



**Our MA students benefit from opportunities to do the following:**

- Teach philosophy at the college level. Our training program includes teaching workshops for academic credit and paid **Graduate Teaching Associate** apprenticeships;
- Coach high school students for Northern California **Ethics Bowl** competitions;
- Earn **internships** in Law, Public Policy, and Healthcare Ethics;
- Participate in regional **workshops** such as Bay Area Philosophy of Science; Bay Area Feminist Approaches to Philosophy;
- Mentor undergraduates;
- Participate and take leadership roles in our extracurricular opportunities and **clubs**, including the Philosophy Club, Minorities and Philosophy (MAP), and Philosophy and Religion;
- Take a course at UC Berkeley through our **cross-registration** program;
- Work with Philosophy faculty on cross-disciplinary **research** in various labs on campus;
- Present philosophy papers at professional, peer-reviewed **conferences**;
- Learn to write **publishable papers**, or (occasionally) co-author a paper with a faculty member;
- Apply successfully to competitive **fellowships**, philosophy **doctoral programs**, law school, and other professional programs.

**The Graduate Program in Philosophy**

Philosophy is traditionally defined as the love of wisdom, the ability to think well about the foundations of human action, the nature of reality, and the purposes and priorities of life. The department offers the opportunity for a systematic study of the philosophies of past and present, of East and West, a study that deepens and broadens one's outlook on the world and on human affairs, and thus provides a more secure basis on which to develop one's own philosophy.

**Why Study Philosophy at SF State?**

SF State's MA Program in Philosophy has a strong reputation for being one of the best terminal MA philosophy programs in the country. Because our world-class graduate faculty are active members of the philosophical profession, we are able to offer our students a number of unique learning opportunities for engaging in the wider philosophical community. We offer graduate seminars in the evenings, so as to remain accessible for students working part- or full-time or who have other life commitments during the days.

**Employment Outlook**

Our program is flexible and accommodates students pursuing a variety of goals. We are very proud of our students' successes in their post-graduate endeavors including excellent records of gaining admission to PhD programs in philosophy and related fields, securing positions teaching philosophy at community colleges, and putting the knowledge and skills that they acquire with us to use in building careers outside of academia.

**Doctoral Program Placements**

We are particularly proud of our record of placing students in top PhD programs. Recent graduate students of our MA in Philosophy program have entered doctoral programs at Brown; State University of New York; Columbia; Duke; Rutgers; SUNY Stony Brook; UC: Berkeley, Los Angeles, Irvine, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz; University of: Chicago, Wisconsin, Massachusetts Maryland, South Florida; Colorado State University; UNC Chapel Hill; College Park; and Yale, among others. Students also have gone on to law school or other professional programs, and to doctoral programs in a wide variety of other fields.

**Financial Affordability**

In addition to low-cost tuition and teaching opportunities, our students are able to draw on several sources of funding including in-state university grants and competitive fellowships such as the Provost Scholar Award (which reduces tuition costs for out-of-state students to in-state levels), and the Sally Casanova Scholarships (which are awarded to students from underserved populations to facilitate admissions to PhD programs and include summer internships). In addition, the Philosophy faculty makes annual awards of the Philosophy Tuition and Fee Scholarship, The Jason Louis Memorial Scholarship, and the Silvers Fiftieth Scholarship.

### Departmental Areas of Strength or Specialization:

- Applied Ethics
- Bioethics
- Chinese Philosophy
- Cognitive Science
- Environmental Ethics
- Feminist Philosophy
- Islamic Philosophy
- Metaphysics
- Modern Philosophy
- Philosophy and Mysticism
- Philosophy and Religion
- Philosophy of Language
- Philosophy of Law
- Philosophy of Mind
- Philosophy of Science
- Political Philosophy
- Virtue Ethics and the Ethics of Well-Being

### Contact us for more information:

Graduate Coordinator  
Philosophy Department  
San Francisco State University  
1600 Holloway Avenue, HUM 388  
San Francisco, CA 94132

Email: [grdphl@sfsu.edu](mailto:grdphl@sfsu.edu)

Philosophy Department Office  
San Francisco State University  
1600 Holloway Avenue, HUM 388  
San Francisco, CA 94132

Phone: 415-338-1596

Email: [phlspbr@sfsu.edu](mailto:phlspbr@sfsu.edu)

Visit our website for application details:

<https://philosophy.sfsu.edu/application>

## DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Our philosophy graduate seminars challenge students to systematically deepen their philosophical knowledge while allowing them the flexibility to design and personalize their course of study.

The program consists of 11 courses, including 3 required courses, 4 philosophy core graduate seminars, and 4 electives.

### Program Curriculum

PHIL 715: Philosophical Writing	3 units
PHIL 700 - 899: Four Graduate Seminars	12 units
PHIL 301 - 899: Four Elective Courses	12 units
PHIL 896: Directed Reading	3 units
PHIL 898: Master's Thesis and Master's Oral Defense Examination	3 units

Minimum total: 33 units

### Ready to Apply?

In addition to admitting students who have a B.A. in Philosophy, we welcome and encourage applications from students who have degrees in areas other than philosophy!

We're pleased to announce that our entire M.A. Program application now happens through SF State's new online system: Cal State Apply. To access this system, please visit [www2.calstate.edu/apply](http://www2.calstate.edu/apply). The GRE is *not* required for admission to the program. We accept applications for both Fall and Spring semesters.

### Application Deadlines:

For fall admission: August 5<sup>th</sup>

For spring admission: January 15<sup>th</sup>

