Master of Arts in Philosophy

The Master of Arts degree in Philosophy offers students the opportunity to acquire a general knowledge of the core areas of analytic and continental philosophy, to develop ethical reasoning, critical thinking, and research skills, and to prepare and increase competitive ability for admission and success in Ph.D. or J.D. programs. UTSA philosophy students have secured admission into the top law school and philosophy graduate programs in the country. Our students benefit from a diverse curriculum, flexible course requirements, and the ability to choose either a thesis or internship track toward completion of the MA. Finally, our students engage with world-renowned philosophers at our annual Brackenridge Philosophy Symposia.

Admissions:
To qualify for unconditional admission, applicants must satisfy University-wide and College-wide graduate admission requirements, and be recommended for admission by the Department’s Graduate Admissions Committee. In addition to submitting all University required application materials (e.g., application form, official transcripts), applicants must include: 1) a 500-word statement describing the applicant’s commitment to pursuing the MA in Philosophy, and how the MA in Philosophy will advance the applicant’s personal and professional goals, and 2) two letters of recommendation, which specifically address academic qualifications and potential for graduate study. Finally, we strongly recommend including a writing sample that demonstrates your philosophical writing ability. Please visit the Graduate School website for more information: (http://www.graduateschool.utsa.edu). Application deadline for Fall admission is July 1.

Degree Requirements:
All students will take a graduate level Logic course (PHI 5003 or PHI 5013) and PHI 5033 Philosophical Writing and Research. Prior to declaring the thesis or internship track, all students will take comprehensive exams in a core philosophical area. Thesis students will take a minimum of 30 semester hours, and internship students will take a minimum of 33 semester hours.

Financial Support:
All Philosophy MA students in good standing can compete for Research and Teaching Assistantships. For more information, see the Philosophy Graduate Handbook, or the Graduate School’s Financial Aid information (http://graduateschool.utsa.edu/ funding/).

Philosophy Department Faculty

The philosophy department faculty are distinguished teachers and scholars who publish regularly in leading presses and journals, and present at prominent local, national, and inter-national conferences. Faculty have received the President’s Distinguished Achievement Awards for Research and Teaching Excellence, an NEH Fellowship, as well as various other research grants and awards. The faculty mentor students closely, and have placed students at top law schools and philosophy programs.

Michael J. Almeida (Professor and Chair, Ph.D. Ohio State University)
Ethical Theory, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion

Xunwu Chen (Professor, Ph.D. Fordham University)
Asian and Comparative Philosophy, Contemporary Continental Philosophy, Social-Political

Ewing Chinn (Senior Lecturer, Ph.D. University of Southern California)
Buddhist and Chinese philosophies, John Dewey and the Pragmatic tradition, Comparative philosophy, History of Modern Philosophy

Oak Deberg (Senior Lecturer, Ph.D. Texas A&M)
Military Philosophy, Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Science

Jill Graper Hernandez (Associate Professor, Ph.D. University of Memphis)
Ethics, Early Modern Philosophy, Existentialism

Joshua C. Thurow (Assistant Professor, Ph.D. University of Wisconsin – Madison)
Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion, Metaethics

Alistair Welchman (Associate Professor, Ph.D. University of Warwick)
Kant, Contemporary Continental Philosophy, 19th Century German Philosophy, Philosophy of Cognitive Science

Contact Us!
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