

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 DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

### GENERAL INFORMATION

College:	<u>Arts and Sciences</u>	Department:	<u>Philosophy</u>
Current Major Name:	<u>Philosophy</u>	Proposed Major Name:	<u>Philosophy</u>
Current Degree Title:	<u>PhD</u>	Proposed Degree Title:	<u>PhD</u>
Current Formal Option(s):	<u>n/a</u>	Proposed Formal Option(s):	<u>n/a</u>
Current Specialty Fields w/in Formal Option:	<u>n/a</u>	Proposed Specialty Fields w/in Formal Option:	<u>n/a</u>
Date of Contact with Institutional Effectiveness <sup>1</sup> ( <a href="mailto:OSPIE@l.uky.edu">OSPIE@l.uky.edu</a> ):		<u>6/28/18</u>	
Bulletin (yr & pgs):	_____	CIP Code <sup>1</sup> :	<u>38.0101</u>
		Today's Date:	<u>6/28/18</u>
Accrediting agency (if applicable):	<u>n/a</u>		
Requested Effective Date:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semester following approval.	OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date <sup>2</sup> : _____
Dept Contact Person:	<u>Eric Sanday</u>	Phone:	_____
		Email:	<u>eric.sanday@uky.edu</u>

### CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
1. Number of transfer credits allowed:	<u>9</u>	<u>No Change</u>
<i>(Maximum is Graduate School limit of total of 9 hours (or 25% of the credit hours needed to fulfill the pre-qualifying residency requirement.)</i>		
2. Residence requirement:	<u>Graduate School Residency Requirement</u>	<u>No Change</u>
<i>(Minimum of one year before and after Qualifying Exams.)</i>		
3. Language(s) and/or skill(s) required:	<p><u>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:</u></p> <p><u>1)completing one of the accelerated graduate level language courses with a grade of "B" or better;</u></p> <p><u>2)completing the Educational Testing Service examination with a minimum score of 450;</u></p> <p><u>3)completing four semesters (or equivalent) of the language with a</u></p>	<u>No Change</u>

<sup>1</sup> Prior to filling out this form, you MUST contact Institutional Effectiveness. That office can also assist with the CIP code.

<sup>2</sup> Programs are typically made effective for the semester following approval. No program will be made effective until all approvals are received.

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	<u>grade point average of 3.0 or better at the University of Kentucky or some comparable institution;</u> <u>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</u> <u>5)transferring a language taken to satisfy the requirements for a Master's degree at another university.</u>	
4. Provisions for monitoring progress and termination criteria:	<u>Termination by the Philosophy Graduate Faculty: The Graduate Faculty, by majority vote, may terminate a student for failure to maintain satisfactory progress, or for:</u> <u>1) a grade point average below 3.0 in any two consecutive semesters each; or</u> <u>2) 6 or more credit hours of incomplete which are a year or more old;</u> <u>or</u> <u>3) 9 hours of incomplete of any duration.</u>	<u>No Change</u>
5. Total credit hours required:	<u>52 total credit hours- 12ch beyond the 36ch required for the MA and an additional 4ch for dissertation residency</u>	<u>No Change</u>
6. Required courses:	<u>PHI 740- Proseminar in Teaching Methods (1ch)</u>	<u>PHI 740- Proseminar in Teaching Methods (1ch)</u> <u>PHI 741- Proseminar in Metaphysics and Epistemology(3ch)</u> <u>PHI 742- Proseminar in Value Theory (3ch)</u>
7. Required distribution of courses within program:	<u>Please see addendum for the full distribution of courses to satisfy the PhD in Philosophy.</u>	<u>Please see addendum for the full distribution of courses to satisfy the PhD in Philosophy.</u>
8. Minor area or courses outside program required:	<u>n/a</u>	<u>n/a</u>
9. Distribution of courses levels required (400G-500/600-700):	<u>n/a</u>	<u>n/a</u>
10. Qualifying examination requirements:	<u>the Qualifying examination will be prepared, administered, and its results evaluated by the student's</u>	<u>No Change</u>

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Advisory Committee, a majority vote of the committee being required for successful completion. Alternatively, with the consent of the Advisory Committee, a student may submit a Qualifying Essay in lieu of the written exam.

The examination will consist of both a written and an oral component, and will cover the student's declared area of specialization. If the student opts to write a Qualifying Essay, he or she will also sit for an oral examination on the content of the essay.

11. Explain whether the proposed changes to the program (as described in numbers 1 through 10) involve courses offered by another department/program. Routing Signature Log must include approval by faculty of additional department(s).

n/a

12. Other requirements not covered above:

The PhD in Philosophy requires 52 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 chose to leave with an MA en passant after satisfying all MA requirements.

13. What is the rationale for the proposed changes? If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.

\*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 texts. 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

## CHANGE DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

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 DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM**

Signature Routing Log

**General Information:**

Proposal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal Contact Person Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**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	1/13/2016	Brandon Look / /	
A&S EPC	9/25/2018	Judy Prats / / judithgprats@uky.edu	<i>Judith G. Prats</i>
A&S Assoc. Dean	9/25/18	Anna Bosch / / bosch@uky.edu	<i>Anna Bosch</i>
		/ /	
		/ /	

**External-to-College Approvals:**

Council	Date Approved	Signature	Approval of Revision <sup>3</sup>
Undergraduate Council			
Graduate Council	10/11/18	Roshan Nikou	
Health Care Colleges Council			
Senate Council Approval		University Senate Approval	

Comments:

<sup>3</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup>-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 Graduate Handbook

2 of our 11 departments will require a comprehensive exam. Only one university did not require a first-year pro seminar or course in statistics and epidemiology.

University	Department	MA/PhD	in Master's MA	Comprehensive Exam	Pro-Seminar	Notes
University of California	Department of Psychology	300-300	No	No	Yes. Students are required to take two courses in statistics and epidemiology. No they are not required to take pro seminars.	http://www.psychology.ucdavis.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements/
University of Iowa	Department of Psychology	300-720	No	No	No. Students are required to take two courses in statistics and epidemiology. No they are not required to take pro seminars.	http://webhome.crknet.com/~psychology/undergrad/grad/grad_requirements.html
Michigan State University	Department of Psychology	300-240	Yes	No	Yes. Students are required to take two courses in statistics and epidemiology. No they are not required to take pro seminars.	http://www.psychology.msu.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements/
University of Missouri-Columbia	Department of Psychology	300-720	Yes	No	Yes. Students are required to take a 3-credit pro seminar in the first semester, which develops core philosophical skills for reading, analyzing, and writing philosophy.	http://webhome.crknet.com/~psychology/undergrad/grad/grad_requirements.html
University of Virginia	Department of Psychology	300-450	No	Yes. PhD requires comprehensive exam	Yes. MA students are required to take two courses in statistics and epidemiology. No they are not required to take pro seminars. PhD students are required to take a pro seminar. The pro seminar is required to be an intensive introduction to philosophical methods and tools. The pro seminar is required to be a first-year student and is mandatory.	http://grad.psych.virginia.edu/
University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire	Department of Psychology	300-320/400	Yes	No	No. They do not have a seminar requirement for their MA or PhD.	Students may apply to the second-year MA program, though the program is not considered a holding program into the PhD program. Students may also apply to the PhD program and earn an MA on request. http://www.uwec.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements.html
Ohio State University	Department of Philosophy	410-140/140	No	No	Yes. Students are required to take a 3-credit pro seminar.	http://www.philosophy.ohio-state.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements.html
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	Department of Philosophy	210-110/below	Yes	No	Yes. Students are required to complete two 500-level pro seminars in the first year.	http://www.philosophy.umich.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements.html
University of Minnesota - Duluth	Department of Philosophy	300-110	Yes	No	Yes. Students are required to complete a pro seminar in the first year. The pro seminar will focus on knowledge, analytical, and writing skills, and will cover major works in the history of analytic philosophy.	http://www.philosophy.umn.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements.html
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Department of Philosophy	300-400	Yes	Yes. In the spring semester of their third year students are required to take a written examination in the field of specialization.	Yes. Students are required to take a 3-credit pro seminar. The seminar aims to develop the student's skills in philosophical writing in both oral presentations and written essays. Critical constructive commentary and clear faculty-student contact are mandatory features of the course.	http://www.philosophy.unc.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements.html
University of Florida	Department of Philosophy	300-900	Yes	No	Yes. Students are required to take a 3-credit pro seminar. The seminar is a intensive course on philosophical research and writing which serves as the subject matter for the pro seminar report.	http://www.philosophy.ufl.edu/graduate/graduate_requirements.html

## Harmon, Camille

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**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 **PhD Philosophy, Doctoral (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

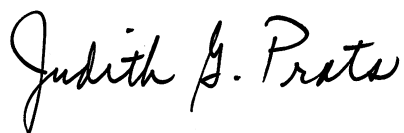
see blue.

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