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Admissions Philosophy Department Handout

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Rhodes College
—1848—

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy addresses some of the most important and fundamental issues in our lives, exploring questions concerning the nature of reality, the role of values, obligations and choice in moral life, the source(s) of truth and meaning and the power and limits of human reason and understanding. With an average of 10 majors in each graduating class, the Department of Philosophy offers interested students extensive one-on-one interaction with department faculty members. Students of philosophy often continue to graduate school to pursue careers in such fields as teaching, law and medicine.

Curriculum

Major:

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy

Minor available

Students majoring in philosophy can expect exposure to a variety of philosophical topics. Course requirements for a philosophy major are as follows: Ancient Philosophy, Early Modern Philosophy, Logic, Ethics, Metaphysics, Theory of Knowledge, Senior Seminar and five additional elective courses within the Philosophy curriculum. Students may choose their electives from such courses as American Philosophy, Existentialism, Medieval Philosophy, Nineteenth Century Philosophy, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Science, as well as 10 other courses.

The Classical component of the European Studies semester abroad program is particularly suited to philosophy majors.

Faculty

Patrick A. Shade (Chair), Associate Professor of Philosophy; Ph.D., Vanderbilt University. Specialties: *Ethics, history of philosophy, American philosophy, logic.*

Leigh M. Johnson, Assistant Professor of Philosophy; Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University. Specialties: *Social & political philosophy, 19th & 20th century Continental philosophy, race theory, interdisciplinary humanities.*

Brendan O'Sullivan, Assistant Professor of Philosophy; Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley. Specialties: *Philosophy of mind, metaphysics, logic, interdisciplinary humanities.*

Andrew Terjesen, Assistant Professor of Philosophy; Ph.D., Duke University. Specialties: *History of ethics, moral psychology, early modern philosophy interdisciplinary humanities.*

Graduates

Approximately 37% take full-time jobs.

Many majors use their philosophy training in the practical realm of business and personnel. Recent graduates have entered positions in training development and bank management, nonprofit and volunteer organizations and secondary teaching.

Approximately 50% immediately pursue graduate degrees.

Although some students continue to study philosophy at the graduate level, many use their philosophy background as a foundation for other graduate level programs such as law. Recent graduates have pursued their Ph.D. or J.D. at graduate schools such as New York University, Washington & Lee, Emory, Boston College, the University of Rochester and the University of Memphis.

Approximately 13% take positions outside of their area of study.

For More Information

Please contact the Department of Philosophy at (901) 843-3664 or Admissions at 1-800-844-5969. Information is available via the Internet at rhodes.edu or at rhodes.edu/academics/1566.asp.