

The SAASC convened on Thursday, March 7, 2019 to consider a proposal from the College of Arts & Sciences, Department of Philosophy to change the MA/Ph.D program.

Attendance on March 7: Susan Effgen, Shawn Caudill, Azhar Swanson, Kevin Donohue, Tom Troland, Annie Weber, Herman Farrell (Chair)

Procedure:

Annie Weber acted as facilitator of the proposal.

Discussion:

As note in the proposal: "The only change we are requesting is to move away from the comprehensive exams. Instead, students will complete 2 pro-seminars (PHI 741 and PHI 742) in their first year. There is no change in total credit hours." It was noted that this action is in keeping with comparable benchmark degree programs.

Vote:

A motion was made and seconded that the SAASC approve the proposal.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

College:	Arts and Sciences	Department:	Philosophy
Current Major Name:	Philosophy	Proposed Major Name:	Philosophy
Current Degree Title:	MA	Proposed Degree Title:	MA
Formal Option(s):	N/A	Proposed Formal Option(s):	N/A
Specialty Fields w/in Formal Option:	N/A	Proposed Specialty Fields w/in Formal Options:	N/A
Date of Contact with Institutional Effectives ¹ :	6/28/18		
Bulletin (yr & pgs):	GSB 2016-2018	CIP Code ¹ :	38.0101
Today's Date:	6/21/18		
Accrediting Agency (if applicable):	N/A		
Requested Effective Date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semester following approval.		OR <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date ² :
Dept. Contact Person:	Eric Sanday	Phone:	
Email:	eric.sanday@uky.edu		

2. CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

		<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
1.	Number of transfer credits allowed (Maximum is Graduate School limit of 9 hours or 25% of course work)	9	<i>No Change</i>
2.	Residence requirement (if applicable)	Graduate School Residency Requirement	<i>No Change</i>
3.	Language(s) and/or skill(s) required	<p>Students must demonstrate reading competence in one foreign language. Normally, French, German, classical Greek, or Latin is required, but the Director of Graduate Studies, in consultation with the Graduate Faculty, may approve another language if warranted by a student's program of study. The language requirement may be satisfied in any of five ways:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1) completing one of the accelerated graduate level language courses with a grade of "B" or better;</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2) completing the Educational Testing Service</p>	<i>No Change</i>

¹ Prior to completing out this form, you MUST contact Institutional Effectiveness, which can provide you with the CIP (OSPIE@l.uky.edu or 257-1962).

² Program changes are typically made effective for the semester following approval. No changes will be made effective until all approvals are received.

CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

		<p>examination with a minimum score of 450;</p> <p>3)completing four semesters (or equivalent) of the language with a grade point average of 3.0 or better at the University of Kentucky or some comparable institution;</p> <p>4)completing, with a grade of "B" or better, Special Examinations given for the Graduate reading courses (forms may be obtained from the Registrar's Office; other types of special examinations are scheduled in the Graduate School Records Office); or</p> <p>5)transferring a language taken to satisfy the requirements for a Master's degree at another university.</p>	
4.	Termination criteria	<p>Termination by the Philosophy Graduate Faculty: The Graduate Faculty, by majority vote, may terminate a student for failure to maintain satisfactory progress, or for:</p> <p>1) a grade point average below 3.0 in any two consecutive semesters each;</p> <p>or</p> <p>2) 6 or more credit hours of incomplete which are a year or more old;</p> <p>or</p> <p>3) 9 hours of incomplete of any duration.</p>	<i>No Change</i>
5.	Plan A Degree Plan requirements ³ (thesis)	n/a	<i>n/a</i>
6.	Plan B Degree Plan requirements ³ (non-thesis)	Please see addendum for the full distribution of courses required to satisfy the MA.	<i>Please see addendum for the full distribution of courses required to satisfy the MA.</i>
7.	Distribution of course levels required	Please see addendum for the full distribution of courses required to satisfy the MA.	<i>No Change</i>
	(At least one-half must be at 600+ level & two-thirds must be in organized courses.)		

³ If there is only one plan for the degree, plans involving a thesis (or the equivalent in studio work, etc.) should be discussed under Plan A and those not involving a thesis should be discussed under Plan B.

CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

8.	Required courses (if applicable)	PHI 740- Proseminar in Teaching Methods (1ch)	<i>PHI 740- Proseminar in Teaching Methods (1ch)</i> <i>PHI 741- Proseminar in Metaphysics and Epistemology(3ch)</i> <i>PHI 742- Proseminar in Value Theory (3ch)</i>
9.	Required distribution of courses within program (if applicable)	24 of the 36 credit hours must be in PHI prefix graduate level courses. 18 of the 36 credit hours must be in PHI prefix graduate seminars. Please see addendum for the full distribution of courses required to satisfy the MA.	<i>No Change</i>
10.	Final examination requirements	Pass two comprehensive exams. One exam in Metaphysics and Epistemology, the other in Value Theory.	<i>Students will complete two proseminars in Metaphysics and Epistemology, the other in Value Theory. Please see required courses above.</i>
11.	Explain whether the proposed changes to the program (as described in sections 1 to 10) involve courses offered by another department/program. <u>Routing Signature Log must include approval by faculty of additional department(s).</u>		
	n/a		
12.	List any other requirements not covered above?		
	The MA in Philosophy requires 36 credit hours. Please see full curriculum on the attached addendum *We do not accept students into our MA program. All students apply to our PhD program and may choose to leave with an MA en passant after satisfying all MA requirements.		
13.	Please explain the rationale for changes. If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.		
	<p>*The only change we are requesting is to move away from comprehensive exams. Instead, students will complete two pro-seminars (PHI 741 and PHI 742) in their first year. There is no change in total credit hours.</p> <p>In our last external review it was recommended that we move away from comprehensive exams. The comprehensive exams emphasized short-term memorization over substantive engagement with primary texts. Many of our graduate students expressed uncertainty about the expectations for the exams.</p> <p>We would like to eliminate the comprehensive exam and add a requirement of two pro-seminars in the history of philosophy in the first year of graduate study. In terms of content, the first pro-seminar would focus on metaphysics and epistemology in three eras in the history of philosophy. It would be team taught by three faculty members. The second pro-seminar would focus on value theory in three eras of the history of philosophy.</p> <p>The goals of the pro-seminars are both intellectual and professional. The intellectual aspect is to ensure that all students come to have a solid understanding of the history of philosophy. The professional aspect is to</p>		

CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

introduce first-year graduate students to rigorous philosophical work -- in a small group setting with regular writing and extensive feedback from the professors.

Feedback to students in the pro-seminars provides training and evaluation in oral skills through focused discussions of the topics with faculty in intensive small group sessions limited to first-year graduate students. The students will also benefit from training and evaluation in written skills through weekly written assignments with exegetical and interpretive components. Students will improve by receiving direct attention and feedback from faculty and by being given a protected environment in which to engage in critical evaluation of core ideas in the history of philosophy.

Only two of the University of Kentucky's 11 benchmarks still require a comprehensive exam. There is only one benchmark that does not require a first year pro-seminar or courses in Metaphysics and epistemology. (See attached document labeled 'University of Kentucky Benchmark Institutions').

Moving away from comprehensive exams better aligns us with our benchmark universities. This will allow us to be more competitive when recruiting top graduate students. Students will be able to develop relationships with the diverse faculty in the Department of Philosophy, that they will need to succeed, within their first year as graduate students.

CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

Signature Routing Log

General Information:

Proposal Name: MA Philosophy

Proposal Contact Person Name: Eric Sanday Phone: _____ Email: eric.sanday@uky.edu

INSTRUCTIONS:

Identify the groups or individuals reviewing the proposal; note the date of approval; offer a contact person for each entry; and obtain signature of person authorized to report approval.

Internal College Approvals and Course Cross-listing Approvals:

Reviewing Group	Date Approved	Contact Person (name/phone/email)	Signature
PHI	1/13/16	Brandon Look / /	
A&S EPC	2/25/18	Judy Prats / / judithgprats@uky.edu	<i>Judy Prats</i>
A&S Assoc. Dean	2/25/18	Anna Bosch / / bosch@uky.edu	<i>Anna Bosch</i>
		/ /	
		/ /	

External-to-College Approvals:

Council	Date Approved	Signature	Approval of Revision ⁴
Undergraduate Council			
Graduate Council	10/11/18	Roshan Nikou	
Health Care Colleges Council			
Senate Council Approval		University Senate Approval	

Comments:

⁴ Councils use this space to indicate approval of revisions made subsequent to that council's approval, if deemed necessary by the revising council.

Philosophy Department Program Changes

In our old system, graduate students were required to pass two **Comprehensive Exams** by January of their third years in the program. One exam focused on Metaphysics and Epistemology, the other on Value Theory. Both were historical in nature, focusing on the views of the canonical philosophers of Western philosophy from Plato to Nietzsche. The point, of course, was to make sure that our students had a solid understanding in the history of philosophy, a strength of the department. And students were provided with reading lists and sets of questions to aid in their study. Exams were administered by the Director of Graduate Studies on the Friday and Monday prior to the start of each semester, and each exam consisted of three questions (1. Ancient-Medieval Philosophy; 2. Modern Philosophy; 3. Plato to Nietzsche) and was to be completed by the student in one six-hour sitting. The exams were then evaluated by faculty committees of three to five members each. – The first-level problem: no matter how we tweaked the format, these exams invariably caused enormous stress among our graduate students and resulted in students being dropped out of the program. The higher-level problem: these exams tested for knowledge in a way and demanded a kind of performance that is unlike anything a student will ever encounter in the rest of his or her professional career. As a result, the department was convinced that it was leading to some *good* students being weeded out when they really should not have been. Moreover, exams of this kind are completely *passé* in the profession. And our external review committee suggested that we get rid of them. (In fact, *every* external review committee for the past 20 years suggested that we get rid of the exams.)

In place of these comprehensive exams, we propose to require two “proseminars” for all first-year graduate students: one on Metaphysics and Epistemology, the other on Value Theory; and both will be historically focused, with one section on ancient and medieval philosophy, one on modern philosophy and one on contemporary philosophy. Thus, the *content* of the comprehensive exams will be preserved in some sense; in another sense, not. For previously the comprehensive exams really were exams focused on the views of the great, dead white men of philosophy. In this new version, not only do the proseminars cover contemporary philosophy, but, as they are more focused on philosophical and scholarly methods, instructors are free to focus on lesser-known or heretofore undervalued philosophers of the past. (For example, instead of demanding that students know the details of the metaphysical views of Descartes, Spinoza or Leibniz, I, a

specialist in the history of modern philosophy, could have students focus on the philosophy of Anne Conway, a brilliant 17th-century Platonist, and relate her philosophy to the dominant philosophy of the age.)

Our **Qualifying Exams** are and have always been something else altogether. These are taken by graduate students in preparation to the writing of their dissertations, ideally in their third or fourth years of graduate study. Normally, after a student forms a dissertation committee, she will write an “area proposal” (10-15 pages, plus an extensive bibliography) that lays out, roughly, what the topic of the dissertation will be. If this is approved by the committee, then she is administered the Qualifying Exam, which typically consists of two to four questions on this topic and based on the bibliography that the student and committee agree upon. The student has 10-14 days to complete the exam, and usually the student drops a 40-page document on the laps of the committee members. This is then read by the committee members, and an oral examination based on this written work is then given.

Brandon C. Look, Chair

PhD in Philosophy requirements with an en passant masters

PHI 740 Practicum on Teaching Methods (1ch)

PHI 741 Metaphysics and Epistemology (3)

PHI 742 Value Theory (3)

Contemporary course distribution (9ch)- To ensure competence in contemporary developments in philosophy, all Ph.D. students are required, prior to taking the Qualifying Examination, to complete at least nine credit hours in contemporary philosophy, of which at least three are in value theory and at least three in metaphysics and epistemology. Courses that count toward this requirement are so marked in the course description booklet that is produced prior to registration each semester. Normally, in order to qualify at least half or more of the course readings will be drawn from works written circa 1975 to the present. Determination that a course qualifies is made by the faculty member teaching the course in consultation with the department chair. (**PHI 520 does not count towards fulfilling this requirement.)

Seminar requirement (18ch) - one pro-seminar (PHI 741 or PHI 742) may contribute to satisfying this requirement. All 9ch of the contemporary requirement, if taken as seminars, may contribute to satisfying this requirement.

Language Requirement- Students must demonstrate reading competence in one foreign language. Normally, French, German, classical Greek, or Latin is required, but the Director of Graduate Studies, in consultation with the Graduate Faculty, may approve another language if warranted by a student's program of study. The language requirement may be satisfied in any of five ways:

- 1) completing one of the accelerated graduate level language courses with a grade of "B" or better;
- 2) completing the Educational Testing Service examination with a minimum score of 450;
- 3) completing four semesters (or equivalent) of the language with a grade point average of 3.0 or better at the University of Kentucky or some comparable institution;
- 4) completing, with a grade of "B" or better, Special Examinations given for the Graduate reading courses (forms may be obtained from the Registrar's Office; other types of special examinations are scheduled in the Graduate School Records Office); or
- 5) transferring a language taken to satisfy the requirements for a Master's degree at another university.

Logic Requirement- All Graduate students must demonstrate their competence in logic in one of three ways:

- 1) completion of PHI 520 with a grade of "C" or better.
- 2) passing, with a grade of "C" or better, the departmental examination in logic, which, if requested of the Director of Graduate Studies at least seven days in advance, will be offered the first full week of the Fall and Spring terms; or
- 3) providing evidence of completion of a course in logic comparable to PHI 520 at another institution, with a grade of "C" or better. Determination of the satisfaction of the logic requirement in this way is to be made by the Director of Graduate Studies in consultation with the Department's logic Faculty.

Electives- additional graduate level coursework to add up to the 36 credit hours required for the MA.

*24 of the 36 credit hours must be in PHI prefix graduate level courses. 18 of the 36 credit hours must be in PHI prefix graduate seminars.

After the MA requirements are satisfied students may move on to the PhD requirements (12ch plus 4ch of dissertation).

Seminar Requirement (9ch) – PHI prefix graduate level seminars

Electives (3ch)- PHI prefix graduate level coursework

Dissertation Residency Requirement (4ch)- The Graduate School requires that students complete the two-credit dissertation residency course, PHI 767, in at least two semesters (including at least once in the Fall or Spring) prior to graduating with the Ph.D.

Total: 52 credit hours

Student may exit the PhD program with an en passant masters after completing the 36 credit hours required for the MA.

University of Kentucky benchmark institutions 2 of our 11 benchmarks will require a comprehensive exam. Only one university did not require a first-year pre seminar in research skills and epistemology.

Benchmark Institution	Department	MA Pro	MA Pro	at least MA	Comprehensive Exam	Pre-Seminar	Notes
University of California Davis	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	Yes. Students are required to take two courses in metaphysics and epistemology. See http://www.philosophy.ucdavis.edu/graduate	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.ucdavis.edu/graduate
University of Iowa	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	No. Students are required to take two courses in metaphysics and epistemology. See http://www.philosophy.uiowa.edu/graduate	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.uiowa.edu/graduate
Michigan State University	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	Yes. Students are required to take two courses in metaphysics and epistemology. See http://www.philosophy.msu.edu/graduate	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.msu.edu/graduate
University of Missouri-Columbia	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	Yes. Students are required to take two courses in metaphysics and epistemology. See http://www.philosophy.missouri.edu/graduate	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.missouri.edu/graduate
University of Arizona	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	No	Yes	Yes. MA students are required to take a 3-0 pre-seminar in the first semester, which develops core philosophical skills for reading, analyzing, and writing philosophy. The MA student is required to take a 3-0 pre-seminar in the first semester, which develops core philosophical skills for reading, analyzing, and writing philosophy. The pre-seminar is required to take a pre-seminar included in the MA student's pre-seminar. The pre-seminar is included in the MA student's pre-seminar.	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.arizona.edu/graduate	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.arizona.edu/graduate
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	No. They do not have a seminar requirement for the MA or PhD.	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.umn.edu/graduate
Ohio State University	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	No	No	No	Yes. Students are required to take a 3-0 pre-seminar.	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.osu.edu/graduate
University of Michigan Ann Arbor	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	Yes. Students are required to complete two courses in metaphysics and epistemology. See http://www.philosophy.umich.edu/graduate	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.umich.edu/graduate
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	Yes. Students are required to complete a pre-seminar in the first year. The pre-seminar will focus on developing analytical and writing skills, and will cover major works in the history of analytic philosophy.	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.wisc.edu/graduate
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	Yes. In the first semester of their first year students are required to take a written examination on the field of epistemology.	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.unc.edu/graduate
University of Florida	Department of Philosophy	3001 3201	Yes	No	No	The student is required to complete a pre-seminar in the first year. The pre-seminar will focus on developing analytical and writing skills, and will cover major works in the history of analytic philosophy.	MA requirements: http://www.philosophy.ufl.edu/graduate

Harmon, Camille

From: noreply@qualtrics-survey.com
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2018 12:14 PM
To: Harmon, Camille
Subject: Substantive Change Decision

Dear camille harmon,

Thank you for your email regarding the proposed program change(s) to **MA Philosophy, Master's (38.0101)**.

My email will serve 2 purposes: 1.) Next steps for SACSCOC, and 2.) Verification and notification that you have contacted OSPIE—a Senate requirement for proposal approval.

1. **Next steps for SACSCOC:** None required
2. **Verification that OSPIE has reviewed the proposal:** Based on the proposal documentation presented and Substantive Change Checklist, the proposed program changes (refer to list below) are not substantive changes as defined by the University or SACSCOC, the university's regional accreditor. Therefore, no additional information is required by the Office of Strategic Planning & Institutional Effectiveness at this time. The proposed program change(s) may move forward in accordance with college and university-level approval processes.

Description of Proposed Change(s):

· *The only change we are requesting is to move away from comprehensive exams. Instead, students will complete two pro-seminars (PHI 741 and PHI 742) in their first year. There is no change in total credit hours. In our last external review it was recommended that we move away from comprehensive exams. The comprehensive exams emphasized short-term memorization over substantive engagement with primary text. Many of our graduate students expressed uncertainty about the expectations for the exams. We would like to eliminate the comprehensive exam and add a requirement of two pro-seminars in the history of philosophy in the first year of graduate study. In terms of content, the first pro-seminar would focus on metaphysics and epistemology in three eras in the history of philosophy. It would be team taught by three faculty members. The second pro-seminar would focus on value theory in three eras of the history of philosophy. The goals of the pro-seminars are both intellectual and professional. The intellectual aspect is to ensure that all students come to have a solid understanding of the history of philosophy. The professional aspect is to introduce first-year graduate students to rigorous philosophical work -- in a small group setting with regular writing and extensive feedback from the professors. Feedback to students in the pro-seminars provides training and evaluation in oral skills through focused discussions of the topics with faculty in intensive small group sessions limited to first-year graduate students. The students will also benefit from training and evaluation in written skills through weekly written assignments with exegetical and interpretive components. Students will improve by receiving direct attention and feedback from faculty and by being given a protected environment in which to engage in critical evaluation of core ideas in the history of philosophy. Only two of the University of Kentucky's 11 benchmarks still require a comprehensive exam. There is only one benchmark that does not require a first year pro-seminar or courses in Metaphysics and epistemology. (See attached document labeled 'University of Kentucky Benchmark Institutions'. Moving away from comprehensive exams better aligns us with our benchmark universities. This will allow us to be more competitive when recruiting top graduate students. Students

will be able to develop relationships with the diverse faculty in the Department of Philosophy, that they will need to succeed, within their first year as graduate students.

Should you have questions or concerns about UK's substantive change policy and its procedures, please do not hesitate contacting our office.

Office of Strategic Planning & Institutional Effectiveness

University of Kentucky

Visit the Institutional Effectiveness

Website: <https://proxy.qualtrics.com/proxy/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.uky.edu%2Fie&token=w%2BXHkAS0tASxS4xDceQ8e0MxnHdJ2Eu4smnkDcYodCE%3D>

June 28, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the proposed Philosophy Department Doctoral and Master's Program changes. We are adding proseminars 741 and 742 as required courses for all graduate students in their first year of residency in the Philosophy Department. The faculty voted to adopt this change on January 13, 2016, and the vote passed unopposed.

Sincerely,



Eric Sanday

Associate Professor
Interim Chair of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
(859) 940-2494

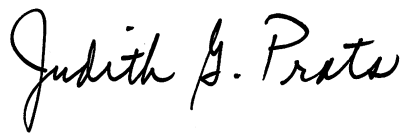
see blue.

October 27, 2018

Dear Graduate Council,

On behalf of the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Education Policy Committee discussed and approved the Philosophy Master's Degree program change and the Philosophy Doctoral Degree program change 9:0:0 on Tuesday, September 25, 2018. The proposal is to suspend admissions into, and ultimately close, the BA/BS in Latin American Studies

Sincerely,



Judith Prats
Chair, Education Policy Committee