

| <b>Philosophy: MA; MA with specialization in Political Thought</b> |  |   |   |
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| <b>Expectations</b><br>(general descriptors from OCAV)             | <b>Learning Outcomes</b><br>(program specific)**<br>This degree is awarded to students who demonstrate...  | <b>Indicators of Achievement</b><br>As evidenced by...  | <b>Relevant Courses and academic requirements</b><br>(requirements that contribute to the achievement of learning outcomes and degree expectations)   |
| Depth and breadth of knowledge                                     | Critical and scholarly skills in the discipline, as well as overall philosophical knowledge and acumen.  | Ability to make connections across subfields, problems, and approaches,<br><br>A solid understanding of the issues arising from philosophical problems and the types and range of evidence required to sustain a persuasive argument.   | Six 3.0 credit graduate level courses, including 2 courses from each of two broad fields, A short thesis (PHIL 899), typically completed in one academic term<br><br>(Specialization in Political Thought: the two broad field requirements are substituted by the requirement that four of the six required 3.0 credit graduate level courses (12 credits) must be designated Political Thought courses in the Departments of Philosophy and Political Studies). |
| Research and scholarship   | Facility with multiple conceptual tools and explanatory models by which to analyze evidence, shape ideas, draw connections, and discern patterns.  | Precise, nuanced, careful, and critical analysis of primary evidence or scholarship,<br><br>Ability to engage with alternative arguments, perspectives, and approaches in current debates in the discipline, and<br><br>Evidence of independent and potentially original thought, and effective interpretation. | All MA students are required to complete a short thesis on a topic of their choosing.<br><br>Graduate courses typically include substantial papers among their methods of assessment.   |
| Application of Knowledge   | Competence in philosophical research.<br><br>Ability to apply existing bodies of knowledge to a specific problem, new question, or new circumstances.  | Ability to integrate learning and apply ideas to persistent and new questions.  | Graduate courses and thesis.  |
| Professional capacity/autonomy                                     | Critical thinking and independent inquiry,<br><br>Ethical behaviour and attitudes consistent with academic integrity,<br><br>Time-management skills, engagement with constructive feedback, initiative, and personal accountability, and<br><br>Ability to apply the norms of the profession in different contexts and engage professionally with peers and mentors. | Ability to work independently according to the norms of the discipline and to receive and give constructive feedback through engaging with the work and perspectives of others in a professional manner.  | Graduate courses and thesis.  |
| Communication Skills   | Ability to communicate ideas, concepts, information, competing interpretations, and  | Well conceived and executed oral and written communication in a variety of  | Graduate courses and thesis.  |

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|   | conclusions in a clear, well-organized, and persuasive manner.  | settings, and<br><br>Conveying both specific information and complex understanding as well as the relationship between them  |  |
| Awareness of limits of knowledge  | Cognizance of the complexity of philosophical thinking, sources of scholarly disagreement, and processes by which shared interpretations coalesce, are contested, and change.   | Openness to new perspectives, willingness of consider alternative findings and approaches, and a positive attitude to ambiguity and the potentially open-ended process of inquiry where appropriate.   | Graduate courses and thesis.   |
| Philosophical acumen  | Critical and scholarly skills in the discipline.  | Ability to make connections across subfields, problems, and approaches,<br><br>Ability to construct persuasive philosophical arguments.  | Graduate courses and thesis.   |
| Advanced Knowledge and Scholarship in Political Thought (for students in the Specialization in Political Thought) | Critical and scholarly skills in Political Theory and Political Philosophy<br><br>Knowledge of the potential contributions of other interpretations, methods, and disciplines.<br><br>Ability to apply the norms of the professions of Philosophy and Political Studies in different contexts | The required courses in political thought typically include substantial papers among their methods of assessment that enables the assimilation and critical evaluation of advanced material from influential scholarship.<br><br>Students are typically also expected to participate actively in group discussions about the course material, and they may be required to make individual presentations about the readings covered in the course or about their own research papers.<br><br>The Major Research Project/Short Thesis requires the development of a sustained argument in written form, with the application of advanced research and writing skills; it requires the demonstration of familiarity with the relevant literature, and critical evaluation of existing scholarship focused on political thought. | Successful completion of six 3.0 credit graduate courses, four of the six required 3.0 credit graduate level courses must be designated political thought courses in the Departments of Philosophy and Political Studies.<br><br>Successful completion of the Master's (PHIL 898, POLS 898) as per the home unit. The topic area must be relevant to the specialization. |