

MASTER OF ARTS IN Philosophy

Prepare to make your philosophical contribution.

Carleton's Department of Philosophy has two broad strengths in contemporary philosophy: philosophy of mind, language and knowledge on the one hand, and moral, social and political philosophy, on the other. Courses and research are also available in history of philosophy.

Students begin tackling graduate-level work in a supportive and collegial proseminar, followed by a research seminar in which they develop plans for a thesis or research essay. An exciting variety of graduate seminars is offered, with new topics added every year. They have included Kant, women and early modern philosophy, the Stoics on emotions, consciousness and agency, justice and equality, development ethics and philosophical naturalism. Students can also explore their research interests in small group or one-to-one graduate tutorials.

Our faculty are highly regarded researchers with numerous grants, awards and citations to their credit. Some prominent research interests in the department are:

- Action theory
- Philosophy of mind, psychology and cognitive science
- Philosophy and Economics
- Reference and indexicality in thought and language
- The epistemology of testimony
- Comparative ethics
- Development and global ethics
- Distributive justice
- Bioethics
- Ancient and early modern philosophy

- 19th and 20th century European philosophy
- Critical theory
- Feminist philosophy
- Postcolonial and decolonial approaches
- Philosophy of life

Other faculty research can be found at: carleton.ca/philosophy/faculty-research-interests

We also offer a collaborative specialization in Digital Humanities.

Degrees Offered

MA

Career Options

In recent years, about half of our graduates have gone on to PhD studies in Canada, the U.S. and Europe at such prestigious institutions as Oxford, Cornell and Brown. Others have entered a wide variety of occupations in the public and private sectors.

The Philosophy MA can lead to two interdisciplinary PhD programs. The Ethics and Public Affairs (EPAF) program is unique in that it combines ethics and political philosophy with

“Carleton University’s MA in Philosophy was the best introduction to graduate school that I could have asked for. The support, help and guidance that I received at every step of the degree, from both the faculty and my fellow graduate students, made the experience both nurturing and challenging. It has set me up for success in my PhD by providing a firm foundation of philosophical knowledge and professionalization.”

— Holly Longair (MA/17)



social science and policy analysis. The Institute of Cognitive Science offers an integrated PhD that trains researchers to consider the tools and approaches of related disciplines such as philosophy, psychology, artificial intelligence, linguistics and cognitive neuroscience.

Fall Application Deadline

February 1, in order to be eligible for funding

Admission Requirements

An honours bachelor's degree, or equivalent, in philosophy, with at least a B+ average or higher.

Contact Info

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