PHILOSOPHY (HBA)

Department of Philosophy

What is knowledge? What is justice? When is war justified? What am I? Am I a physical thing, or something more? What makes me, me? What sort of thing is an artwork? What makes an artwork good or bad? Where is the line between art and propaganda? In philosophy, we ask and try to answer some of the deepest questions confronting us as human beings. Our philosophical reflections are guided by critical engagement with the views of great thinkers like Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche, Quine, Kripke, and many others.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we’ve pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started. As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POST)

- Specialist Program ERSPE0231 Philosophy (Arts)
- Major Program ERMAJ0231 Philosophy (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN0231 Philosophy (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN1618 Ethics, Law and Society (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN1370 Philosophy of Science (Arts)

Check out...

Learn about the best philosophical work on justice, rights, welfare and political authority in PHL365H5: Issues in Political Philosophy.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: Lawyer; Community organizer; Lobbyist; Legal researcher; Member of Parliament; Political aide; Speech writer; Intelligence officer; Foreign service officer; Public policy analyst; Bioethicist/ biomedical ethics researcher; Police officer; Paralegal assistant; Underwriter; Journalist; Technical writer; Editor; Librarian; Professor; Human resources specialist.

Workplaces: Law; Medicine; Journalism; Government; Technology; Business; Academia.
**PHILOSOPHY MAJOR Program Plan**

**HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN**
Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.
Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

**1ST YEAR**
Enroll in PHIL101HS and/or PHIL102HS. Set up a meeting with the Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor.
Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASU Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2ND YEAR**
For second year and higher, attain 2.5 credits in the History of Philosophy, 0.5 credits in Logic (PHIL245H5), 1.0 credits in Metaphysics and Epistemology, and 1.0 credit in Ethics and Political Philosophy. View the Academic Calendar.
Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course PHIL299Y5. Visit the EEO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASU’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.

**3RD YEAR**
Attain at least 3.0 credits at the 300/400 level. Go to the UTM Philosophy Essay Clinic to improve your academic writing.
Throughout your undergraduate degree:
- use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
- see the Office of the Registrar and the Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor.
Explore your interests. Are you into promoting mindfulness and building community? Investigate the UTM Library Ambassador Program.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
Apply to the Socrates Project (PHL489Y5) to work as a TA and study advanced topics in philosophy. Speak to the Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor.
Attend or participate in the UTM/St. George Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. Socrates Project students present a talk at this conference.
Skills are transferrable to any job regardless of where you develop them. Need to strengthen your organizational skills? Consider a role as the IEC Community Assistant.

---

**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**
Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.

**BUILD SKILLS**
Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Philosophy Academic Society (PAS). Go to the PAS Philosophy Department Meet & Greet.

**BUILD A NETWORK**
Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC) to explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**
Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.
Check out Career Prospects: What Can I Do With a Philosophy Degree? and the CC’s Careers by Major to see potential career options.

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**
Consider further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

---

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.*

**PHILOSOPHY MAJOR Program Plan**

**How to Use This Program Plan**
Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.
Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

**1st Year**
Enroll in PHIL101HS and/or PHIL102HS. Set up a meeting with the Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor.
Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASU Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2nd Year**
For second year and higher, attain 2.5 credits in the History of Philosophy, 0.5 credits in Logic (PHIL245H5), 1.0 credits in Metaphysics and Epistemology, and 1.0 credit in Ethics and Political Philosophy. View the Academic Calendar.
Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course PHIL299Y5. Visit the EEO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASU’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.

**3rd Year**
Attain at least 3.0 credits at the 300/400 level. Go to the UTM Philosophy Essay Clinic to improve your academic writing.
Throughout your undergraduate degree:
- use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
- see the Office of the Registrar and the Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor.
Explore your interests. Are you into promoting mindfulness and building community? Investigate the UTM Library Ambassador Program.

**4th or Final Year**
Apply to the Socrates Project (PHL489Y5) to work as a TA and study advanced topics in philosophy. Speak to the Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor.
Attend or participate in the UTM/St. George Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. Socrates Project students present a talk at this conference.
Skills are transferrable to any job regardless of where you develop them. Need to strengthen your organizational skills? Consider a role as the IEC Community Assistant.

---

**Plan Your Academics**
Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.

**Build Skills**
Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Philosophy Academic Society (PAS). Go to the PAS Philosophy Department Meet & Greet.

**Build a Network**
Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC) to explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.

**Build a Global Mindset**
Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.
Check out Career Prospects: What Can I Do With a Philosophy Degree? and the CC’s Careers by Major to see potential career options.

**Plan for Your Future**
Consider further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

---

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.*

**How to Use This Program Plan**
Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.
Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.
Skills developed in Philosophy

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

- **Critical thinking & problem-solving:** Learn to read critically; reason logically; synthesize ideas; identify key issues in decision-making or problem solving; and weigh alternatives and identify solutions.
- **Communication:** Develop cultural sensitivity; present and defend a position; and summarize results.
- **Information gathering:** Interpret data/relationships, as well as read and analyze complex texts.
- **Research:** Work independently and identify problems and needs.
- **Ethics & values:** Identify and clarify values, as well as reflect on own values in a disciplined way.

Get involved

Check out student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Philosophy Academic Society (PAS)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)
- UTM Debating Club (Philosophy Department team)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs.

Services that support you

- AccessAbility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Office (EEO)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of Student Transition (OST)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Department of Philosophy

Academic Annex, 2nd floor
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-569-4601
Philosophy Undergraduate Advisor: ugadvisor.philosophy.utm@utoronto.ca
www.utm.utoronto.ca/philosophy

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

**NOTE:** During the application process, applicants will select Humanities admissions category but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

Can machines think and feel? Are human beings simply very complicated organic machines? These questions are discussed in the light of recent work on the simulation of intelligence and intentional behaviour in PHL240H5 Mind and Machines.

Canadian and American university courses in the philosophy of religion typically focus on Christianity and/or Judaism; but East Asian religions such as Hinduism and Buddhism are among the most widely practiced faiths in the world. In 2017-18, PHL235: Philosophy of Religion will take up an Eastern perspective and focus on Buddhism.

UTM Philosophy aims to inculcate students in the values of intellectual perseverance, clarity of thought and communication, and creativity.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400
www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students