



MOUNT MERCY UNIVERSITY APPLIED PHILOSOPHY

YOUR COURSES

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Logic

Introduction to Ethics

Introduction to Asian Thought

Special Topics: Applied Ethics

Senior Independent Research & Writing

6 additional semester hours in philosophy courses, at least 3 of which must be numbered above 300.

9 semester hours in approved courses from another department or other departments, 6 of which are numbered above 200.

OVERVIEW

Mount Mercy University's **applied philosophy** program stresses the importance of **ethical thinking and action**.

The program specializes in the history of philosophy, with an emphasis on the **Catholic intellection tradition** and the **compatibility of faith and reason**—unique among regional philosophy programs.

Students are engaged in **one-on-one mentorship** with faculty members who guide you in developing a **personalized program of study** based on your interests and goals.

Focused on developing the whole person, courses help you answer some of the most debated questions of human existence: How do we know what we know? What does it mean to exist, to be human? Does God exist? How can we live ethically?

Students often choose to pair philosophy with degrees in education, criminal justice, science, business, journalism, and more. Many continue their education in law or graduate school.

FAST FACTS

- Philosophy and English are the **two best majors** to prepare students for law school, according to a national poll of law school deans.
- Our program has a **flexible structure** and is uniquely designed to accompany other programs as a second major or minor.
- Students gain **expertise in critical thinking** and find they have an advantage in graduate school admissions tests, like the GRE and LSAT.
- Applied philosophy is also available as a minor.

96%

— **employment rate** —

96% of alumni are employed or in graduate school within nine months of graduation.

15,800

— **volunteer hours** —

15,800 MMU volunteer hours in communities and around the globe in 2016-17.

IOWA'S BEST

— **college** —

Named Iowa's Best College for Your Money by *Time's MONEY* magazine.

"I view my philosophy degree as a foundation on which to build an ethical and thoughtful professional life. The insight my degree has given me helps me think critically and problem-solve, no matter what situation I find myself in."

— *Elizabeth Meriwether '08*
Business Development and Quality Improvement Coordinator,
MercyCare North Liberty

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PHILOSOPHY DEGREE?

Mount Mercy alumni excel in graduate school—not only in philosophy, but also theology, law, history, criminal justice, and government.

Philosophy majors are also employed locally at:

- Mercy Medical Center
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Horizons: A Family Service Alliance
- Area Substance Abuse Council
- Brucemore historic site and community cultural center

Our graduates say MMU's accomplished professors, academic excellence, and tight-knit, fun-loving campus culture make Mount Mercy the best school for philosophy in Iowa.



RESEARCH

Philosophy students work directly with a faculty member on a major interdisciplinary research project during your senior year. You'll learn to articulate your own philosophical positions with clarity and depth—both in writing and speech.

Recent research projects include:

- Issues in business ethics
- The ethics of cloning humans
- An examination of the ethics of intellectual property issues like copying software

WHAT TO EXPECT

By the time you graduate from Mount Mercy, you will have:

- Thought deeply and carefully about important issues and applied that thought to real life situations
- Read some of the most difficult texts that human civilization has produced
- Had your logic evaluated many times
- Researched and written reams
- Had to speak before a crowd about difficult topics

These skills signal to any employer that philosophy majors can think, read, write, and speak well.



CONTACT US | Admissions Office

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