

MASTER OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY (MA)

The Master of Arts program in Philosophy builds on the central place of philosophical study in Gonzaga's Jesuit, Catholic, humanistic identity. Through coursework, supervised study, examinations, and a thesis, the program stresses understanding of the main problems of philosophy as they emerge in the history of philosophy, knowledge of the major figures and movements of the history of philosophy, and attention to contemporary philosophy and social and applied ethics. The program's focus on fundamental questions of reality, knowledge, and the good promotes skills of reflection and self-examination, and prepares students for critical engagement with and across human cultures. These goals reflect the mission of the Philosophy Department and the mission and identity of Gonzaga University, particularly the goals of intellectual inquiry, development and discipline of the faculties of intelligence and moral judgment, and intelligent and morally informed leadership. The program provides students with resources to make use of philosophical concepts and skills in a variety of career contexts, including Ph.D. studies in philosophy and related disciplines, such as theology, law, and politics, and philosophy teaching at the introductory, university, or community college level.

The Master's degree is offered on a full-time or part-time with three programs (1 year program, 2 year program and an Accelerated 4 + 1 program for current GU undergraduates) basis during the regular session. While many courses offered in the Gonzaga Master of Arts program are cross-listed with undergraduate courses, a Graduate Seminar restricted to graduate students only is offered each fall and spring semester. A limited set of graduate-level philosophy courses is also available during summer.

Admissions

- Students applying to Gonzaga University must submit Gonzaga's Graduate Application, which can be accessed online at <https://www.gonzaga.edu/gradapply> (<https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gonzaga.edu%2Fgradapply&data=05%7C01%7Ccatalog%40gonzaga.edu%7Ca7c0ca83e073480beba808dbaa52e2af%7C2ba334075ccc4940bd16ae154f04c3ca%7C0%7C0%7C638291045192614827%7CUnknown%7CTWfpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAlLCJQIjoIV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjE6IiwiaGVhZC9XVC96Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=geUNsbmt9QRPF6cpPFFR3wrAVNcfH22hh6b4ELDUj%2B4%3D&reserved=0>).
- Along with the application for graduate study, each program at Gonzaga has distinct admission requirements. Please refer to the table below to view that detailed information.

Program Name	How to Apply Link
Master of Arts in Philosophy	https://www.gonzaga.edu/college-of-arts-sciences/departments/philosophy/graduate-program/ma-admissions (https://www.gonzaga.edu/college-of-arts-sciences/departments/philosophy/graduate-program/ma-admissions/)

Pre-requisite

B.A. with major (or acceptable background) in Philosophy from a regionally accredited college or university.

Program Requirements

Completion of the Master of Arts degree in Philosophy from Gonzaga University requires:

- 30-credit program hours, including eight seminars (24 credits) and an option to do a Thesis (6 credits) or take two more Graduate Seminars or Directed Studies. At least four seminars (12 credits) must be graduate-specific (PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar or PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar). Students may also take up to four cross-listed Philosophy Major Seminars (PHIL 586 Seminar, PHIL 587 Seminar, or PHIL 588 Seminar) and up to two Directed Study courses (PHIL 690 Directed Study or PHIL 691 Directed Study) to complete their course requirements.
- Registration in the Graduate Seminar each semester in which the student is taking course work.
- Successful completion of a comprehensive examination (including written and oral components) (PHIL 697 Comprehensive Examination). Students are required to take PHIL 520 History of Philosophy I/PHIL 521 History of Philosophy II during the summer (as online courses) in order to prepare for this exam. Gonzaga Philosophy Major undergraduates can opt out of these two courses and take the comprehensive exam without enrolling in either PHIL 520 History of Philosophy I/PHIL 521 History of Philosophy II, though they will be encouraged to do so.
- Successful completion of a logic exam, testing skills up to and including the predicate calculus (PHIL 695 Logic Requirement).
- The M.A. program has no foreign language requirement, but a thesis director may require a student to have competency in translating texts from a foreign language into English depending on the student's thesis topic.

These requirements can be completed in one of the following three ways:

1 Year MA Thesis

Summer: PHIL 520 History of Philosophy I/PHIL 521 History of Philosophy II courses (if a non-alumnus from GU)

Fall: 2 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar and 1 PHIL 586 Seminar/PHIL 587 Seminar,

Spring: 1 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar and 1 PHIL 586 Seminar/PHIL 587 Seminar,

Summer: PHIL 699 Thesis

1 Year MA Non-Thesis

Summer: 2 PHIL 520 History of Philosophy I/PHIL 521 History of Philosophy II (if a non-alumnus from GU)

Fall: 2 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar and 1 PHIL 586 Seminar/PHIL 587 Seminar,

Spring: 1 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar and 1 PHIL 586 Seminar/PHIL 587 Seminar,

Summer: 2 PHIL 690 Directed Study/PHIL 691 Directed Study

2 Year MA Thesis/Non Thesis

Summer: 2 PHIL 520/521 History of Philosophy (if a non-alumnus from GU),

Fall: 2 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar

Spring: 1 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar

Fall: 2 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar

Spring: 1 PHIL 577 Graduate Seminar/PHIL 579 Graduate Seminar

Summer: 2 PHIL 690 Directed Study/PHIL 691 Directed Study or PHIL 699 Thesis