

PHILOSOPHY, MA

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	34 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	21 credits taken in PHILOS seminars (courses numbered between 800 and 989).
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	30 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.50 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	Philosophy requires a grade of B or better in all PHILOS seminars.

Assessments None.
and
Examinations

Language Requirements No language requirements. Students in the History of Philosophy area may find it important to take additional language courses in consultation with their advisor.

REQUIRED COURSES

Philosophy courses in our department are divided into two categories. Students are expected to complete courses in both categories:

1. Ethics, aesthetics, and social and political philosophy; and
2. Metaphysics, epistemology, logic, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, or philosophy of science.

First year graduate students may not register for PHILOS 599 Directed Study, PHILOS 699 Directed Study, or PHILOS (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/philos/>) courses numbered 990-998. No more than one course numbered between 400-600 may satisfy the minimum credit requirements for the MA.

Code	Title	Credits
Proseminar		3
All students are expected to take the first year proseminar in their first semester in the program.		
PHILOS 902	Proseminar in Philosophy	
Teaching Seminar		1
Students must take this course during the first year of teaching.		
PHILOS 904	Teaching Philosophy	
Other Seminars		30
Students must also complete 30 credits or 10 seminars from the following:		
PHILOS 701	Reading Seminar ¹	
PHILOS 903	Seminar: Epistemology	
PHILOS 911	Seminar-Logic	
PHILOS 916	Seminar-Philosophy of Language	
PHILOS 920	Seminar-Philosophy of Science:Causation, Explanation & Probability	
PHILOS 941	Seminar-Ethics	
PHILOS 951	Seminar-Philosophy of Mind	
PHILOS 955	Seminar Social and Political Philosophy	
PHILOS 960	Metaphysics Seminar	
<i>History of Philosophy Requirement (6 credits)</i>		
Within the 10 seminar requirement, students must complete 6 credits of History of Philosophy courses.		
PHILOS 830	Advanced History of Philosophy	
PHILOS 835	Advanced History of Philosophy	
Logic		
Students must select one of the three options to complete this requirement.		
<i>Option 1</i>		
Pass a proficiency exam administered by our Logic Committee.		
<i>Option 2</i>		

Pass an advanced UW logic course like those listed below. Students may apply the one of the following courses toward the seminar requirement.

PHILOS 511 Symbolic Logic
or PHILOS 512 Methods of Logic

Option 3

Pass a course at another institution that includes or surpasses the content of PHILOS 511 or PHILOS 512. The Logic Committee will review documentation related to the relevant course's content and determine whether the student thereby satisfies the logic requirement.

Total Credits

34

¹ No more than one PHILOS 701 course may satisfy the minimum credit requirement.

Seminar Requirement

Each of the other listed seminars (except for the Proseminar and Teaching Seminar) meets with a concurrently offered PHILOS 701 Reading Seminar. Students who complete PHILOS 701 in place of the other listed seminar attend all the seminar meetings and complete the readings, but have a substantially lighter workload, determined by the professor before the beginning of the semester.