Philosophy

PHIL 805 Plato

PHIL 807 Aristotle

PHIL 820 Topics in the History of Philosophy: _____

Modern Philosophy

Select one of the following: 3

PHIL 557 Kant

PHIL 558 Seventeenth Century Philosophy

PHIL 559 Eighteenth Century Philosophy

PHIL 820 Topics in the History of Philosophy: _____

PHIL 824 Hume

PHIL 828 Kant

Nineteenth- and 20th-Century Philosophy

Select one of the following: 3

PHIL 560 Nineteenth Century Philosophy

PHIL 562 Kierkegaard

PHIL 570 Nietzsche

PHIL 580 Marxism

PHIL 582 Existentialism

PHIL 590 Phenomenology

PHIL 592 Contemporary Continental Philosophy

PHIL 820 Topics in the History of Philosophy: _____

PHIL 831 Hegel

PHIL 835 Frege

PHIL 848 Wittgenstein

PHIL 850 Topics in Recent Philosophy: _____

PHIL 890 Topics in Continental Philosophy: _____ (Topic, instructor, and specific prerequisites to be announced in the Schedule of Classes.)

have been completed, or in the semester in which the requirements will be completed.

After the oral comprehensive examination has been passed, the student must write a dissertation of substantial merit showing the planning, conduct, and result of original research and must pass a final oral examination and defense of the dissertation.

Reduction of Credits

University graduate credit policy (<http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/graduate-credit/>) does not allow for a direct transfer of credits toward the Ph.D.; however, the department's requirement of 39 credit hours of acceptable graduate work for the Ph.D. may be reduced by departmental petition depending on the amount and quality of equivalent graduate work completed at another institution. At minimum, 24 hours of acceptable graduate work must be taken in the Department of Philosophy at KU.

4. **PHIL 901 Ph.D. Tutorial:** Students may not enroll in PHIL 901 before the third semester and normally should enroll in PHIL 901 no later than the sixth semester.
5. **Research Skills & Responsible Scholarship Requirement.**
The University requires that every doctoral student have training in responsible scholarship and research skills pertinent to the field of research and appropriate to the doctoral level. This requirement must be met before taking the comprehensive oral exam. For Philosophy doctoral students, this requirement is met by the following:
 - PHIL 800
 - PHIL 901
 - Demonstrated competence in an approved foreign language, OR completion of a faculty-approved course in a discipline related to the student's research interests.
6. Pass the **comprehensive oral examination** for Ph.D. candidacy. This examination must be taken after all of the above requirements