Program Description

The Philosophy Program at UIS focuses in the areas of core analytic philosophy (metaphysics, epistemology, and related areas) and values (ethics, aesthetics and political philosophy) while providing a sound background in the history of philosophy. The objectives of the Philosophy major include providing students with basic knowledge in the main areas of philosophy (theory of knowledge, values, and history of philosophy); increasing their awareness of ethical issues; improving their analytical skills; and assisting them in developing problem-solving experience in at least one of the main areas of philosophy.

An undergraduate student may complete a major or minor in philosophy to acquire training in critical thinking and skill in analyzing values; both the major and minor concentration are offered on the UIS campus and online.

Admission Requirements

To apply, student must submit the following:

- Undergraduate application
- Application Fee
- Official Transcripts from all higher education institutions
- Statement of Intent - 200 word personal essay outlining rationale for pursuing a degree in Philosophy, plans for progress and completion of the degree
- Writing Sample - 800-1200 word essay on philosophical topic - can be paper previously submitted for Philosophy course

To apply, students must have:

- Earned a minimum of 30 credit hours at the lower-division (100-200) level
- Obtained a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale from an accredited college or university. Students with a GPA lower than 3.0 should contact the Online Program Coordinator for additional information on applying.
Degree Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 120 hours of coursework to receive a Bachelor's degree with at least 48 hours at the upper-division (300/400) level. Degree requirements include the following:

- Area 1 (Core Analytical) - 8 hours
- Area 2 (History of Philosophy, Ancient and Modern) - 8 hours
- Area 3 (Values, including Ethics) - 8 hours
- Area of Specialization - 4 hours (Advanced class)
- Capstone Seminar - 4 hours
- Philosophy elective - 4 hours
- UIS requirements - 10 hours

Official degree requirements are available in the UIS catalog at www.uis.edu/uiscatalog

Program Contacts

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Program URL: http://www.uis.edu/philosophy