



# 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 major and minor stress the importance of **careful, critical, and 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. Courses also 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 may choose to pair philosophy with degrees in education, criminal justice, science, business, journalism, and other subjects. 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.**

**\$44,700**  
— starting salary —

Philosophy students have the highest starting salary of any humanities major, according to a 2016–17 study by PayScale.

**17,500+**  
— volunteer hours —

17,500+ MMU volunteer hours in communities and around the globe in 2017-18.

**College of Distinction**

— based on —

engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities, & successful outcomes.

**\$84,100**  
— mid-career salary —

Philosophy students the highest percent increase between starting and mid-career salary, according to a 2016–17 study by PayScale.

# 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



## RESEARCH PROJECT

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

Recent research projects include:

- The ethics of cloning humans
- An examination of the ethics of intellectual property issues like copying software
- Ethical standards in journalism
- An ethical examination of human resources theories

## 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

[admission@mtmercy.edu](mailto:admission@mtmercy.edu)

319-368-6460 or 800-248-4504

[mtmercy.edu/admissions](http://mtmercy.edu/admissions)

1330 Elmhurst Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402