



Siena Heights University • 1247 East Siena Heights Drive • Adrian, MI 49221

www.sienaheights.edu

Philosophy

The Philosophy program at Siena Heights University offers an historical issue-oriented approach, with an emphasis on ethics, to the perennial problems grappled with by philosophers from Socrates to Sartre. In the lower level introductory courses, students are introduced to “the big questions,” such as the existence and nature of God, the possibility of human freedom, the foundations of our moral obligations, and the relationship between the mind/soul and the body. In upper level courses, closer attention is given to primary source texts which examine a wide range of answers to these questions.

The Capstone Experience

Due to the small size of the Philosophy Department, majors receive intensive personal attention from a small but dedicated faculty. This learning experience culminates in the senior thesis, an independent research project that prepares the student for the expectations and rigor of graduate level study in Philosophy or related disciplines.

Why Siena?

“My approach in the classroom is first to acquaint my students with the great



ideas, trying to get them to see the world through these ideas. I then challenge them to question these ideas and frame their own philosophies of life.”

— Mark Schersten
Professor of Philosophy, Program Chair

Bachelor of Arts Degree Major

Humanities Division

Core Requirements.....12 semester hours
HUM 201 Heritage of the Humanities3
HUM 240 Heritage of the Humanities II3
____ Foreign Language6

Philosophy Requirements30 semester hours
PHI 110 Logic3
#PHI 220 Introduction to Ethics3
PHI 340 Ancient Philosophy3
PHI 341 Modern Philosophy3
PHI 361 Philosophy of Religion3
PHI 495 Senior Thesis3
PHI ____ Approved Electives12

Total for Major42 semester hours
Liberal Arts35-38 semester hours
General Electives40-43 semester hours
Total for Degree120 semester hours

May be double counted toward major and Liberal Arts Requirements.

Careers

The most obvious choice for a career in Philosophy is a Professor of Philosophy in an institution of higher education. This path will generally require an MA or Phd degree in Philosophy after the completion of the BA degree at Siena Heights University. However, many of our Philosophy majors go on to pursue higher degrees in related disciplines, such as English, History, or Psychology. Philosophy also provides an excellent preparation for students desiring to attend law school.

Why Siena?



"Being educated primarily means knowing how to surface relevant questions. Learning information is secondary. Method is more important than content. To adequately understand anything in the natural sciences and in human studies, it is necessary to understand the methods proper to various disciplines. We reach this understanding by analyzing what occurs in us when we know and when we make decisions, and when we love. Authenticity and commitment cannot be taught. Students learn them from teachers being authentic and committed."

— Thomas Aquinas Dunn
Associate Professor of Philosophy

For more information about the Philosophy Program at Siena Heights University, please call the Admissions Office at (800) 521-0009, or email us at admissions@sienaheights.edu.

