

# Philosophy



EMORY  
LANEY  
GRADUATE  
SCHOOL



The Philosophy Ph.D. program at Emory produces teachers and scholars who address living questions through perspectives grounded in a systematic understanding of the history of philosophy. We welcome a diversity of approaches to the study of philosophy, including: analytic, continental, historical, literary, multicultural, and pragmatic. Above all, we prepare our students to excel as members of scholarly and teaching communities.

## Strengths

Our department has both historical and systematic interests. We are particularly strong in four areas, where regular courses and seminars are complemented by informal reading groups on particular authors and texts:

- The history of philosophy: Emory faculty have expertise in all of the canonical periods in the history of philosophy, including ancient Greek and Roman, Medieval and Renaissance, Modern, and 19th and 20th Century.
- Continental philosophy: The Emory faculty researches and teaches in the areas of phenomenology, existentialism, critical theory, hermeneutics, deconstruction, feminism, post-modernism, psychoanalysis, and genealogy.
- Culture, social theory and value: Emory also features faculty expertise in the areas of social and political philosophy, aesthetics, philosophy of literature, philosophy of history, philosophy of culture, ethics, and the philosophy of social science.
- American philosophy: The program at Emory also offers expertise in the areas of transcendentalism, classical pragmatism, naturalism, and neo-pragmatism.

We are also home to two institutes and several journals:

- Emory hosts the Vico Institute as well as the Institute for the History of Philosophy. The former maintains a library in Bowden Hall and the latter sponsors distinguished visitors and summer seminars.  
*[www.philosophy.emory.edu/ihp/](http://www.philosophy.emory.edu/ihp/)*
- Four journals are housed at Emory: The Journal of Speculative Philosophy, The Journal of the History of Philosophy, New Vico Studies, and Symposia on Gender, Race, and Philosophy.

# DISCOVER

the unexpected

## Interdisciplinary Opportunities

Emory strongly supports interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship. Students in the philosophy program enjoy rich opportunities for working with faculty from related programs and departments, several of whom are affiliated with Philosophy.

- Several related programs offer structured sequences of courses that lead to a graduate certificate. These include French, Comparative Literature, Film Studies and Women's Studies. In addition, Emory has a strong Psychoanalytic Studies program.
- Highly ranked programs in Religion, Comparative Literature, French, Women's Studies, Anthropology and Psychology, as well as nationally known faculty in other related fields, complement offerings in our four major areas of strength. You'll find a list on our website—visit [www.philosophy.emory.edu/graduate/interdisc.shtml](http://www.philosophy.emory.edu/graduate/interdisc.shtml).
- Two scholarly centers are of particular interest to many of our students and faculty: Emory Center for Ethics, [www.ethics.emory.edu](http://www.ethics.emory.edu), offers internships and seminars, and the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, [www.chi.emory.edu](http://www.chi.emory.edu), offers dissertation fellowships for graduate students working in the humanities.

## Curriculum

Our curriculum provides students with broad and systematic training in the major fields of philosophy.

- During their first three years, students engage in coursework in the form of graduate seminars, and independent readings. They also pass translation exams in two relevant foreign languages and meet a logic requirement.
- At the end of their second year, students take comprehensive examinations in four periods of the history of philosophy. During the third year, they complete research papers in a fifth historical period and a systematic area of philosophy.
- At this point students have satisfied requirements for the MA in philosophy.
- Before their fourth year, students prepare and defend a prospectus for dissertation research, after which they research and write the dissertation under the guidance of a dissertation committee.
- Students typically complete the Ph.D. in five to six years.

On our website, you will find a list of graduates stretching back to 1990, including their dissertation titles. It gives a good sense of the kind of work our graduate students do. Visit [www.philosophy.emory.edu/graduate/placement.shtml](http://www.philosophy.emory.edu/graduate/placement.shtml).



### Teacher Training

All Ph.D. students take Philosophy 700 (that includes a focus on teaching) and participate in the Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity program (TATTO) sponsored by Laney Graduate School, which offers training in pedagogy and related issues.

The program has four main components: (1) a summer teaching course offered by Laney Graduate School, usually taken in the summer before the second year; (2) a departmental pedagogy course (Philosophy 777), taken in the Fall after the Summer course; (3) one or two semesters of responsibilities as a Teaching Assistant; and (4) one semester of responsibilities as a Co-Teacher. Normally, a Teaching Assistant will attend classes, grade assignments, and hold regular office hours. In addition to these duties, a Co-Teacher will normally lecture several times and help write exams or other assignments.

Advanced students typically teach their own courses. They also are eligible to apply for Dean's Teaching Fellowships, awarded by the Laney Graduate School on a competitive basis. Dean's Teaching Fellows receive generous stipends and teach their own course each semester.

### Students

The Philosophy department admits 5–7 students to its Ph.D. program per year. Our students come from diverse backgrounds and have pluralistic interests.

The Graduate Philosophy Society holds weekly forums in which graduate students present their own work and/or discuss a text of common interest. The Society also sponsors a yearly graduate student conference.

Students have ample opportunity to take courses in related subjects of interest outside the Philosophy program. We also provide financial assistance for professional development (research travel, presentations at select conferences, etc.) and the study of languages.

We actively support our graduates' job search. Nearly all of our recent Ph.D. graduates have attained tenure-track positions. You can find information about some of our recent graduates on our website, at [www.philosophy.emory.edu/graduate/students.shtml](http://www.philosophy.emory.edu/graduate/students.shtml).



## Faculty

Currently there are eighteen faculty members in the department, and fifteen other affiliated faculty in other departments.

Our website has individual faculty pages with information about research interests, teaching, and more. Visit [www.philosophy.emory.edu/facstaff](http://www.philosophy.emory.edu/facstaff).

## Contact Information

Please contact Steve Strange, Director of Graduate Studies ([philsks@emory.edu](mailto:philsks@emory.edu), 404-727-0460), or John Stuhr, Chair ([jstuhr@emory.edu](mailto:jstuhr@emory.edu), 404-727-4199).



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Requests for Additional Information:

RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSIONS

James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies  
209 Administration Building  
201 Dowman Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30322

404-727-6028 (ask for the Philosophy program)  
Fax: 404-727-4990

<http://www.graduateschool.emory.edu>  
<http://www.philosophy.emory.edu>