**Program Overview**

The philosophy department at Saint Louis University is distinguished by a long-standing tradition of pluralism in both methodology and interest. There are faculty members working in the history of philosophy from antiquity through the present, as well as in most areas of contemporary analytic and continental European philosophy.

The mission of the department is to provide a philosophical education appropriate to the Catholic and Jesuit goals of education. This goal is rooted in the basic Catholic belief that all human experience reveals and speaks to the existence and nature of God as well as to 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. We seek to build up in our students the ability to understand, explain and evaluate lines of reasoning; to foster a reflective moral life; and to educate them in the history of philosophy, contemporary philosophical debate and the Catholic heritage. We nurture 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.

**About the Faculty**

The department faculty members have gained national and international recognition in the areas of medieval philosophy, philosophy of religion, action theory, ethics, social/political philosophy and epistemology.

**Curriculum**

The philosophy major requires 30 credit hours of coursework, and the philosophy minor requires a total of 18 credit hours.

Students may choose a historical, health sciences or society and law concentration in order to tailor the philosophy major to their own broader interests and professional aims. The department provides many advantages for students who choose to earn their B.A. in philosophy from SLU.

+ The faculty members in the department of philosophy are internationally recognized.
+ Students may participate in the exchange relationship with the University of Frankfurt in Germany.
+ Students have the opportunity to 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 research in medieval and renaissance studies.
+ The department of philosophy has an internationally regarded journal.
+ The Frankfurt/Saint Louis University faculty exchange and the Collins Visiting Professorship brings European philosophy professors to Saint Louis University.

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

**Degree(s)**

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in philosophy
- Minor in philosophy

**Contact**

Department of Philosophy
314-977-3149
hendrixj@slu.edu

**Graduate Programs**

- Master of Arts (M.A.) in philosophy
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in philosophy

For a full listing of graduate programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

Learn More For course listings and more information about our faculty, visit slu.edu/x24973.xml.

Revised April 2015
Admission Requirements

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on 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. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from 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.

Internships and Careers

Students who pursue a degree in philosophy will find themselves well-prepared for any number of 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 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 an excellent preparation for any career that puts a premium on clarity, concision and analytic reasoning.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

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

+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

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

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

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