

*“The study of philosophy serves to develop intellectual abilities important for life as a whole, beyond the knowledge and skills required for any particular profession. Properly pursued, it enhances analytical, critical and interpretive capacities that are applicable to any subject-matter, and in any human context. It cultivates the capacities and appetite for self-expression and reflection, for exchange and debate of ideas, for life-long learning, and for dealing with problems for which there are no easy answers.”*

– American Philosophical Association

## Mission Statement

The philosophy department at UNO offers an undergraduate major and minor in philosophy, provides important electives for non-majors, and presents lectures and other events to enhance the intellectual life of the campus and community. Philosophy students examine ideas, reflect on the most important questions of life, and cultivate skills in reasoning, problem solving, and writing.

## Degree Requirements

The Philosophy Program offers both an undergraduate major and minor.

**Philosophy Major** The major requires 33 credit hours in philosophy, 21 of which must be upper division.

*Lower division courses must include:*

1. Critical Reasoning (1210) or Symbolic Logic (2010)\*.
2. Contemporary Moral Problems (1020) or Introduction to Ethics (2030).

*Upper division courses must include:*

3. Ancient Philosophy (3110).
4. History of Modern Philosophy (3130).
5. Theory of Knowledge (3600).
6. Metaphysics (3700).
7. Ethical Theory (3050).

*Strongly recommended upper division courses include:*

8. Philosophy of Natural Science (3400) or Philosophy of Social Science (3410).
9. Social Philosophy (3210) or Philosophy of Religion (3200) or Philosophy of Art (3200).



\* Symbolic Logic (2010) is required of students to be recommended for graduate school in philosophy.

**Philosophy Minor** The minor requires 18 credit hours in philosophy, 12 of which must be upper division.

*Courses must include:*

1. Critical Reasoning (1210) or Symbolic Logic (2010).
2. Contemporary Moral Problems (1020) or Introduction to Ethics (2030).
3. Any 12 hours of upper division courses in Philosophy.

## General Education Requirements

A core concept of a liberal education is that students should become familiar with the range of methodologies by which knowledge is created and analyzed. Further, the liberally education person is, by definition, expected to have acquired knowledge in a wide array of disciplines. Thus, students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to take courses from each of the major discipline categories in the college. Study of the *humanities* deepens cultural understanding and provides one with familiarity with the means by which ideas are communicated and transformed through their expression in art and literature. The study of the *social sciences* develops one's understanding of human behavior and the function of individuals in social groups and institutions, as well as the relationships among individuals. A broad background in *science* is essential to the educated citizen in a world dominated by science based industry and technology, with their complex impact on human society and the natural environment.

## Student Activities

<b>The Platonic Society</b>	The philosophy club hosts informal discussions and gatherings.
<b>Film Nights</b>	Evening presentations of movies with philosophical themes, followed by optional discussions.
<b>Visiting Speakers</b>	Each year the department features several lectures by experts on a wide range of topics.
<b>Open Houses</b>	Chat with professors and meet other students interested in philosophy.
<b>Slow Reading Groups</b>	Detailed study of classic philosophical works, with no advance preparation required.
<b>Language Study Groups</b>	Read a great philosophical work in its original language, and brush up on your translation skills. All levels welcome, including novices!

## Careers for Philosophy Graduates

What can you do with your philosophy degree? Philosophy students are skilled at organizing ideas, evaluating evidence, synthesizing complex information, and presenting persuasive arguments. These abilities serve them well in a wide range of careers, particularly in positions where analysis, problem-solving and written expression are important.

In particular, many philosophy students pursue careers in law, business, information technology, public administration, social services, health care and criminal justice. The value of the unique training provided by philosophy in critical analysis and clear writing has long been acknowledged in these fields. For more information about career planning, please visit our website or arrange an appointment with one of our faculty members.

## Philosophy and Graduate Study

Philosophy is the natural major for students who wish to pursue graduate work in philosophy. However, the philosophy major is also excellent preparation for graduate programs in law, business, information technology, criminal justice, public administration, library science, medicine, nursing, and other disciplines.

Philosophy students consistently outperform other majors on entrance examinations for law (LSAT), business (GMAT), and graduate school (GRE).

- Philosophy majors are second only to physics in average LSAT scores, and surpass all of the other more popular pre-law majors, according to the Law School Admissions Council.
- Philosophy majors consistently score higher than all business, humanities, and social sciences majors on the GMAT, according to the Graduate Management Admission Council.
- On the GRE, philosophy majors score higher than all other humanities, education, business, communications, life sciences and social sciences majors except economics. On the Verbal component of the GRE, philosophy students score better than any other major.

## For More Information:

Department of Philosophy  
ASH 205, 6001 Dodge Street  
Omaha, NE 68182-0265

Phone: 402-554-2628  
Web: <http://www.unomaha.edu/philosophy>  
Email: [philosophy@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:philosophy@mail.unomaha.edu)

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**Interested in attending UNO?** Here's your checklist on how to become a Maverick:



- ✓ Sign up for a MavSpace account to request information about UNO, register for a campus visit, and much more @ [ses.unomaha.edu](http://ses.unomaha.edu). Click on "MavSpace."
- ✓ Visit BEaMAV.com for information on financial aid, student life, housing, and to check out videos made by UNO students.
- ✓ Apply online for admission @ [ses.unomaha.edu](http://ses.unomaha.edu). Click on "Apply Now."

Need assistance? Call UNO Recruitment Services at 402-554-MAV1 or toll-free at 877-884-MAVS.