



University of California, Santa Barbara
Program Learning Outcomes

PhD in Philosophy

Upon graduation with a PhD in Philosophy:

Core Knowledge

Students attain advanced knowledge in core areas of philosophy, including logic, metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of mind, philosophy of language, and philosophy of logic; ethics, political philosophy, and value theory; and the history of western philosophy, including such philosophers of Greek and Roman Antiquity as Plato and Aristotle, modern philosophers including Locke, Hume, Kant, and analytic philosophers of the late 19th and 20th centuries.

Research Methods and Analysis

Students will:

1. Demonstrate their knowledge of research methods and analysis by conducting a substantial piece of research.
2. Demonstrate their capacity both to conduct independent and original research.
3. Demonstrate their ability to conduct research using ethics and policies of research in accordance with our field.
4. Demonstrate their ability to present their work in an articulate and convincing manner.

Pedagogy

Students will be capable of:

1. Presenting teaching material in a coherent, systematic, and clear manner;
2. Composing syllabi, midterm prompts, final exams, and short reports;
3. Grading undergraduate essays fairly and competently;
4. Engaging with the undergraduate students both inside and outside the classroom; and, generally, dealing with student issues in an appropriate and timely fashion.

Scholarly Communication

Students are capable of:

1. Structuring a coherent argument (orally and in writing) based on evidence.

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2. Presenting ideas orally in a convincing manner.
3. Receiving and responding to corrections and comments on their work.
4. Producing high quality writing able to meet the standards of the journals in the field of philosophy.
5. Clearly communicate scholarly ideas to audiences beyond disciplinary boundaries.

Professionalism

Students will:

1. Be capable of preparing manuscripts that meet the standards of research venues.
2. Be capable of responding appropriately to recommendations for revision and, generally, to scholarly criticism.
3. Be capable of presenting papers at conferences in their field of expertise.
4. Demonstrate norms of professionalism in the field.
5. Be skilled in interpreting their work toward making them effective contributors to various sorts of research venues and groups.
6. Be capable of applying for research fellowships and grants.
7. Demonstrate an ability to present themselves in a professional manner for the job market.

Independent Research

Graduate students learn to:

1. Identify research topics, pursue research projects, develop their ideas and arguments, and bring their projects to completion.
2. Contribute to the field by conducting rigorous independent research.