

MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.) MAJOR IN APPLIED PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS (THESIS OPTION)

Dialogue, essential to any practical application of philosophy, is at the heart of the applied philosophy and ethics (MAAPE) program. Students apply theory by participating in the Department of Philosophy's Dialogue Series. The series includes student and faculty presenters from all eight colleges on campus, as well as speakers from off campus.

Application Requirements

The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu>). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international>) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- \$55 nonrefundable application fee
- or
- \$90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted
- minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- GRE not required
- statement of purpose (one page)
- two letters of recommendation
- writing sample

TOEFL or IELTS Scores

Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and
 - minimum individual module scores of 6.0

The student may qualify for English-based conditional admission if the minimum scores below are met:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 59 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 5.5 overall and
 - minimum individual module scores of 5.5

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree with a major in Applied Philosophy and Ethics requires 30 semester credit hours, including a 6-hour thesis.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
PHIL 5301	Applied Philosophy	3
PHIL 5302	Dialogue	3
PHIL 5320	History of Ethics	3
Electives		
Choose 9 hours from the following:		9
PHIL 5101	Responsible Conduct of Research and Research Ethics	
PHIL 5301	Applied Philosophy	
PHIL 5302	Dialogue	
PHIL 5303	Philosophy of Technology	
PHIL 5304	Philosophy of Language	
PHIL 5305	Philosophical Writing	
PHIL 5329	Food Ethics	
PHIL 5340	Philosophical Logic	
PHIL 5314	American Philosophy	
PHIL 5322	Professional Ethics	
PHIL 5323	Environmental Ethics	
PHIL 5324	Meaning of Life	
PHIL 5325	Philosophy of Sex and Love	
PHIL 5326	Philosophy and Sport	
PHIL 5327	Medical Ethics and Bio-ethics	
PHIL 5328	Major Work or Theme in Ethics	
PHIL 5351	Philosophy of Education	
PHIL 5355	Philosophical Theory of Science	
PHIL 5356	Philosophical Theory of Knowledge	
PHIL 5360A	Ethics and Dementia	
PHIL 5360B	Moral Psychology	
PHIL 5360C	Philosophy, Nonviolence, Sustainability, and Social Change	
PHIL 5361A	Philosophy of Biology	
PHIL 5361B	Philosophy of the Human Sciences	
PHIL 5361C	Philosophy of Emotion	
PHIL 5362A	Analytic Philosophy	
PHIL 5362B	19th Century Philosophy	
PHIL 5363A	Philosophy and Science Fiction	
PHIL 5373	Themes in Africana Philosophy	
PHIL 5388	Problems in Philosophy	
PHIL 5395	Internship in Applied Philosophy	
Free Electives		
Choose 6 hours of advisor-approved electives outside the department.		6
Thesis		
PHIL 5399A	Thesis	3
Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following:		3
PHIL 5199B	Thesis	

PHIL 5299B	Thesis
PHIL 5599B	Thesis
PHIL 5999B	Thesis
PHIL 5399B	Thesis
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Total Hours	30

Comprehensive Examination Requirements

All candidates for graduate degrees must pass one or more comprehensive examinations.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the *Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation*.

Thesis Proposal (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf)

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html>) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures, the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student's enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee

The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit

The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student's initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the

responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair's discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrew), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu>) website under "Current Students." The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student's embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student's progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university's or institution's email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university's licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master's level courses in Philosophy: PHIL

Courses Offered

Philosophy (PHIL)

PHIL 5100. Practicum in Teaching Philosophy.

This course orients Instructional Assistants to the principles of teaching philosophy responsibly. Topics include grades, evaluation of written work, classroom management, academic values, and teaching style. This course is required for all new Instructional Assistants in Philosophy. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Repeatable with different emphasis.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

PHIL 5101. Responsible Conduct of Research and Research Ethics.

In this course students will examine issues, concepts, and cases in research ethics and the responsible conduct of research. Designed to meet NSF and NIH requirements for training, topics will include research integrity, conflicts of interest, authorship, peer review, human and animal experimentation, mentorship, data, and values in science. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

PHIL 5199B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PHIL 5299B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PHIL 5301. Applied Philosophy.

Practical application of methods and teaching of philosophy to such major areas of human experience as religion, science, morality, politics, art, or literature. The study of one or more of these areas will demonstrate how philosophy contributes to the identification of issues as well as their resolution.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5302. Dialogue.

Study of literature about the nature, purpose, and significance of dialogue along with active participation in the dialogues of the Department of Philosophy's Dialogue Series.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5303. Philosophy of Technology.

Study of philosophical and ethical dimensions of technology including the nature of technology and technological progress, the relation of humans to the technological environment, whether technology is value-laden, and the social character of technology.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5304. Philosophy of Language.

This course will examine the nature, structure, and uses of language and its role in conceptualizing and attempting to solve perennial philosophical problems. Features of language such as meaning, reference, truth, verification, and speech acts will be investigated and applied to issues of metaphysics and ontology, epistemology, and theory construction.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5305. Philosophical Writing.

The course focuses on theoretical and methodological foundation necessary for producing philosophical works suitable for submission to conferences or journals. Students will analyze the standards for and engage in the process of developing papers for professional presentation.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5306. Foundation Studies.

Foundation Studies in Philosophy.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5314. American Philosophy.

This course is an examination of contributions of Americans to perennial philosophical issues, including the tradition of American Pragmatism.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5320. History of Ethics.

This course is a survey of major ethical theories in the Western philosophical tradition.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5322. Professional Ethics.

Study of major topics in business and professional ethics, including what a profession is, whether it differs from business, and what is involved with moral education, social responsibilities, and ethical standards of professional and business people.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5323. Environmental Ethics.

Study of ethical issues associated with the environment including the nature, use, preservation, and restoration of the environment.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5324. Meaning of Life.

Investigation of major theories of the meaning of life in Western and Eastern philosophies.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5325. Philosophy of Sex and Love.

Critical examination of major philosophical theories on sex and love from ancient to modern times.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5326. Philosophy and Sport.

An examination of the philosophical issues that arise in sport. Topics include the social significance of sport, amateurism, the ethics of competition, the meaning of violence within sports, and other related issues.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5327. Medical Ethics and Bio-ethics.

Study of ethical issues, dilemmas, codes of conduct, and social responsibilities of health care professionals and bio-researchers.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5328. Major Work or Theme in Ethics.

This course examines in detail a single significant work, theme or issue in ethics. May be repeated with a different focus.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5329. Food Ethics.

Eating raises hard moral questions. This course explores those questions as well as potential answers. Standard topics include the nature of the food system, global hunger, food justice, consumer ethics, industrial agriculture and its alternatives, the plight of workers, overconsumption, and public health.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5340. Philosophical Logic.

The course is an examination of the conceptual frameworks of and philosophical challenges to classical and alternative logics. Special attention will be paid to the use of the logics within metaphysics, the axiomatic method as used in logic and mathematics, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, and meta-ethics.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5351. Philosophy of Education.

Study of major philosophical theories on nature, value, and purpose of education.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5355. Philosophical Theory of Science.

An examination of some of the fundamental concepts in science, including relevant evidence, induction, explanation, and commitments when accepting a scientific theory.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5356. Philosophical Theory of Knowledge.

The course will consist of a close examination of topics in the philosophical theory of knowledge, such as skepticism, defining knowledge, the nature of justification, perception, and truth.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5360A. Ethics and Dementia.

This course provides an opportunity to examine ethical challenges posed by dementia for those with dementia, family members, caregivers, healthcare systems, policy makers, and others. Participants will critically explore ethics and dementia in clinical, social/cultural, everyday life, policy, end-of-life, and individual perspectives.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5360B. Moral Psychology.

This seminar provides an introduction to the major theories, issues, and research relevant to the field of moral psychology. Drawing from a variety of fields—philosophy, social psychology, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, and evolutionary theory—we will investigate what morality is, how it develops, and how it functions in society.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5360C. Philosophy, Nonviolence, Sustainability, and Social Change.

In this course students will study themes and concepts related to nonviolence, sustainability, and social change. Participants will critically examine the works of thinkers such as Thoreau, Addams, Tolstoy, Gandhi, King, and Chavez.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5361A. Philosophy of Biology.

In this course students will explore foundational questions in biology concerning the justification of biological theories, methods and concepts. Possible topics include concepts of fitness, units of selection, adaptationism, species, phylogenetic inference, homology, developmental systems, neuroscience, behavioral evolution, cooperation, altruism, evolutionary psychology, evolutionary ethics, cultural evolution, and race and gender.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5361B. Philosophy of the Human Sciences.

This course is a survey of current debates about the structure, nature, role, methodologies, scope, and aim of the human sciences.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5361C. Philosophy of Emotion.

In this course students examine the understandings of emotions as developed in the history of philosophy, including topics such as somatic theories, cognitive theories, and philosophical accounts of feelings, mood, and other affective experiences.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5362A. Analytic Philosophy.

Students in this course will examine major thinkers, works, theories, and problems of analytic philosophy. Topics will include the philosophy of language, logic, philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of science, metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, metaethics, and philosophical methodology.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5362B. 19th Century Philosophy.

This course offers a detailed introduction to central figures of 19th-century European philosophy such as Hegel, Marx, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche in the context of their responses to the Enlightenment, the condition of modernity, the growth of democracy, nationalism, capitalism, Darwin, secularization, and the critical project of Kant.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5363A. Philosophy and Science Fiction.

In this seminar students will examine intersections between philosophy and science fiction around topics such as the nature of reality, the existence and nature of the divine, the limits of human knowledge, the meaning of free will, the notions of personhood, the nature of morality, and the meaning of life.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5373. Themes in Africana Philosophy.

In this course students will examine philosophy and philosophical practice as it emerges from the historical experiences of African Americans and the African Diaspora. Participants in the course will evaluate how the African-American philosophical tradition alters conventional philosophical accounts of subjectivity, knowledge, time, language, history, embodiment, memory, and justice.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5388. Problems in Philosophy.

Independent study open to students on individual or small group basis.

May be repeated for credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PHIL 5395. Internship in Applied Philosophy.

Structured practical experience in applied philosophy at a private or public setting. Supervision will be provided both by a member of the graduate faculty and by a key individual in the workplace. Permission of instructor required.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PHIL 5399A. Thesis.

This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until student has completed the thesis on PHIL 5399B.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PHIL 5399B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PHIL 5599B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PHIL 5999B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit