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Additional Sources of Information:

    Graduate Studies Guide for New Students
        http://www.american.edu/provost/grad/new-students.cfm
    Graduate Studies Guide for Continuing Students
        http://www.american.edu/provost/grad/continuing-students.cfm
    Academic Integrity Code
        http://www.american.edu/academics/integrity/code.cfm
    Academic Regulations
        http://www.american.edu/provost/grad/grad-rules-and-regulations-toc.cfm
Welcome

I would like to welcome you to the Department of Philosophy and Religion and to wish you the best in your graduate studies. This handbook has been designed to inform students about department and university policies, procedures, requirements, and regulations. Although much of this information is available in other sources, such as the American University Catalog, much of the department information is not. By providing in one guide the essential information you will need to complete your MA, I hope to help streamline the administrative side of graduate school. Although the academic experience at AU will no doubt be challenging (but also rewarding), the administrative paperwork should be relatively painless as long as you know what to expect.

Therefore, I ask you to read this handbook in its entirety, as well as to familiarize yourself with the websites listed in the table of contents. While it is your responsibility to make sure you successfully meet degree requirements and deadlines, please do not hesitate to contact the graduate advisor, the administrative assistant, or myself, the chair of the department, for help when you have questions. Details and check lists are included in this handbook to help you keep organized.

I look forward to working with you over the course of your studies here at American.

Sincerely,
Dr. Amy Oliver
Chair
aoliver@american.edu

Graduate Program Overview

The Department of Philosophy and Religion offers unique degree flexibility by providing three different possible tracks toward an MA:

- **MA in the History of Philosophy** emphasizes the rich, multi-cultural heritage of the discipline, providing the opportunity to study Asian and Latin American philosophies as well as the traditional Western canon.

- **MA in Philosophy and Social Policy** applies ethics and political philosophy to the complex social issues of today, combining philosophy with another related field to provide grounding for designing and evaluating social policy.

- **MA in Ethics, Peace and Global Affairs**, sponsored jointly with the School of International Service, applies philosophy to the dynamics of conflict, international policy, and political and social institutions. Since this is a joint program, it has separate guidelines from the other two tracks offered by the Department of Philosophy. For details, refer to the Graduate Handbook for the EPGA Program or consult the co-director of this program, Evan Berry (berry@american.edu).

In addition to preparing students for doctoral programs or law school, the Department’s emphasis on research, writing, and philosophical interpretation prepares students for careers in government, non-governmental organizations (such as public policy institutes and ethics organizations), education, and business. Recent graduates are pursuing PhDs at universities throughout the US as well as working in organizations such as the World Bank, the US Agency for International Development, and the US Institute of Peace.
Requirements for Completion of the Program

Basic Degree Requirements

- History of Philosophy
  - 33 credit hours of approved graduate course work
  - Qualifying Research Paper
  - Completion of two Qualifying Papers

- Philosophy and Social Policy
  - 33 credit hours of approved graduate course work, including Internship
  - Completion of two Qualifying Papers

MA graduate classes are those courses numbered 500–700. Courses numbered 400- and below will not count toward graduate degree requirements.

For courses to count toward an MA program of study, students must take courses for letter grades (A-F), rather than pass/fail (P/F). Grades of C- or lower will not be accepted as fulfilling the requirements of the program of study but will be calculated in the cumulative GPA. If a student is interested in taking a course for degree credit that is only offered as pass/fail, the student must first obtain approval from the department chair.

Check lists for the two tracks follow this section. You should fill in the relevant check list as you complete courses since, although we are here to assist you, it is ultimately your responsibility to make sure all degree requirements are completed.

Maintaining satisfactory academic standing

Students are expected to:

- maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA,
- receive credit in at least two-thirds of attempted courses,
- meet on time degree requirements such as coursework and qualifying papers, and
- maintain continuous enrollment by registering in regularly scheduled courses or by registering for CASG-777 Master’s Continuing Enrollment.* If a student fails to register during either fall or spring semesters, unless he or she has successfully petitioned in advance for a leave of absence from the program, he or she will be removed automatically from the program. Readmission will require a new application, and there is no guarantee that the Graduate Committee and Chair will readmit the candidate.

*Master’s Continuing Enrollment (CASG-777) is available for master’s students completing their programs to enable them to finish their capstone or thesis research, exams, or other requirements of their master’s program. 777 may be taken with or without regular coursework and will have zero (0) charge for tuition and fees. It is a 1-9 credit course and may be taken only once (without exception). 777 may not be used to establish full-time status for merit aid.

Completion of all requirements detailed above within six academic years

Academic Regulations state that all work for the master’s degree must be completed in no more than six years after the date of first enrollment in the degree program.
# M.A. in Philosophy Check List
## History of Philosophy Track

**Name:** ____________________________  
**AU ID#:** ________________

### Course Requirements
(33 hours of approved graduate course work)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
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### Qualifying Research Paper
*Focusing on a major text by a single figure in the history of Western or non-Western philosophy:*

- **Title:** ___________________________________  
- **Date completed:** __________

### Qualifying Papers (2)
*One from a historical period of philosophy:*

- **Title:** ____________________________  
- **Date completed:** __________

*One from feminist, Latin American, or Asian philosophy, or critical race theory*

- **Title:** ____________________________  
- **Date completed:** __________
# M.A. in Philosophy Check List

**Philosophy and Social Policy Track**

**Name:** __________________________  **AU ID#:** ______________

## Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two courses from the following: PHIL-520 Seminar on Ethical Theory, PHIL-525 Seminar on Modern Moral Problems, or an approved course in either ethics or applied ethics</td>
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<td>2. _____________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two courses from the following: PHIL-602 19th Century Philosophy, PHIL-603 20th Century Philosophy, or an approved course in the history of philosophy</td>
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<td>3. _____________________________</td>
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<td>4. _____________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. PHIL-691 Internship in Philosophy</td>
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3 credit internship in an appropriate setting followed by a substantial paper analyzing the ethical and social issues arising from the experience. Students employed full-time may request permission to receive credit for prior experience, but the paper is still required.

Six credit hours in applied philosophy

| 6. _____________________________ | _______ | ____ |
| 7. _____________________________ | _______ | ____ |

Six credit hours in philosophy or religion

| 8. _____________________________ | _______ | ____ |
| 9. _____________________________ | _______ | ____ |

Six credit hours in social science or social policy from fields such as economics, sociology, anthropology, government, public administration, and justice

| 10. ____________________________ | _______ | ____ |
| 11. ____________________________ | _______ | ____ |

## Qualifying Papers (2)

*One in Ethics (theoretical or applied):*

1. Title: ____________________________ Date completed: _______

*One in 19th or 20th Century Philosophy:*

2. Title: ____________________________ Date completed: _______
Explanation of Specific Requirements

Guidelines for Qualifying Papers

Description and Requirements

Fulfillment of the University’s capstone requirement is met through satisfactory completion of qualifying papers (QPs). QPs are expanded versions of, and/or developed from, term papers written for graduate philosophy classes the student has taken. **Students may not generate a new paper for a QP; the basis of the QP must be from a recent course paper in philosophy.** The Qualifying Papers requirement is meant to provide students with the opportunity to 1) expand their knowledge of a subject area in which they are already interested, about which they have already studied in some depth, and in which they can develop further understanding and expertise and 2) refine research and writing skills beyond what is required for satisfactory completion of a course. Thus, the papers should reflect a significant deepening of the thinking or research from that evident in the original version of the paper. QPs will also ensure a broader selection of writing samples for applications to doctoral programs or employers, and provide opportunities for advancement in the profession, such as possible publication or presentation at professional conferences.

To meet this requirement, students must successfully complete two (2) QPs. Qualifying papers, on average, are from 20 to 25 pages in length, plus bibliography.

Procedures

Throughout the semester, students should consult with professors about the possibility of turning final term papers into qualifying papers as some term papers do not serve well as QPs, and so professors may provide feedback specific to the QP process. Students are required to choose from which course the next semester’s QP will come several weeks before the semester’s end (see below for deadline). During the first semester, students should discuss with their professors the possibility of turning final papers into their first QP, to be submitted at the beginning of the second semester; and during the second semester, should discuss the possibility of turning final papers into their second QP, to be submitted at the beginning of the third semester. Written comments given by the professor for the class paper must be taken into account and submitted with the first QP draft. Appropriate revisions should be made on the first draft of the QP.

Students submit the draft of their qualifying paper—along with a 125-word abstract, the written comments from the course paper, and a short paragraph about how the student has addressed the professor’s comments and what revisions the student has made—electronically to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (philrel@american.edu) by the due date (see below for deadline). Students must submit their first qualifying paper during their second semester of coursework and the second paper during the third semester of coursework. Paper submissions are only accepted for the fall and spring semesters; no papers are accepted during the summer.

The department then appoints a committee of two full-time faculty members for each qualifying paper. Students, in two mandatory meetings with faculty, work on developing and finalizing the papers. Students submit a second draft of their qualifying paper between these two meetings (see below for deadline).

Students submit the final version of the qualifying paper, along with all previous comments, electronically to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (philrel@american.edu) by the due date.
It is imperative that students submit all versions, and attend all mandatory meetings, on time. Students who miss any of the deadlines will receive a grade of “Not Pass” for that semester. Students who fail twice (receive 2 grades of Not Pass) will be expelled from the program due to failure to make satisfactory progress.

Grading
Qualifying Papers receive a grade of either “Satisfactory,” “Distinction,” or “Not Pass.” What differentiates a satisfactory qualifying paper from one of distinction is that the latter meets both committee members’ standards of “publishable quality.” Few papers merit this very stringent standard.

Requirements for History of Philosophy Track
- One qualifying paper must be in a historical period of philosophy (e.g., Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern, Nineteenth, or Twentieth)
- One qualifying paper must be in Feminist, Latin American, or Asian philosophy, or critical race theory

Requirements for Philosophy and Social Policy Track
- One qualifying paper must be in ethics (theoretical or applied)
- One qualifying paper must be in 19th or 20th century philosophy

Deadlines for Qualifying Paper Fall 2014
Failure to meet any of these deadlines will result in a “grade” of “Not Pass” for the semester’s QP. Students who receive two “Not Pass” will be expelled from the program due to failure to make satisfactory progress.

Monday, August 18, 4:00pm: Deadline for electronic submission of 1) qualifying paper, 2) 125-word abstract, 3) the written comments by the professor on the original course paper, and 4) a short paragraph about how the student has addressed the professor’s comments and what revisions the student has made, to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (email to philrel@american.edu). No exceptions or extensions.

Week of Monday, August 25: Students must attend a mandatory meeting with faculty, scheduled by the department’s administrative assistant, to discuss the qualifying paper draft. At this meeting, students and faculty should set the day and time (during the week of October 13) for their mandatory follow-up meeting.

Friday, September 26, 4:00pm: Deadline for electronic submission of revised qualifying paper to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (philrel@american.edu). If asked to do so, students should return marked-up copies of their QP that they received during the first meeting to their committee members.

Week of Monday, October 13: Students must attend a mandatory follow-up meeting with faculty on a date and time agreed to by the committee members and the student during their first meeting.

Monday, November 3, 4:00pm: Deadline for electronic submission of the final version of the qualifying paper to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (philrel@american.edu). If asked to do so, students should return marked-up copies of their QP that they received during meetings to their committee members.

Monday, November 24, 4:00pm: Deadline to send an email to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (email to philrel@american.edu) stating from which course the student’s spring 2015 qualifying paper will come (include student’s name, name of course, and working title of the final paper).
Once your committee members have read the final version of your qualifying paper, they will submit a grade to the department’s administrative assistant, who will then notify you of the status of your qualifying paper (Distinction, Satisfactory, Not Passed).

**Deadlines for Qualifying Paper Spring 2015**
Failure to meet any of these deadlines will result in a “grade” of “Not Pass” for the semester’s QP. Students who receive two “Not Pass” will be expelled from the program due to failure to make satisfactory progress.

**Monday, January 5, 4:00pm**: Deadline for electronic submission of 1) qualifying paper, 2) 125-word abstract, 3) the written comments by the professor on the original course paper, and 4) a short paragraph about how the student has addressed the professor’s comments and what revisions the student has made, to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (email to philrel@american.edu). No exceptions or extensions.

**Week of Monday, January 12**: Students must attend a mandatory meeting with faculty, scheduled by the department’s administrative assistant, to discuss the qualifying paper draft. At this meeting, students and faculty should set the day and time (during the week of March 2) for their mandatory follow-up meeting.

**Friday, February 13, 4:00pm**: Deadline for electronic submission of revised qualifying paper to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (philrel@american.edu). If asked to do so, students should return marked-up copies of their QP that they received during the first meeting to their committee members.

**Week of Monday, March 2**: Students must attend a mandatory follow-up meeting with faculty on a date and time agreed to by the committee members and the student during their first meeting.

**Monday, March 23, 4:00pm**: Deadline for electronic submission of the final version of the qualifying paper to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (philrel@american.edu). If requested to do so, students should return marked-up copies of their QP that they received during meetings to their committee members.

**Monday, April 13, 4:00pm**: Deadline to send an email to the Department of Philosophy and Religion’s administrative assistant (email to philrel@american.edu) stating from which course the student’s fall 2015 qualifying paper will come (include student’s name, name of course, and working title of the final paper).

Once your committee members have read the final version of your qualifying paper, they will submit a grade to the department’s administrative assistant, who will then notify you of the status of your qualifying paper (Distinction, Satisfactory, Not Passed).

**Qualifying Research Paper**
A qualifying research paper is required for the MA in the History of Philosophy. While the requirements, procedures, and deadlines for a qualifying research paper are the same as those for qualifying papers (as detailed above), the focus of a qualifying research paper is distinct: a textual analysis of a major text by a single figure in the history of philosophy, western or nonwestern. As such, a qualifying research paper is an expanded version of, and developed from, a term paper written for a graduate philosophy course in the history of philosophy.
Independent Study
Independent Study will only be approved in special cases for students whose projects require them. Any student considering an independent study must first receive approval from the graduate advisor, the faculty member who will work with the student on the independent study, and the chair of the department; and fill out an Independent Study Registration Form (F1).

Internships
Internship Coordinator
The internship coordinator (Ellen Feder, efeder@american.edu) oversees, supervises, and grades all internships.

Overview
A 3-credit internship, usually taken in the third semester, is required for the MA in Philosophy and Social Policy and can serve as an elective for the MA in the History of Philosophy. The department encourages students to complete their internships in the fall semester. An internship provides the opportunity to test the claim that philosophy is the kind of discipline that teaches transferable skills such as critical reading, analytical problem solving, and clear and persuasive writing. These skills are desirable since many legal services, research institutes, non-profit organizations, think tanks, and business organizations, all of which happen to reside in Washington and offer internships, are in search of individuals with such skills. The following is a partial list of institutions where students have interned:

- Academy for Educational Development
- American Academy for the Advancement of Science
- Amnesty International
- AYUDA Inc.
- Brookings Institution
- Center for Advanced Studies
- Children's Defense Fund
- Ethics Resource Center
- Everett Institute
- Human Rights Watch
- Institute for Policy Studies
- Institute for Women's Policy Research
- Institute of Religion and Public Policy
- National Institutes of Health
- National Partnership for Women and Families
- New American Foundation
- Public Defender Service
- Search for Common Ground
- Smithsonian Institution
- Urban Institute
- U.S. Congress
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of State

To view additional institutions where students have interned, please visit http://www.american.edu/cas/philrel/resources/internships.cfm.
Please keep in mind that organizations are generous in allowing students the opportunity to work with them. While the organizations and individuals benefit from having interns, it is important to recognize that these organizations and individuals are investing time and resources for internship training for which they are not otherwise compensated.

How to get the most out of your internship experience

It is important to start thinking now about what you would like to accomplish in your internship semester. The clearer your objectives, the more likely it is that you will find the right place. Since you are working toward your MA, you should think of the internship as an element of your training that reflects both your competence in theoretical work and your ability to apply that theory in evaluating current problems and issues. In thinking about what sort of internship to pursue, let your interests determine which place can offer you the richest experience. To accomplish this, you need to start your search in the Spring Semester of your first year. Begin by consulting with Ellen Feder. AU also has an excellent Career and Internship Office that can assist you in your search. Once you’ve identified the appropriate site, visit and meet with people – maybe you can talk to someone who is currently interning there. Speak with the internship supervisors at the site, and discuss with them your academic interests to find out whether there is any work and research to be done in your area. If so, Congratulations!!! If not, keep looking!!!

Finding the perfect match could lead to future employment!

Requirements

1. To enroll in an internship, you must have completed 9 earned credit hours at AU with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
2. To earn 3 credits, you are expected to work **14 hours per week for 14 consecutive weeks**.
3. The majority of your time should be devoted to **substantive work**. No more than 15% of your time should be spent doing clerical work. You must appreciate, however, that at many nonprofit organizations and in legal settings answering phones, filing papers, and even making photocopies is not mere “clerical work.” Rather, this work is shared by members of the organization as a whole, and may exceed the “15% rule.” In cases such as this, it is important to appreciate that this is not simply “grunt work;” but labor essential to the particular job or the running of the organization and thus essential to your experience of working in and learning about a particular field or work environment.
4. You must successfully complete a **substantive paper** of 25–30 pages, which includes a bibliography and theoretical analysis of the internship experience.
5. You must also develop an individual course syllabus, which should include readings and assignments that draw connections between the work of your internship and analysis in philosophy.
6. At the end of the internship, the instructor will solicit an evaluation from your supervisor.

Procedures

1. After consultation with Professor Feder, find an internship.
2. Fill out the **Internship Registration Form** (F2) and obtain the appropriate department signatures.
3. Submit the form to the Registrar’s Office (record_services@american.edu).
4. Submit a reading list to the internship coordinator.
5. Submit the final paper and syllabus **no later than the last day of classes**.
Answers to Commonly Asked Questions

How do I set up myau.american.edu and e-mail accounts?
Myau.american.edu is a password-protected website giving students access to their records and other useful University information. To set up an account, go to <myau.american.edu>, click on the “Create your account” link at the bottom center of the page and follow the instructions. E-mail accounts are automatically created for all students and are accessible through <myau.american.edu>. In most cases, the e-mail address is the student's first and last initials, followed by the last four digits of his or her AU ID number, followed by “a.” The initial password is the student's six-digit birth date (MMDDYY). For example, the e-mail address and password of a student named Immanuel Kant who has an AU ID number of 1234567 and a birth date of 01/23/1724 would be ik4567a@student.american.edu and 012324.

Who do I need to contact if I move or change e-mail accounts?
If your contact information changes while you are a student at AU, please use the “Update my address” link (available at myau.american.edu under “Academics”). In addition, contact the Department of Philosophy and Religion office either by phone or by e-mail with your new contact information. As a courtesy, you should also provide this information to the graduate advisor and internship coordinator, as appropriate. The department office is here to help you and to provide you with updated information. The office cannot do so, however, without updated contact information from you.

Where do I get information about course offerings?
Course offerings for each semester are available on-line at myau.american.edu under “Academics.” The “Schedule of Classes” link provides course information, such as time, location, instructor, course availability (open or closed), and—in some cases—a brief description. In addition, the department provides more detailed descriptions of course offerings online at http://american.edu/cas/phrel/courses. Finally, general course descriptions are available in the gray section of the University Catalog.

Where do I go for advising?
Feel free to speak to any faculty member in the department in seeking advice on substantive issues. All faculty hold office hours and welcome students to visit, whether it be to seek advice about courses, assignments, research topics and interests, future career plans, or simply to get to know the professor and the department better. However, when it comes to administrative issues, such as specific requirements or procedures, please contact either the graduate advisor, the chair of the department, or the administrative assistant.

How do I register for classes?
The Registrar’s office requires that all graduate students register every fall and spring semester until they officially graduate, in order to maintain their standing as students in the department. There are NO EXCEPTIONS. This means that you must do one of the following each fall and spring semester:
1. Register for Classes: To register for classes, you must first make an appointment with your advisor to discuss your progress and determine which classes to take. Your advisor will then provide you with an electronic “release” that will allow you to register for courses. To do this, your advisor will need your student ID number, so bring it with you. You may then go to myau.american.edu and register for your classes on-line.
2. Maintain Matriculation by registering for 1 credit of PHIL-099: Maintain matriculation costs the equivalent of 1 credit hour but does not count as credit toward completion of the degree. It is
generally used by a student who has completed his or her course requirements, but is continuing work on other degree requirements that semester.

3. **Request a Leave of Absence**: For any semester in which students will not be working toward their degrees, a leave of absence may be requested. However, leaves of absence are granted on a case-by-case basis, usually due to medical reasons or other personal hardship. Please note that students must request the leave no later than within the first two weeks in the semester in which the temporary leave will begin. The duration of the leave is for one semester and may be extended only once. Students should refer to the *Interruptions of Studies* section of the *Graduate Academic Regulations* for details and meet with their advisors for help in determining the effects of the proposed temporary leave on their program of study.

**How and when do I apply for graduation?**

You should apply for graduation by filling out the online “Apply to Graduate” form available through [myau.american.edu](http://myau.american.edu) (under the “Academics” link). For the fall-semester graduation in December, the deadline for applications is usually mid-September; for the spring-semester graduation in May, the deadline is usually mid-January; and for the summer graduation in August, the deadline is usually mid-May. For current deadlines, go to the registrar’s website at [http://american.edu/provost/registrar](http://american.edu/provost/registrar). Once you submit your application for graduation, the department will receive notification from the registrar’s office and will verify your eligibility for graduation. The university grants degrees at the end of each summer, fall, and spring term. **Commencement ceremonies** are held once a year at the end of the spring semester to recognize summer and fall graduates and spring degree candidates. Detailed information about commencement is available online at [http://www.american.edu/commencement/](http://www.american.edu/commencement/).

**Financial Aid**

The Department receives from the University a limited amount of financial assistance, which it apportions according to merit, generally when students enter the program. Students may receive some coverage of their tuition (tuition remission); many worthy students receive no aid. In addition, some students receive a stipend typically associated with serving as a Research Assistant (RA) or Teaching Assistant (TA). Those who do not receive aid from the Department’s limited funds may be able to find work elsewhere at the University or in the Washington, DC area. Information on university job openings can be found on the [Human Resources](http://www.american.edu/hr) web site. For jobs in the DC area, try the [AU Career Center](http://www.american.edu/careercenter) or the [Washington Post](http://www.washingtonpost.com).

All students who wish to be considered for departmental fellowship, or additional financial assistance in the form of loans, must fill out the FAFSA by March 1 for the following academic year. For details, contact the Financial Aid Office through AU Central (202-885-8000), located in the Asbury building, or visit the [FAFSA](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) web site.

Students should monitor their university accounts through the Eagle Finance system ([http://www.american.edu/finance/studentaccounts/eaglefinance.cfm](http://www.american.edu/finance/studentaccounts/eaglefinance.cfm)) to ensure that awards or payments have been posted properly. Please note that the department does not have access to students’ financial aid accounts.

For most financial aid awards (as well as for deferring previous federal loans), students must be registered as full-time status. However, during the last semester of study, many students only need to register for a few credits to finish up their degree requirements. In these cases, students are studying full-time, but only enrolled part-time. To maintain financial aid availability, students must fill out a [Graduate Continuing Enrollment Course Registration](http://www.american.edu/finance/studentaccounts/eaglefinance.cfm) form (F3) and submit it to the Office of the Registrar ([mailto:record_services@american.edu](mailto:record_services@american.edu)).
Annual Departmental Conferences and Activities

**McDowell Conference**
Every fall, the department hosts the McDowell Conference on Philosophy and Social Policy. This event provides students with an excellent opportunity to meet visiting philosophers as well as meet with faculty and fellow graduate students. Recent topics have included *Philosophy and Climate Change, Philosophy and the Emotions, Philosophy and Tolerance, The Philosophical Implications of September 11th, Philosophy and Democracy, Philosophy and Race, Ethics and Genetics*, and *Philosophy and the Family*.

**Hurst Lecture**
Each spring, the department holds the Bishop Hurst Lecture. Speakers have included such prominent philosophers as Alison M. Jaggar, Alasdair MacIntyre, Hugo Bedeau, John Lachs, Lucius Outlaw, David Crocker, Anthony Flew, Simon Critchley, and Claudia Card.

**Durfee Lecture**
Each year the department holds the Harold A. and Doris G. Durfee Lecture. The inaugural lecture in 2007 was delivered by Harold A. Durfee, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy. Speakers have included David Little, Randall Balmer, Amy Hollywood, and Abdulaziz Sachedina.

**Other Lectures**
In addition to the annual lecture series above, the department periodically sponsors other lectures, including the “Philosophy Matters” speakers series, usually faculty members from both AU and other institutions. Graduate students are informed about these lectures as they develop, so make sure to keep your contact information current.

**Student Orientation**
At the beginning of every fall semester, the department offers a graduate student orientation. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other new students, learn about degree requirements, and ask questions.

**Writing Workshop**
At the beginning of the fall semester, the department offers a Philosophy Writing Workshop oriented specifically for graduate students in philosophy. The workshop is designed to help students prepare for their qualifying papers. Samples of excellent and not so excellent graduate student writing are distributed in advance of the workshop. Both new and continuing graduate students benefit from the insights of faculty and peers regarding excellence in writing in philosophy.
Department Directory and Faculty Highlights

Evan Berry, Assistant Professor (EPGA Co-director/advisor)
Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara
Battelle-Tompkins 111
202-885-2493
berry@american.edu
Research interests: environmental ethics and bioethics; religion and environmentalism, the natural sciences, and popular culture; and sacred space and sacred landscapes.

Farhang Erfani, Associate Professor
Ph.D., Villanova University
Battelle-Tompkins 113
202-885-2206
erfani@american.edu
Research interests: continental philosophy, aesthetics, and political philosophy.

Ellen K. Feder, Professor (Internship advisor)
Ph.D., SUNY Stony Brook
Battelle-Tompkins 118
202-885-2931
efeder@american.edu
Research interests: contemporary continental philosophy, social and political philosophy, ethics, feminist theory, and critical race theory.

Nathifa Greene, Instructor
Battelle-Tompkins 117
Research interests: American pragmatism, critical philosophy of race, feminism, and phenomenology.

Gershon Greenberg, Professor
Ph.D., Columbia University and Union Seminary
Battelle-Tompkins 114
202-885-2912
greenbe@american.edu
Research interests: philosophy of religion; America and the Holy Land; religious and philosophical meaning of the Holocaust; and religion, conflict, and peace.

Kimberly Leighton, Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Massachusetts
Battelle-Tompkins 121
202-885-2415
leighton@american.edu
Research interests: ethics, bioethics, social and political philosophy, and feminist philosophy.

Justin Marquis, Professorial Lecturer
Ph.D., Loyola University Chicago
Research interests: nineteenth and twentieth century continental European philosophy.

Amy A. Oliver, Associate Professor (Chair, graduate advisor for History of Philosophy, and Philosophy and Social Policy)
Ph.D., University of Massachusetts
Battelle-Tompkins 118
202-885-2140
aoliver@american.edu
Research interests: Spanish and Latin American philosophy, philosophy of literature, women’s studies.

Martyn Oliver, Professorial Lecturer (Undergraduate advisor for religion)
Ph.D., Boston University
Sports Center Annex 160
202-885-2943
oliver@american.edu
Research interests: construction of religious identity, religion and literature, Islam.

Jin Y. Park, Associate Professor
Ph.D., SUNY Stony Brook
Battelle-Tompkins 115
202-885-2919
jypark@american.edu
Research interests: Asian philosophies and religions, postmodernism.

Shubha Pathak, Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of Chicago Divinity School; Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health
Battelle-Tompkins 113
202-885-2957
pathak@american.edu
Research interests: the philosophical, psychological, and religious aspects of epic poetry and poetic creativity; comparative religious studies; classical literary criticism; and contemporary psychological theories.

Jeffrey Reiman, William Fraser McDowell Professor of Philosophy
Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University
Battelle-Tompkins 117
202-885-2927
jreiman@american.edu
Research interests: theoretical and applied ethics, political and legal philosophy, and the history of philosophy.

Andrea Tschempelik, Associate Professor (Undergraduate advisor for philosophy)
Ph.D., City University of New York
Battelle-Tompkins 116
202-885-2921
atschem@american.edu
Research interests: ancient philosophy (Plato); history of philosophy ancient through nineteenth century; and philosophy of love and friendship.

Lauren Weis, Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Boston College
Sports Center Annex 160
202-885-2926
weis@american.edu
Research interests: history of philosophy, feminist theory, continental philosophy, theory of ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology.

Senior Administrative Assistant
Battelle-Tompkins 120 (main office)
202-885-2925, philrel@american.edu
# Important Dates for Graduate Students

## Fall 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/18 M</td>
<td>Deadline for electronic submission of qualifying paper to the department’s administrative assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/25 M</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/25-8/29 M-F</td>
<td>Mandatory meeting with qualifying paper committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/29 F</td>
<td>Late registration ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/01 M</td>
<td>Labor Day, no classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/08 M</td>
<td>Last day to add course, internship, or independent study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/15 M</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course for a 50% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/22 M</td>
<td>Last day to drop a fall course for a 25% refund (no refunds after this date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/26 F</td>
<td>Deadline for electronic submission of revised qualifying paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/10 F</td>
<td>Fall break, no classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/13-17 M-F</td>
<td>Mandatory follow-up meeting with qualifying paper committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/17 F</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course or change grade option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/03 M</td>
<td>Spring 2015 registration begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/03 M</td>
<td>Deadline for electronic submission of final version of the qualifying paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/25 T</td>
<td>Tuesday classes cancelled, Friday classes meet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/24 M</td>
<td>Deadline to send an email to the department’s administrative assistant stating from which course your spring 2014 qualifying paper will come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/26-11/30 W-Su</td>
<td>Thanksgiving, no classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/05 F</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/08-15 M-M</td>
<td>Final exams (W 12/10 is a study day)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Spring 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/05 M</td>
<td>Deadline for electronic submission of qualifying paper to the department’s administrative assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12 M</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12-16 M-F</td>
<td>Mandatory meeting with qualifying paper committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/16 F</td>
<td>Late registration ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/19 M</td>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, no classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/26 M</td>
<td>Last day to add a course, internship, or independent study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/02 M</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course for a 50% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/09 M</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course for a 25% refund (no refunds after this date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/13 F</td>
<td>Deadline for electronic submission of revised qualifying paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/02-6 M-F</td>
<td>Mandatory follow-up meeting with qualifying paper committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/06 F</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course or change grade option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/08-15 Su-Su</td>
<td>Spring break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/23 M</td>
<td>Fall 2014 registration begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/13 M</td>
<td>Deadline to send an email to the department’s administrative assistant stating from which course your fall 2015 qualifying paper will come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/27 M</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/29-5/5 W-T</td>
<td>Final exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/09 Sa</td>
<td>Spring Commencement (4:30pm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The academic calendar is also online at [http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/schedule/academic-calendar.cfm](http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/schedule/academic-calendar.cfm)
INDEPENDENT STUDY REGISTRATION FORM

Please print the following information.

Student ___________________________ AU ID# ________________

(First)  (Last) Phone ___________________________ E-mail ___________________________

Term:  □ Fall  □ Spring  □ Summer 20__

Course Information:

Course Subject _____ - Course Number _____ Credits _____  □ A-F  □ Pass/Fail

Faculty supervisor ___________________________ (Last)  (First)

Project Title _______________________________________

(30 characters maximum including spaces)

Brief description of independent study project:

Required Signatures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Advisor (Please Print)</th>
<th>Academic Advisor Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Supervisor (Please Print)</td>
<td>Faculty Supervisor Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department Chair or Dean (Please Print)</td>
<td>Department Chair or Dean Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student (Please Print)</td>
<td>Student Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

Obtain all required approvals and submit this completed form to AU Central. You will receive confirmation by e-mail when your registration has been processed.

Last Updated 2.2014
INTERNERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Student ___________________________ (Last) ___________________________ (First) ___________________________ AU ID# ________________
Phone ___________________________ e-mail ___________________________ @ ___________________________

Local address ___________________________ Apt # ___________________________ Street ___________________________ City ___________________________ State ___________________________ Zipcode ___________________________

Term: ☐ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Summer 20___ International student F-1 or J-1 visa ☐ Yes ☐ No

Course Information Course # ___________________________ Credits ___________________________ ☐ A-F ☐ Pass/Fail
Faculty supervisor ___________________________ (Last) ___________________________ (First) ___________________________

Internship position title ___________________________ ☐ Paid ☐ Unpaid

Brief description of internship:

Employer Information Organization ___________________________ ☐ For-profit ☐ Nonprofit ☐ Government
Address ___________________________ Room/Suite # ___________________________ Street ___________________________ City ___________________________ State ___________________________ Zipcode ___________________________

Site supervisor ___________________________ Title ___________________________ (Last) ___________________________ (First) ___________________________
Phone ___________________________ fax ___________________________ e-mail ___________________________ @ ___________________________

Work Schedule Inclusive dates from ___/___/_____ to ___/___/_____ Hours per week _________

Days each week (check all that apply) ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ Th ☐ F ☐ S ☐ Su

Will any part of this internship experience occur outside of the U.S.? [ ] YES [ ] NO Location: (city/country) ___________________________

Required Approvals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Advisor (Please Print)</th>
<th>Academic Advisor Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Supervisor (Please Print)</td>
<td>Faculty Supervisor Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student (Please Print)</td>
<td>Student Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

Obtain all required approvals and submit this completed form to the Registrar’s Office (via AU Central as appropriate) along with a signed Internship Consent and Release form. You will receive confirmation by e-mail when your registration has been processed. Additional documentation may be required by the academic department.

American University
Office of the Registrar
202-885-2200 | fax 202-885-1016

Last Updated 4.2014
Graduate Continuing Enrollment
Course Registration

Please fill in the information below for enrollment in the appropriate continuing enrollment course including the name of faculty for grading.

1. XXX-899 Doctoral Dissertation may be taken by doctoral students who are advanced to candidacy with the approval of the faculty supervising the dissertation (or designee). It is a 9 credit course, but tuition is assessed at the 1 credit rate. The course is graded SP/UP and students will be deemed full-time. The Office of the Registrar must be notified when a student has advanced to candidacy.

2. XXX-898 Doctoral Continuing Enrollment may be taken by doctoral students completing coursework, exams or proposals in preparation for advancement to candidacy. It is a 1-9 credit course that can be repeated once and may be taken with or without regular coursework. Tuition is assessed at the 1 credit rate. The course is graded SP/UP and students must have the approval of their Program Director. Academic load will be determined by total enrolled credits for the semester. This course may not be used to establish full-time status for merit aid except for students with a ½ time appointment who have an approved plan to distribute a total of 18 credits over one calendar year (6 credits during Fall, Spring and Summer semesters).

3. XXXG-777 Master’s Continuing Enrollment is available for master’s students completing their programs to enable them to finish their capstone and thesis research, writing, exams or other requirements of their master’s program. 777 may be taken with or without regular coursework and will have zero (0) charge for tuition and fees. It is a 1-9 credit course and may be taken only once (without exception). The course is graded SP/UP. Academic load will be determined by the total enrolled credits for the semester. This course may not be used to establish full-time status for merit aid.

Semester:  ☐ Fall  ☐ Spring  ☐ Summer  Year: __________

Please PRINT the student’s name and following information, in addition to signing the document, for easier processing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
<th>AU ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College/School</td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Visa Status</td>
<td>AU Email</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course # / Section</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Department waiver and/or Authorization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Student Signature  Date

Instructor Name (Please Print)  Instructor Signature  Date

Academic Unit Designee (Please Print)  Academic Unit Designee Signature  Date

Signed form must be submitted to Office of the University Registrar via email at record_services@american.edu.

Last Updated 11.2013