

Master of Arts in Philosophy

The Master of Arts in Philosophy is a **30-unit program**, which may be achieved in two years. The purpose of the M.A. program in philosophy is to provide students with rigorous advanced training in philosophical reasoning on philosophical topics. The program serves students who wish to go on to pursue Ph.D. work in philosophy or other areas of advanced study; who seek skill development for professional careers such as teaching, law, business, and public service; and who seek personal enrichment through disciplined reflection on important and profound philosophical questions.

Master's Degree Procedural Steps (to be followed in order)		Semester Completed
1.	Attain Classified Graduate Standing. Please confer with Dr. Neuner if you were admitted with conditional classified status.	
	Take PHIL 650 if you want to apply to be a Teaching Associate. (Optional) PHIL 650 is offered in fall semester only. Please consider taking this course your first semester.	
2.	Official Program of Study. Each student's official program of study is documented in their online degree evaluation available through their my.SDSU page. (If admitted prior to Fall 2019, Dr. Barbone will file your PoS.)	
3.	Attain Advancement to Candidacy. Your eligibility for advancement to candidacy must be submitted on your behalf by Dr. Barbone before you can be eligible to sign up for the thesis or exam option.	
CHOOSE THESIS (continue list) OR NON-THESIS OPTION*		
4.	Appointment of Thesis Committee Form to Graduate Division. You must be advanced to candidacy before Graduate Division will accept your thesis committee form, which must be submitted by Dr. Barbone. All three members of your committee must confirm with him before Graduate Division will give you the schedule number to register for PHIL 799A. NOTE: Your thesis committee must be comprised of two members of the philosophy department and one member outside the department.	
5.	Complete Thesis. You must register for PHIL 799A during the normal class registration process. Graduate Division will give you the schedule number once it has approved your Thesis Committee Form, so be sure to submit this form the semester before you plan to write your thesis.	
6.	Present your thesis in public. You must present (not defend) your thesis in a public setting. This can be done at a conference, at a Philosophy Club meeting, or at another venue.	
7.	Apply to graduate. (Thesis and non-thesis options must do this.) Graduation is not automatic upon completion of degree requirements. Applications for graduation are available via your my.SDSU account. Consult the Academic Calendar or Graduate Bulletin for filing deadlines. If your my.SDSU account does not allow you to apply for graduation, please contact the Graduate Division directly gra@sdsu.edu . NOTE: If you do not graduate in the term for which you applied, you do not have to reapply in the subsequent term you expect to graduate.	
8.	Submit Thesis to Graduate Division and Montezuma Publishing for approval. Graduate Division must approve your thesis before you can graduate. Please see formatting guidelines on Montezuma Publishing's website for more information.	

*Non-Thesis Option:

The non-thesis option (796) entails working with a mentor during the semester to prepare for a comprehensive exam overseen by an officially appointed committee. To be eligible for the non-thesis option, students must have a 3.0 or higher gpa and be advanced to candidacy.

Course Requirements (30 units):

Graduate coursework (500-799) selected with the approval of the graduate adviser. Students must complete a minimum of 24 units from courses in philosophy. **The 24 units shall include PHIL 521, 799A or 796, and a minimum of 12 units in 600-level courses.**

Major (minimum 24 units in Philosophy to include PHIL 521 and PHIL 799A):

No more than 5 courses at the 500 level including 521.

Check catalog for prerequisite information. Check current class schedule for topic.

500-Level Courses	600- & 700-Level Courses (Take at least 4 600-level)	Courses Chosen	Units
<input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 505: 19 th -Cent. European Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 506: 20 th -Cent. Continental Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 508: Existentialism <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 509: Theory of Ethics <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 510: Philosophy of Law <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 512: Political Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 514: Philosophy of Art <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 516: Non-Western Aesthetics <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 521: Deductive Logic (REQUIRED) (offered Spring semester only) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 523: Theory of Knowledge <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 530: Metaphysics <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 534: Philosophy of Language <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 535: Philosophy of Religion <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 536: Philosophy of Mind <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 537: Philosophy of Science <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 544: Queer Theory <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 555: Empirical Perspectives of Buddhism <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 565: Asian Philosophies <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 575: Major Philosopher (6 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 576: Major Philosophical Tradition (6 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 577: Major Philosophical Problem (6 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 578: Philosophical Methods (6 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 599: Special Study (6 units max)	<input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 600: Seminar in the History of Philosophy (12 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 610: Seminar in Philosophical Problems: Values (12 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 620: Seminar in Philosophical Problems: Knowledge and Reality (12 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 630: Seminar in Current Philosophical Issues (12 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 650: Seminar in Teaching Philosophy (offered Fall semester only) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 798: Special Study (6 units max) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 796: Non-thesis option (for exam) (GPA: 3.0) <input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 799A: Thesis (REQUIRED if not taking exam) (GPA: 3.5)	1. 521 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. 799A or 796	30

Important Contacts

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