

PHILOSOPHY



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

PHILOSOPHY, which means “love of wisdom” in Greek, questions assumptions, seeks foundations, and inquires into truth and reality. This discipline plays a central role in the Jesuit educational tradition and in Xavier’s Core Curriculum. Philosophy considers speculative topics such as human nature, God, beauty and the limits of knowledge, as well as practical topics, such as the morally good life and the best political order, by studying works of the greatest thinkers from the ancient world to the present. Students of philosophy learn to discover and reconsider personal guiding beliefs; explore questions that cut across disciplines and unify them; understand the intellectual roots of Western culture; and think, write and argue more clearly and effectively.

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Philosophy

Minor: Philosophy

The Xavier Advantage:

- ▶ Study a hallmark of rigorous Jesuit education at one of the nation’s major Jesuit universities.
- ▶ Develop critical-thinking skills and conceptual discipline that transfers to a variety of careers.
- ▶ Benefit from a metaphysics course designed especially for philosophy majors and minors.
- ▶ Complete a capstone experience, defended in oral and written examinations.

Xavier philosophy graduates go on to:

- ▶ Scientific research
- ▶ Entrepreneurship
- ▶ Catholic University of America
- ▶ Emory University
- ▶ Fordham University
- ▶ Marquette University
- ▶ University at Buffalo
- ▶ Law school

Learn more www.xavier.edu/philosophy

Ask us xuadmit@xavier.edu

Visit campus www.xavier.edu/visit

XAVIER UNIVERSITY: A JESUIT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN CINCINNATI, OHIO



RECOMMENDED CLASS SCHEDULES BACHELOR OF ARTS [BA] IN PHILOSOPHY

These schedules serve as a guideline for progress toward a degree. Students should consult with their academic advisor.

First Semester	Sem. Hrs.
FRESHMAN YEAR	
History I elective	3
Foreign Language elective	3
Science elective	3
THEO 111, Theological Foundations	3
Social Science elective	3
Total	15

Second Semester	Sem. Hrs.
FRESHMAN YEAR	
History II elective	3
Foreign Language elective	3
Science elective	3
PHIL 100, Ethics as Intro to Phil	3
ENGL 101 OR 115, Engl Comp/Rhetoric	3
Total	15

SOPHOMORE YEAR	Sem. Hrs.
Mathematics elective	3
Fine Arts elective	3
PHIL 290, Theory of Knowledge	3
Theo Scrip/Hist OR Christ Sys elective	3
Literature elective	3
Total	15

SOPHOMORE YEAR	Sem. Hrs.
Mathematics elective	3
Science elective	3
PHIL 340, Metaphysics	3
ENGL/CLAS/SPAN/FREN 205 Lit & Moral Imag	3
General elective	3
Total	15

JUNIOR YEAR	Sem. Hrs.
PHIL 300, Origins of Philosophy OR PHIL 301, Ancient Philosophy	3
PHIL 302, Medieval Christian Phil OR PHIL 309, Islamic/Jewish Phil	3
General elective	6
Philosophy elective	3
Total	15

JUNIOR YEAR	Sem. Hrs.
PHIL 311, Symbolic Logic	3
PHIL 304, Early Modern Philosophy OR PHIL 308, Late Modern Philosophy	3
Social Science elective	3
Theology Ethics OR Rel/Cult elective	3
General elective	3
Total	15

SENIOR YEAR	Sem. Hrs.
PHIL 306, 20th Century Cont Phil OR PHIL 307, 20th Century Analytic Phil	3
Philosophy Seminar	3
PHIL 399, Thesis Review	3
General elective	3
E/RS Focus elective	3
Total	15

SENIOR YEAR	Sem. Hrs.
Philosophy elective	6
General elective	9
Total	15

- Scheduling notes:**
- Consult the undergraduate Core Curriculum requirements.
 - The E/RS Focus elective requirement may be used to satisfy another element of the Core or the major.
 - A minimum of 120 credit hours is required for the degree.
 - Students are required to take 6 hours of approved courses representing two different disciplines to fulfill the Core Diversity requirement.

► For additional degree class schedule information, see www.xavier.edu/philosophy.

THE PROGRAM

Philosophy students at Xavier engage in close study of major texts in the history of Western philosophy, including ancient Greek philosophy, medieval Christian, Jewish and Islamic philosophy, modern philosophy and contemporary philosophy. Majors and minors benefit from a metaphysics course designed especially for them.

Majors also study logic and complete a senior thesis, working closely with faculty. This thesis is defended in an oral examination and complemented by written examinations, providing a rigorous capstone experience.

Small seminars are limited to majors, minors and honors students.

While enrolled in the philosophy program, students will:

- ▶ Discover and reconsider their own guiding beliefs.
- ▶ Explore questions that cut across disciplines and unify them.
- ▶ Better understand the intellectual roots of Western culture.
- ▶ Learn to think, write and argue more clearly and effectively.

RESOURCES

The Department of Philosophy is housed in Hinkle Hall, the campus facility that's modeled after the Xavier family castle in Navarre, Spain.

Xavier philosophy majors learn with professors who have earned Fulbright Awards, and grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Mellon Foundation.

The philosophy faculty represents a wide range of specialties and philosophical orientations, but professors are united by their attention to the history of philosophy and their dedication to undergraduate teaching. Students are welcome to consult with faculty in their offices and to join them at such campus events as guest lectures and movie nights.

The Xavier Philosophy in Film series brings together faculty and students to appreciate and discuss connections between philosophy and film. A faculty member hosts the film and shares a related reading over refreshments in the Conaton Learning Commons.

The Conaton Learning Commons, opened in 2010, is the heart of the James E. Hoff, S.J., Academic Quad. The Commons provides students with the facilities, technologies and services to help them master essential skills and gain a competitive advantage in their respective disciplines and careers. As a result, Xavier graduates are better prepared to enjoy successful lives and careers.

The Commons:

- ▶ Features 84,000 square feet, five floors and 24/7 environment.
- ▶ Creates a focal point for connecting teaching, learning and the Jesuit mission of service to others.
- ▶ Equips students with academic and technological tools in a wireless setting.
- ▶ Offers ample space for individual study and group work in a wireless setting with access to plasma screens, movable white boards and a café.
- ▶ Houses centers for academic advising and career services, and labs for math, writing and modern languages.
- ▶ Includes a digital media lab, classrooms, auditorium and a centralized location for reference and technology assistance.

OUTCOMES

Critical thinking and the ability to write and communicate effectively are key characteristics that many employers seek. The study of philosophy enhances those abilities and prepares students for careers in a variety of fields, including computers and computer programming, corporate positions, communications, scientific research, entrepreneurship, medical school, law school, seminary and advanced philosophy studies.

Xavier philosophy graduates have been accepted into graduate programs at such prestigious institutions as:

- Boston University
- Catholic University of America
- Emory University
- Fordham University
- Marquette University
- University at Buffalo

THE COLLEGE & THE CITY

The College of Arts and Sciences is the oldest and largest college at Xavier University. Its goal is to provide excellent liberal arts education in the Jesuit tradition that prepares students for careers, professional or graduate school, and life in a global society.

Centrally located in the heart of the Midwest and set along the Ohio River, Cincinnati is a thriving city, offering college students in the region a wide range of opportunities for internships and careers. Culture and entertainment ranges from the Cincinnati Art Museum to the Cincinnati Reds. Affordable and accessible, Cincinnati is rated one of the "most wired" U.S. cities (*Forbes Magazine*), most sociable city in the world (*mashable.com*), and one of the top 15 U.S. cities to live and work (*Fortune Magazine*).

CORE CURRICULUM

The foundation of Xavier's success is its commitment to its Jesuit heritage. The Core Curriculum embodies Xavier's mission and philosophy of education and serves as a valuable foundation for all undergraduate students. Within the Core, the four-course Ethics/Religion and Society (E/RS) Focus fosters students' understanding of socially significant issues through study of the humanities, especially literature, philosophy and theology, as well as the social and natural sciences. Along with courses in their major, Xavier students also take Core courses in: cultural diversity, English composition, fine arts, foreign language, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, science, social science and theology.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Core Curriculum: Minimum 64 credit hours

Major in philosophy: 36 credit hours, including 12 hours beyond the introductory course (Phil 100); 12 hours in history of philosophy courses; and 12 hours of major electives.



XAVIER AT A GLANCE

Founded in 1831, Xavier University is a Jesuit Catholic university in Cincinnati, Ohio, annually ranked among the nation's best universities. Its three colleges offer 85 undergraduate majors, 54 minors and 11 graduate programs to 7,019 total students, including 4,368 undergraduates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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