

MASTER OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY, PLAN A

The Department of Philosophy offers courses of study that lead to a Master of Arts in Philosophy. Master's students can specialize in applied ethics, particularly animal welfare and environmental ethics; comparative philosophy; ethical theory; history of modern philosophy; metaphysics; aesthetics; or epistemology. Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/>) and the Department of Philosophy. (<http://philosophy.colostate.edu/>)

Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1: Critical Thinking Skills

Recognize, evaluate, and construct arguments in a way that correctly applies logical methodology and evaluative standards and demonstrates an ability to identify underlying assumptions, ambiguous or contested terms, and potential objections to a thesis.

Outcome 2: Content Mastery

Explain, orally or in writing, the current state of knowledge and research, referencing the major works and positions in the field, on topics within three areas of philosophy: (1) value theory, broadly construed; (2) metaphysics, epistemology, and related fields; and (3) history of philosophy.

Outcome 3: Research Skills

Conduct independent research on a philosophical topic, identifying the major texts, positions, and arguments concerning that topic.

Outcome 4: Writing Skills

Write an original philosophical paper that contributes to knowledge in some field of philosophical study and is of sufficient quality to be presented at a professional conference or published in a professional journal.

Outcome 5: Oral Communication Skills

Give an oral presentation that clearly and effectively explains philosophical arguments, issues, and positions in a manner demonstrating a broad competency in the field.

Requirements Effective Fall 2023

Any courses required to address deficiencies must be completed before graduation. Credits earned through completion of such courses do not count toward the M.A. degree.

Code	Title	Credits
Group 1: Select 2 courses		6
PHIL 525	Seminar in Epistemology	
PHIL 527	Seminar in Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 535	Seminar in Metaphysics	
PHIL 538	Seminar in Philosophy of Mind	
Group 2: Select 1 course		3

PHIL 547	Seminar in Meta-Ethics	
PHIL 548	Seminar in Normative Ethical Theory	
Group 3: Select 1 course		3
PHIL 550/IE 550	Ethics and International Development	
PHIL 564	Seminar in Animal Rights	
PHIL 565	Seminar in Environmental Philosophy	
PHIL 566	Seminar in Applied Philosophy	
PHIL 567	Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy	
Group 4: Select 1 course		3
PHIL 500	Seminar in Major Philosophical Texts	
PHIL 501	Seminar: Topics in History of Philosophy	
Philosophy Electives^{1,2}		6-9
Out-of-Department Courses²		0-3
Thesis		6
PHIL 699	Thesis	
Program Total Credits:		30

A minimum of 30 credits are required to complete this program. In addition to completing program credits and courses required to address deficiencies, students must pass an oral defense of their thesis.

¹ Select courses with PHIL subject code. A minimum of 3 credits must be taken as regular courses (courses ending in -00 through -79) at the 500- to 600-level. A maximum of 6 credits may be taken as PHIL 695 and/or PHIL 697. A maximum of 2 credits may be taken as PHIL 684.

² Students may select a maximum of 6 credits total within the program at the 400-level with approval of advisor and graduate committee.

Students must complete the minimum number of credits specified in the official program of study as approved by the University Curriculum Committee, and all credit requirements specified in the Graduate and Professional Bulletin (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/>) for their degree.