

# PHILOSOPHY, BA

**Banner Code:** LA-BA-PHIL

B465 Robinson Hall  
Fairfax Campus

Website: [philosophy.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-phil](http://philosophy.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-phil)

The BA in philosophy examines how philosophers have answered some of the most enduring questions about human existence, while exploring how those answers continue to inform our thinking in the present. Students gain a deeper understanding of philosophy's relevance to key contemporary issues—such as global warming, social justice and the defense of human rights, or the relationship between science and religion. Students can use this major as preparation for professions such as law or government service, as a pathway to graduate work, or to complement other interests by taking a double major in philosophy and a related field of study.

## Admissions & Policies

### Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete at least 33 credits within the major, earning a minimum grade of 2.00 in each course. At least 21 credits must be at the 300 level or above, including at least 3 credits in PHIL 421 Seminar (Mason Core)/PHIL 422 Honors Seminar (Mason Core). If a course counts for the requirement in analytic or continental philosophy, and also for the ethics and political philosophy requirement, then both requirements are fulfilled with that course.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

### Core Courses without Concentration

#### Logic

|             |                             |   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---|
| PHIL 173    | Logic and Critical Thinking | 3 |
| or PHIL 376 | Symbolic Logic              |   |

#### History of Philosophy

|          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| PHIL 301 | History of Western Philosophy: Ancient | 3 |
| PHIL 303 | History of Western Philosophy: Modern  | 3 |

#### Analytic Tradition

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| PHIL 313 | Philosophy of Religion <sup>2</sup>      |  |
| PHIL 332 | Twentieth-Century Analytic Philosophy    |  |
| PHIL 333 | American Philosophy: Pragmatism          |  |
| PHIL 338 | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender <sup>2</sup> |  |
| PHIL 355 | Theories of Ethics                       |  |

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| PHIL 356 | Philosophy of Art <sup>2</sup>                 |  |
| PHIL 357 | Philosophy of the Social Sciences <sup>2</sup> |  |
| PHIL 358 | Ethics and Economics                           |  |
| PHIL 371 | Philosophy of Natural Sciences                 |  |
| PHIL 373 | Theory of Knowledge                            |  |
| PHIL 374 | Philosophy of Mind                             |  |
| PHIL 411 | Theories of Decision                           |  |

#### Continental Tradition

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| PHIL 313 | Philosophy of Religion (with departmental approval) <sup>2</sup> |  |
| PHIL 325 | Karl Marx's Social and Political Thought                         |  |
| PHIL 335 | Nineteenth-Century Philosophy                                    |  |
| PHIL 336 | Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Existentialism            |  |
| PHIL 337 | Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Phenomenology             |  |
| PHIL 338 | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender <sup>2</sup>                         |  |
| PHIL 340 | Hermeneutic Philosophy   |  |
| PHIL 356 | Philosophy of Art  |  |
| PHIL 357 | Philosophy of the Social Sciences <sup>2</sup>                   |  |

#### Ethics and Social and Political Philosophy

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |   |  |
|----------|---|--|
| PHIL 305 | Business Ethics                                 |  |
| PHIL 309 | Bioethics (Mason Core)                          |  |
| PHIL 311 | Philosophy of Law                               |  |
| PHIL 323 | Classical Western Political Theory              |  |
| PHIL 324 | Modern Western Political Theory                 |  |
| PHIL 325 | Karl Marx's Social and Political Thought        |  |
| PHIL 327 | Contemporary Western Political Theory           |  |
| PHIL 338 | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender                     |  |
| PHIL 343 | Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core) |  |
| PHIL 344 | Ethical Issues in Global Health                 |  |
| PHIL 355 | Theories of Ethics                              |  |
| PHIL 358 | Ethics and Economics                            |  |
| PHIL 411 | Theories of Decision                            |  |

Total Credits 18

<sup>1</sup> When the subject matter is appropriate and with the prior written approval of the undergraduate director, PHIL 391 Special Topics in Philosophy, PHIL 421 Seminar (Mason Core), PHIL 422 Honors Seminar (Mason Core), or PHIL 425 Independent Study may be used to fulfill this requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Only with departmental approval.

### Electives without Concentration

Select five or six electives from any philosophy courses including those listed above that are not used to meet another requirement. <sup>1</sup> 15-18

Total Credits 15-18

<sup>1</sup> If both the analytic or continental philosophy and the ethics and political philosophy requirements are met with the same course, the student will complete six elective courses.

## Optional Concentrations

Students interested in a degree in philosophy with a concentration will complete the coursework for one of the concentrations below.

### Concentration in Philosophy and Law (PHLW)

The concentration in philosophy and law offers philosophy majors the opportunity to focus their study of philosophy in a way that prepares them for the study of the law.

In addition to the specific courses listed below, other relevant courses may be applied to the requirements for this concentration with prior written approval of the undergraduate director.

#### Logic

|             |                             |   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---|
| PHIL 173    | Logic and Critical Thinking | 3 |
| or PHIL 376 | Symbolic Logic              |   |

#### History of Philosophy

|          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| PHIL 301 | History of Western Philosophy: Ancient | 3 |
| PHIL 303 | History of Western Philosophy: Modern  | 3 |

#### Analytic Tradition

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| PHIL 313 | Philosophy of Religion <sup>2</sup>            |  |
| PHIL 332 | Twentieth-Century Analytic Philosophy          |  |
| PHIL 333 | American Philosophy: Pragmatism                |  |
| PHIL 338 | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender <sup>2</sup>       |  |
| PHIL 355 | Theories of Ethics                             |  |
| PHIL 356 | Philosophy of Art <sup>2</sup>                 |  |
| PHIL 357 | Philosophy of the Social Sciences <sup>2</sup> |  |
| PHIL 358 | Ethics and Economics                           |  |
| PHIL 371 | Philosophy of Natural Sciences                 |  |
| PHIL 373 | Theory of Knowledge                            |  |
| PHIL 374 | Philosophy of Mind                             |  |
| PHIL 411 | Theories of Decision                           |  |

#### Continental Tradition

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |   |  |
|----------|---|--|
| PHIL 313 | Philosophy of Religion <sup>2</sup>                   |  |
| PHIL 325 | Karl Marx's Social and Political Thought              |  |
| PHIL 335 | Nineteenth-Century Philosophy                         |  |
| PHIL 336 | Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Existentialism |  |
| PHIL 337 | Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Phenomenology  |  |
| PHIL 338 | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender <sup>2</sup>              |  |
| PHIL 340 | Hermeneutic Philosophy                                |  |
| PHIL 356 | Philosophy of Art                                     |  |
| PHIL 357 | Philosophy of the Social Sciences <sup>2</sup>        |  |

#### Philosophy and Law

|          |                   |   |
|----------|-------------------|---|
| PHIL 311 | Philosophy of Law | 3 |
|----------|-------------------|---|

Select two courses from the following: 6

|          |                                       |  |
|----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| PHIL 323 | Classical Western Political Theory    |  |
| PHIL 324 | Modern Western Political Theory       |  |
| PHIL 327 | Contemporary Western Political Theory |  |

GOVT 428 Advanced Democratic Theory

GOVT 448 Ethics and International Politics

#### Electives in Philosophy

Select three electives from any philosophy courses including those listed above that are not used to meet another requirement. 9

Total Credits 33

<sup>1</sup> When the subject matter is appropriate and with the prior written approval of the undergraduate director, PHIL 391 Special Topics in Philosophy, PHIL 421 Seminar (Mason Core), PHIL 422 Honors Seminar (Mason Core), or PHIL 425 Independent Study may be used to fulfill this requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Only with departmental approval.

### Concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

This is a high credit concentration for students interested in a program that explores the interdisciplinary connections between philosophy, political science, and economics.

Students pursuing this concentration, similar to all students pursuing a BA in philosophy, must complete at least 33 credits in philosophy earning a minimum grade of 2.00 in each course. No course may be used to fulfill more than one requirement. In addition to the specific courses listed below, other relevant courses may be applied to the requirements for this concentration with prior written approval of the undergraduate director.

#### Logic

|             |                             |   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---|
| PHIL 173    | Logic and Critical Thinking | 3 |
| or PHIL 376 | Symbolic Logic              |   |

#### History of Philosophy

|          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| PHIL 301 | History of Western Philosophy: Ancient | 3 |
| PHIL 303 | History of Western Philosophy: Modern  | 3 |

#### Analytic Tradition

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| PHIL 313 | Philosophy of Religion <sup>2</sup>            |  |
| PHIL 332 | Twentieth-Century Analytic Philosophy          |  |
| PHIL 333 | American Philosophy: Pragmatism                |  |
| PHIL 338 | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender <sup>2</sup>       |  |
| PHIL 355 | Theories of Ethics                             |  |
| PHIL 356 | Philosophy of Art <sup>2</sup>                 |  |
| PHIL 357 | Philosophy of the Social Sciences <sup>2</sup> |  |
| PHIL 358 | Ethics and Economics                           |  |
| PHIL 371 | Philosophy of Natural Sciences                 |  |
| PHIL 373 | Theory of Knowledge                            |  |
| PHIL 374 | Philosophy of Mind                             |  |
| PHIL 411 | Theories of Decision                           |  |

#### Continental Tradition

Select one course from the following: <sup>1</sup> 3

|          |   |  |
|----------|---|--|
| PHIL 313 | Philosophy of Religion <sup>2</sup>                   |  |
| PHIL 325 | Karl Marx's Social and Political Thought              |  |
| PHIL 335 | Nineteenth-Century Philosophy                         |  |
| PHIL 336 | Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Existentialism |  |
| PHIL 337 | Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Phenomenology  |  |

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| PHIL 338                                  | Philosophy, Sex, and Gender <sup>2</sup>              |    |
| PHIL 340                                  | Hermeneutic Philosophy                                |    |
| PHIL 356                                  | Philosophy of Art                                     |    |
| PHIL 357                                  | Philosophy of the Social Sciences <sup>2</sup>        |    |
| <b>Required Courses for Concentration</b> |   |    |
| GOVT 103                                  | Introduction to American Government (Mason Core)      | 3  |
| ECON 103                                  | Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core)    | 3  |
| ECON 104                                  | Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core)    | 3  |
| ECON 306                                  | Intermediate Microeconomics                           | 3  |
| GOVT/PHIL 324                             | Modern Western Political Theory                       | 3  |
| GOVT/PHIL 327                             | Contemporary Western Political Theory                 | 3  |
| GOVT 422                                  | Constitutional Interpretation                         | 3  |
| PHIL 357                                  | Philosophy of the Social Sciences                     | 3  |
| or PHIL 371                               | Philosophy of Natural Sciences                        |    |
| PHIL 358                                  | Ethics and Economics                                  | 3  |
| ECON 412                                  | Game Theory and Economics of Institutions             | 3  |
| PHIL 411                                  | Theories of Decision                                  | 3  |
| GOVT 467                                  | Current Issues in Economic Policy                     | 3  |
| PHIL 460                                  | Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics | 3  |
| Total Credits                             |   | 54 |

<sup>1</sup> When the subject matter is appropriate and with the prior written approval of the undergraduate director, PHIL 391 Special Topics in Philosophy, PHIL 421 Seminar (Mason Core), PHIL 422 Honors Seminar (Mason Core), or PHIL 425 Independent Study may be used to fulfill this requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Only with departmental approval.

### Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors at the 300 level or above. All senior seminars (PHIL 421 Seminar (Mason Core), PHIL 422 Honors Seminar (Mason Core)) in philosophy are writing intensive. Philosophy majors should consult the undergraduate director for other courses that can be taken to fulfill this requirement.

### Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

### College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core requirements or requirements for the major).

#### Philosophy or Religious Studies

| Code                                 | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Select 3 credits from the following: |       | 3       |
| PHIL <sup>1</sup>                    |       |         |

#### RELI

<sup>1</sup> Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253 Philosophy and Literature (Mason Core) and RELI 235 Religion and Literature (Mason Core) cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature requirement.

#### Social and Behavioral Sciences

| Code   | Title | Credits |
|--|-------|---------|
| Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) <sup>1</sup> |       | 3       |

|                   |  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| ANTH              |  |  |
| CRIM              |  |  |
| ECON              |  |  |
| GOVT              |  |  |
| HIST <sup>2</sup> |  |  |
| LING              |  |  |
| PSYC              |  |  |
| SOCI              |  |  |

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| GGG 101 | Major World Regions (Mason Core)                |
| GGG 103 | Human Geography (Mason Core)                    |
| GGG 110 | Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies     |
| GGG 301 | Political Geography                             |
| GGG 303 | Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) |
| GGG 304 | Population Geography (Mason Core)               |
| GGG 305 | Economic Geography                              |
| GGG 306 | Urban Geography                                 |
| GGG 315 | Geography of the United States                  |
| GGG 316 | Geography of Latin America                      |
| GGG 320 | Geography of Europe                             |
| GGG 325 | Geography of North Africa and the Middle East   |
| GGG 330 | Geography of the Soviet Succession States       |
| GGG 357 | Structures in Urban Governance and Planning     |
| GGG 380 | Geography of Virginia                           |

<sup>1</sup> The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> HIST 100 History of Western Civilization (Mason Core) and HIST 125 Introduction to World History (Mason Core) may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

**Foreign Language**

| Code   | Title                            | Credits |
|--|----------------------------------|---------|
| Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: <sup>1</sup>                                   |                                  |         |
| Completing a course in a foreign language numbered 202, 209, or 210 (or higher level courses taught in the language) |                                  |         |
| Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test  |                                  |         |
| Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:   |                                  |         |
| EDSE 115   | American Sign Language (ASL) I   |         |
| EDSE 116   | American Sign Language (ASL) II  |         |
| EDSE 219   | American Sign Language (ASL) III |         |

<sup>1</sup> Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu>).

**Non-Western Culture**

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

| Code  | Title   | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) <sup>1</sup> |   |         |
| ANTH 114  | Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core)        | 3       |
| ANTH 300  | Civilizations   | 3       |
| ANTH 301  | Native North Americans                                    | 3       |
| ANTH 302  | Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core)        | 3       |
| ANTH 303  | Peoples and Cultures of the Andes                         | 3       |
| ANTH 306  | Peoples and Cultures of Island Asia (Mason Core)          | 3       |
| ANTH 307  | Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core)                          | 3       |
| ANTH 308  | Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core)      | 3       |
| ANTH 309  | Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core)                | 3       |
| ANTH 313  | Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core)                        | 3       |
| ANTH 314  | Zombies   | 3       |
| ANTH 316  | Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean (Mason Core)        | 3       |
| ANTH 323  | Digging and Dealing in the Dead: Ethics in Archaeology    | 3       |
| ANTH 330  | Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western     | 3       |
| ANTH 332  | Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) | 3       |
| ANTH 381  | Medical Anthropology                                      | 3       |
| ANTH 383  | Cities of the Global South                                | 3       |
| ANTH 396  | Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core)      | 3       |
| ARAB 360  | Topics in Arabic Cultural Production                      | 3       |
| ARAB 420  | Survey of Arabic Literature                               | 3       |

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| ARAB 440 | Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core)     | 3 |
| ARTH 203 | Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core)                              | 3 |
| ARTH 204 | Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core)                     | 3 |
| ARTH 206 | Survey of African Art (Mason Core)                            | 3 |
| ARTH 318 | Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt                          | 3 |
| ARTH 319 | Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core)     | 3 |
| ARTH 320 | Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core)                         | 3 |
| ARTH 382 | Arts of India (Mason Core)                                    | 3 |
| ARTH 383 | Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core)                           | 3 |
| ARTH 384 | Arts of China (Mason Core)                                    | 3 |
| ARTH 385 | Arts of Japan (Mason Core)                                    | 3 |
| ARTH 386 | The Silk Road (Mason Core)                                    | 3 |
| ARTH 482 | RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art                             | 3 |
| CHIN 318 | Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core)                | 3 |
| CHIN 320 | Contemporary Chinese Film                                     | 3 |
| CHIN 325 | Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core)                            | 3 |
| DANC 118 | World Dance (Mason Core)                                      | 3 |
| ECON 361 | Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core)            | 3 |
| ECON 362 | African Economic Development (Mason Core)                     | 3 |
| FREN 451 | Topics in Sub-Saharan Francophone Literature and Culture      | 3 |
| FREN 454 | Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture        | 3 |
| GGG 101  | Major World Regions (Mason Core)                              | 3 |
| GGG 316  | Geography of Latin America                                    | 3 |
| GGG 325  | Geography of North Africa and the Middle East                 | 3 |
| GGG 330  | Geography of the Soviet Succession States                     | 3 |
| GGG 399  | Select Topics in GGS  | 3 |
| GOVT 328 | Non-Western Political Theory                                  | 3 |
| GOVT 332 | Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa   | 3 |
| GOVT 333 | Government and Politics of Asia                               | 3 |
| GOVT 340 | Central Asian Politics  | 3 |
| GOVT 341 | Chinese Foreign Policy  | 3 |
| GOVT 345 | Islam and Politics  | 3 |
| GOVT 432 | Political Change and Social Development in Sub-Saharan Africa | 3 |
| GOVT 433 | Political Economy of East Asia                                | 3 |
| HIST 251 | Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)                     | 3 |
| HIST 252 | Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)                     | 3 |
| HIST 261 | Survey of African History (Mason Core)                        | 3 |
| HIST 262 | Survey of African History (Mason Core)                        | 3 |
| HIST 271 | Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)                 | 3 |

|          |   |     |
|----------|---|-----|
| HIST 272 | Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)                 | 3   |
| HIST 281 | Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)            | 3   |
| HIST 282 | Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)            | 3   |
| HIST 326 | Stalinism   | 3   |
| HIST 327 | The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II                | 3   |
| HIST 328 | Rise of Russia (Mason Core)                                   | 3   |
| HIST 329 | Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)               | 3   |
| HIST 353 | History of Traditional China                                  | 3   |
| HIST 354 | Modern China  | 3   |
| HIST 356 | Modern Japan (Mason Core)                                     | 3   |
| HIST 357 | Postwar Japan (Mason Core)                                    | 3   |
| HIST 358 | Post-1949 China (Mason Core)                                  | 3   |
| HIST 360 | History of South Africa (Mason Core)                          | 3   |
| HIST 364 | Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core) | 3   |
| HIST 365 | Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)       | 3   |
| HIST 366 | Comparative Slavery   | 3   |
| HIST 367 | History, Fiction, and Film in Latin America                   | 3   |
| HIST 387 | Topics in Global History (Mason Core)                         | 3-6 |
| HIST 426 | The Russian Revolution  | 3   |
| HIST 460 | Modern Iran (Mason Core)                                      | 3   |
| HIST 461 | Arab-Israeli Conflict   | 3   |
| HIST 462 | Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)                         | 3   |
| HIST 465 | The Middle East in the 20th Century                           | 3   |
| JAPA 310 | Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)               | 3   |
| JAPA 340 | Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core)                    | 3   |
| KORE 320 | Korean Popular Culture in a Global World                      | 3   |
| MUSI 103 | Musics of the World (Mason Core)                              | 3   |
| RELI 211 | Religions of the West (Mason Core)                            | 3   |
| RELI 212 | Religions of Asia (Mason Core)                                | 3   |
| RELI 240 | Death and the Afterlife in World Religions                    | 3   |
| RELI 272 | Islam   | 3   |
| RELI 313 | Hinduism (Mason Core)   | 3   |
| RELI 314 | Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions                 | 3   |
| RELI 315 | Buddhism (Mason Core)   | 3   |
| RELI 337 | Mysticism: East and West                                      | 3   |
| RELI 365 | Muhammad: Life and Legacy                                     | 3   |
| RELI 374 | Islamic Thought (Mason Core)                                  | 3   |
| RELI 375 | Qur'an and Hadith   | 3   |
| RELI 379 | Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics                              | 3   |
| RELI 387 | Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights                            | 3   |
| RELI 490 | Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core)                   | 3   |
| RUSS 353 | Russian Civilization (Mason Core)                             | 3   |

|          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| RUSS 354 | Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) | 3 |
|----------|--|---|

<sup>1</sup> A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu>).

## Mason Core

Note: Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

| Code   | Title                              | Credits |
|--|------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Foundation Requirements</b>                     |                                    |         |
|  | Written Communication              | 6       |
|  | Oral Communication                 | 3       |
|  | Quantitative Reasoning             | 3       |
|  | Information Technology             | 3-7     |
| <b>Core Requirements</b>                           |                                    |         |
|  | Arts                               | 3       |
|  | Global Understanding               | 3       |
|  | Literature                         | 3       |
|  | Natural Science                    | 7       |
|  | Social and Behavioral Sciences     | 3       |
|  | Western Civilization/World History | 3       |
| <b>Synthesis/Capstone Requirement <sup>1</sup></b> |                                    |         |
|  | Synthesis/Capstone                 | 3       |
| Total Credits                                      |                                    | 40      |

<sup>1</sup> minimum 3 credits

## Addition Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with electives to bring the degree total to 120.

## Honors

### Honors in the Major

Highly-qualified students may apply to the honors program in the major. Students can apply in their second semester as a junior, before they have completed 90 credits and should have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major. Eligible students should submit a transcript, one letter of recommendation from a member of the philosophy faculty, and one writing sample, a paper from one of the student's courses in philosophy.

Students pursuing honors in the major complete 6 credits of honors coursework chosen from PHIL 422 Honors Seminar (Mason Core) or PHIL 425 Independent Study. To graduate with honors in philosophy, students must complete these courses with a minimum GPA of 3.50.

## Accelerated Master's

The accelerated master's programs in the list below specify the BA in philosophy as a feeder degree for their programs. It is important to note, however, that many accelerated master's programs are available for any bachelor's degree at Mason, including this one. See the full list of master's degrees with accelerated programs at George Mason.

### Philosophy, BA/Philosophy, Accelerated MA

#### Overview

Highly qualified Mason philosophy majors may apply to the accelerated master's degree program. If accepted, students will be able to earn a BA and a MA in philosophy after satisfactory completion of as few as 145 credits, sometimes within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

#### Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MA in philosophy, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://philosophy.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-MA-ACEL-PHIL>) on the departmental web site.

#### Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete six credits of PHIL courses at the 600-level (chosen in consultation with the graduate program director and indicated on the Accelerated Master's Program Application) with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. On completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements, taking 25 graduate credits beyond the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

#### Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional credits of PHIL coursework at the 600-level as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

### Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Women and Gender Studies Concentration)

#### Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in select majors may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in women and gender studies. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in women and gender studies after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometime within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

#### Selected Majors

Anthropology, Sociology, English, History, Philosophy, Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Psychology, Government and International Politics, and Communication.

#### Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MAIS, see <http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/> application on the departmental web site.

#### Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

| Code                           | Title                                    | Credits |
|--------------------------------|--|---------|
| Select two from the following: |  | 6       |
| WMST 600                       | Special Topics                           |         |
| WMST 610                       | Feminist Approaches to Social Research   |         |
| WMST 630                       | Feminist Theories across the Disciplines |         |
| WMST 640                       | Women and Global Issues                  |         |
| Total Credits                  |  | 6       |

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

#### Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree.

To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

| Code                                   | Title                                    | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| Select 6 credits from the following: 6 |  |         |
| WMST 600                               | Special Topics                           |         |
| WMST 610                               | Feminist Approaches to Social Research   |         |
| WMST 630                               | Feminist Theories across the Disciplines |         |
| WMST 640                               | Women and Global Issues                  |         |
| Total Credits                          |  | 6       |

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

## Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Religion, Culture, and Values Concentration)

### Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in selected majors (see below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in religion, culture, and values. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in religion, culture, and values after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometimes within five years. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

### Selected Majors

- Art history
- Philosophy
- Conflict analysis and resolution
- Global affairs
- History
- Religious studies
- Russian and Eurasian studies
- Sociology
- Anthropology

If the student has not majored in religious studies, it is preferred, though not required, that the student have a minor in religious studies.

### Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MAIS, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/application>).

### Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all coursework. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

| Code                             | Title  | Credits |
|----------------------------------|--|---------|
| Select two from the following: 6 |  |         |
| RELI 630                         | Approaches to the Study of Religion              |         |
| RELI 631                         | Sacred as Secular in Modern Spirituality         |         |
| RELI 632                         | World Religions in Conflict and Dialogue         |         |
| RELI 633                         | Ethical Perspectives of World Religions          |         |
| RELI 635                         | World Religions in Transition and Transformation |         |
| RELI 636                         | Religion and the Natural Environment             |         |
| RELI 642                         | Sacred Language, Scripture, and Culture          |         |
| Total Credits                    |  | 6       |

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

### Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

| Code                                   | Title  | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| Select 6 credits from the following: 6 |  |         |
| RELI 630                               | Approaches to the Study of Religion              |         |
| RELI 631                               | Sacred as Secular in Modern Spirituality         |         |
| RELI 632                               | World Religions in Conflict and Dialogue         |         |
| RELI 633                               | Ethical Perspectives of World Religions          |         |
| RELI 635                               | World Religions in Transition and Transformation |         |
| RELI 636                               | Religion and the Natural Environment             |         |
| RELI 642                               | Sacred Language, Scripture, and Culture          |         |
| Total Credits                          |  | 6       |

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

## **Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Social Justice and Human Rights Concentration)**

### **Overview**

Highly-qualified undergraduates in select majors (listed below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in social justice and human rights. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn an undergraduate degree in their chosen major and a master's in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in social justice and human rights after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometimes within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

### **Selected Majors**

Anthropology, Environmental and Sustainability Studies, Sociology, English, History, Philosophy, Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Psychology, Government and International Politics, Integrative Studies, and Communication.

### **Application Requirements**

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MAIS, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/application>) on the departmental web site.

### **Accelerated Option Requirements**

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete INTS 540 Contemporary Issues in Social Justice Human Rights and one course chosen from the list of electives for the MAIS concentration in social justice and human rights as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

### **Reserve Graduate Credit**

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit (chosen from the list of electives for the MAIS concentration in social justice and human rights). These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. The ability to take courses for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the program. Permission to take a graduate course for reserve graduate credit is normally granted only to Mason seniors within

15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

| <b>Code</b> | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Credits</b> |
|-------------|---|----------------|
|             | Select up to 6 credits from the list of electives for the MAIS concentration in social justice and human rights | 6              |
| <hr/>       |   |                |
|             | Total Credits   | 6              |