WHEN PASSION LEADS, SUCCESS FOLLOWSS

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
Villanova’s Department of Philosophy has offered a doctorate degree since 1993. In this short time, the graduate program in Philosophy has risen to prominence in the field. Focal areas in the program are the history of philosophy and continental philosophy, including phenomenology, existentialism and post-modernism. Our faculty work in metaphysics and epistemology, social and political philosophy, and ethics.

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM CURRICULUM AND REQUIREMENTS
Full details on course offerings, program requirements and policies are available online at philosophy.villanova.edu. Please click on the “Doctoral Program” link in the left navigation bar.

COURSEWORK
Students are required to complete 48 graduate credit hours (16 courses), including at least one course in four areas: Ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary philosophy. These must be completed by the end of the third year.

Students in the interdisciplinary philosophy and theology program must complete 54 graduate credit hours (42 in philosophy and 12 in theology).

TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM
Teacher training is an integral part of graduate philosophy and a special strength of our department. Graduate assistantships involve students in a progressive series of assignments, culminating in the assumption of full teaching responsibilities in the fifth year. The Villanova Institute for Teaching and Learning (VITAL) is a resource for graduate assistants; it offers workshops, consultations, and services such as course evaluation and class videotaping. Detailed information regarding the teacher training program is available at philosophy.villanova.edu.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
Various research opportunities are available to students in the program. Students are eligible for one conference travel stipend per academic year to present their work ($1,000 for North American conferences, $1,200 for international conferences). During the summers, students can apply once for funding to participate in the Collegium Phaenomenologicum in Italy or in the Critical Theory Workshop in Paris. They are also able to apply for the Graduate Summer Research Fellowship ($3,000) which is granted by Graduate Studies on a competitive basis. Students who have defended their proposal have access to additional departmental research funds.
EXAMS
The doctoral program requires two major exams. The first, called the MA Qualifying Portfolio and Oral Exam, requires that no later than one week before the fall semester of the third year, full-time students must present the director of graduate studies a portfolio of three papers substantially revised from papers originally submitted to satisfy requirements for seminars taken in their normal course of study in the previous four semesters. The second, called the Preliminary Exam, is given to students who have completed all coursework and passed both language exams. The Preliminary Exam tests knowledge of a central figure, question, or theme in philosophy, as well as the relevant historical context for dissertation work.

DISSERTATION
Students who pass the Preliminary Exam qualify to begin writing a dissertation. This begins with the defense of a proposal to the department and ends with a public defense of the dissertation.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
Students must pass an examination in one natural language other than English related to the student’s scholarly interests. The exam must be taken before the end of the second year of study. A number of our students have been awarded DAAD fellowships and other grants.

GRADUATE FACULTY
Farshid Baghai, PhD
University of Toronto, '13
Sarah-Vaughan Brakman, PhD
Rice University, '94
Walter A. Brogan, PhD
Duquesne University, '81
John M. Carvalho, PhD
Duquesne University, '87
William J. Desmond, PhD
Pennsylvania State University, '78
John A. Doody, PhD
Notre Dame University, '74
Julie R. Klein, PhD
Vanderbilt University, '96
Peter Koch, PhD
SUNY at Buffalo, '16
Stephen Napier, PhD
Saint Louis University, '04
Délia Popa, PhD
University of Nice, '07
Gabriel Rockhill, PhD
Emory University, '06
University of Paris VIII, '05
Sally J. Scholz, PhD
Purdue University, '93
Department Chair
Georg Theiner, PhD
Indiana University, Bloomington, '08
Yannik Thiem, PhD
University of California, Berkeley, '09
University of Tübingen, '04
Director of Graduate Studies
James R. Wetzel, PhD
Columbia University, '90

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