PHILOSOPHY, B.A.

The mission of Saint Louis University's Department of Philosophy (https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/philosophy/) is to provide a philosophical education appropriate to Catholic and Jesuit education goals (https://www.slu.edu/about/catholic-jesuit-identity/). This goal is rooted in the fundamental Catholic belief that all human experience reveals and speaks to the existence and nature of God and the dignity and value of all human beings in themselves and as members of the human community.

The department strives to provide an excellent introduction to the discipline and practice of philosophy. The SLU faculty seeks to build up in students the ability to understand, explain and evaluate lines of reasoning; to foster a reflective moral life; and to educate them on the history of philosophy, contemporary philosophical debate and the Catholic heritage. The faculty nurtures in each student a philosophical habit of mind, an appreciation for the Western philosophical tradition, a spirit of intellectual inquiry and a lifelong desire for wisdom.

Curriculum Overview

The Department of Philosophy in SLU's College of Arts and Sciences (https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/) offers a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy that provides students with a solid foundation in critical philosophical thinking while leaving significant room to focus on their interests in philosophy.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

The department offers a wide range of opportunities for philosophical exchange and dialogue, both within the University's intellectual community and with the broader philosophical community. These opportunities include visiting scholars, departmental colloquia, the annual Wade Memorial Lecture, various conferences, reading groups and graduate student talks.

- Students can get to know other philosophy majors through the Philosophy Club.
- The Vatican Microfilm Library, located on campus, is the finest resource in the United States for medieval and Renaissance studies research.
- The Department of Philosophy has an internationally regarded journal.

Careers

The benefits of SLU's philosophy program include several career opportunities. Students who pursue a degree in philosophy at SLU will find themselves well-prepared for many career options. Philosophy provides, for example, excellent training for those interested in pursuing professional degrees in law, business or medicine.

Not only do philosophy majors at SLU excel on entrance exams for professional programs, but the analytical and communication skills they develop in their philosophical studies are essential for their future success in these programs. The study of philosophy is excellent preparation for any career that focuses on clarity, concision and analytic reasoning.

Admission Requirements

Begin Your Application (https://www.slu.edu/apply.php)

Saint Louis University also accepts the Common Application.

Freshman

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, applicants must be graduating from an accredited high school, have an acceptable HiSET exam score or take the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED or HiSET.

Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must follow the above freshmen admission requirements. Students who have completed 24 or more semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must submit transcripts from all previously attended college(s).

In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the Office of Admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University. Where applicable, transfer students will be evaluated on any courses outlined in the continuation standards of their preferred major.

International Applicants

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/)
- All academic records must include an English translation. An official course-by-course transcript evaluation may be required and accepted.

Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Year
Undergraduate Tuition	$54,760

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php)

Information on Tuition and Fees (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/)

Miscellaneous Fees (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/)

Information on Summer Tuition (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer/)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- **Financial Aid:** Financial aid is provided through grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

Saint Louis University makes every effort to keep our education affordable. In fiscal year 2023, 99% of first-time freshmen and 92% of all students received financial aid (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/) and students received more than $459 million in aid University-wide.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, apply for admission by December 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For more information on scholarships and financial aid, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/).

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to synthesize knowledge of two different periods of Western philosophy.
2. Graduates will be able to correctly employ principles of logical reasoning in philosophical analysis.
3. Graduates will be able to analyze and defend a philosophical position on a philosophical problem.
4. Graduates will be able to gather sources relevant to a philosophical problem.
5. Graduates will be able to interpret sources relevant to a philosophical problem.
6. Graduates will be able to synthesize sources relevant to a philosophical problem.

Requirements

Philosophy students must complete a minimum total of **30 credits** for the major.

Code	Title	Credits
University Undergraduate Core (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/university-core/)		**32-35**
Major Requirements		
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	3
or CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	
PHIL 2050	Ethics	3
PHIL 4040	Symbolic Logic	3
PHIL 4880	Senior Inquiry: Project	3
History of Philosophy Requirement		
Choose two courses with the History of Philosophy attributes, such as:		6
PHIL 4400	History of Ancient Greek Philosophy	
PHIL 4500	Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 4600	History of Modern Philosophy	
Philosophy Electives		
Two courses must be at the 4000 level (p. 2)		12
General Electives		**55-58**
Total Credits		**120**

Continuation Standards

Students must have a GPA of 2.00 in philosophy major coursework to be retained in the major.

Philosophy Electives

Code	Title	Credits
PHIL 3250	Philosophy of Religion	
PHIL 3300	Philosophy of the Human Person	
PHIL 3360	Medical Ethics	
PHIL 3380	Business Ethics	
PHIL 3400	Ethics & Engineering	
PHIL 3420	Environmental and Ecological Ethics	
PHIL 3430	Philosophy of Law	
PHIL 3450	Disaster Narratives	
PHIL 3480	Jewish Life: Bible to Middle Ages	
PHIL 3490	Jewish Life: Middle Ages to Modern Times	
PHIL 3510	Philosophy in Film	
PHIL 3600	Science and Religion	
PHIL 3910	Internship	
PHIL 3930	Special Topics	
PHIL 3980	Independent Study	
PHIL 4040	Symbolic Logic	
PHIL 4090	Topics in Advanced Logic	
PHIL 4120	Topics in Epistemology	
PHIL 4150	Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 4160	Philosophy and Physics	
PHIL 4190	Gender and Science	
PHIL 4210	Topics in Metaphysics	
PHIL 4260	Philosophy of Mind	
PHIL 4280	Biology and Mind	
PHIL 4310	Topics in Ethics	
PHIL 4320	Feminism and the History of Ethics	
PHIL 4350	Survey of Social and Political Philosophy	
PHIL 4400	History of Ancient Greek Philosophy	
PHIL 4500	Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 4570	Latin Paleography	
PHIL 4600	History of Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 4720	Topics Continental Philosophy	
PHIL 4740	Philosophy of Karl Marx	
PHIL 4750	Latin American Philosophy	
PHIL 4760	Spanish Philosophy	
PHIL 4800	Topics and Movements in Contemporary Philosophy	
PHIL 4810	Philosophy of Feminism	
PHIL 4820	Philosophy and Race	
PHIL 4840	Catholic Social Thought	
PHIL 4850	Topics in Philosophical Anthropology	
PHIL 4910	Internship	
PHIL 4930	Special Topics	
PHIL 4980	Advanced Independent Study	

Graduation Requirements

- Complete a minimum of 120 credits (excluding pre-college level courses numbered below 1000).
- Complete the University Undergraduate Core curriculum requirements.
- Complete major requirements: minimum of 30 credits required.
- Complete remaining credits with a second major, minor, certificate or electives to reach the minimum of 120 credits required for graduation.
- Achieve at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average, a 2.00 grade point average in the major(s), and a 2.00 grade point average in the minor/certificate or related elective credits.
- Complete department- and program-specific academic and performance requirements.
- Complete at least 50% of the coursework for the major and 75% for the minor/certificate through Saint Louis University or an approved study-abroad program.
- Complete 30 of the final 36 credits through Saint Louis University or an approved study-abroad program.
- Complete an online degree application by the required University deadline.

Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
CORE 1700	Ultimate Questions: Philosophy	3
CORE 1000	Ignite First Year Seminar	2-3
CORE 1500	Cura Personalis 1: Self in Community	1
CORE 1900	Eloquentia Perfecta 1: Written and Visual Communication	3
CORE 1200	Eloquentia Perfecta 2: Oral and Visual Communication	3
General Electives		3
	Credits	**15-16**
Spring		
PHIL 2050	Ethics (meets Core "Dignity, Ethics, & Just Society" attribute requirement)	3
CORE 2800	Eloquentia Perfecta 3: Creative Expression	2-3
CORE 3200	Ways of Thinking: Quantitative Reasoning	3
CORE 1600	Ultimate Questions: Theology	3
General Electives		4
	Credits	**15-16**
Year Two		
Fall		
PHIL 4080	Symbolic Logic	3
CORE 3800	Ways of Thinking: Natural and Applied Sciences	3
CORE 3400	Ways of Thinking: Aesthetics, History, and Culture	3
CORE 2500	Cura Personalis 2: Self in Contemplation	0
General Electives		6
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
PHIL 4400	History of Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
CORE 3600	Ways of Thinking: Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
General Electives		9
	Credits	**15**
Year Three		
Fall		
PHIL 4500	Medieval Philosophy	3
PHIL 3350	Philosophy and Good Life	3
CORE 4000	Collaborative Inquiry	2-3
General Electives		7
	Credits	**15-16**
Spring		
PHIL 3250	Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 4160	Philosophy and Physics	3
General Electives		9
	Credits	**15**
Year Four		
Fall		
PHIL 4210	Topics in Metaphysics	3
CORE 3500	Cura Personalis 3: Self in the World	1
General Electives		11
	Credits	**15**
Spring		
PHIL 4880	Senior Inquiry: Project	3
General Electives		12
	Credits	**15**
	Total Credits	**120-123**

Madrid

Students can complete all or part of the B.A. in philosophy at Saint Louis University-Madrid.

Learn More About SLU-Madrid (https://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics/degrees-and-programs/philosophy.php)

2+SLU

2+SLU programs provide a guided pathway for students transferring from a partner institution.

- Philosophy, B.A. (STLCC 2+SLU) (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/2plusslu/stlcc/philosophy/)

Contact Us

For additional information about this program, please contact sluphilosophy@slu.edu or call 314-977-3149.