

BOSTON COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
GRADUATE STUDIES HANDBOOK

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Introduction

The Department offers a comprehensive program in the history and problems of philosophy, allowing for concentration in the following areas: ancient philosophy, medieval philosophy, early modern philosophy, continental European philosophy from Kant to the present, social and political philosophy, epistemology and philosophy of science. A significant feature of the program is the extensive and diverse range of courses available to graduate students every semester.

The department offers an M.A. program and a Ph.D. program. The Graduate Director and the Graduate Committee administer these programs.

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THE M.A. PROGRAM

1. In a nutshell:

- In normally two years (full-time), the students earn a Master of Arts degree while following a large variety of courses and acquiring experience as members of an academic community through their participation to workshops, conferences, and seminars.
- The program may be taken on a full time basis or on a part time basis. If full-time, the students normally complete the program in 2 years. The time limit is five years (see paragraph 4, below).
- Funding and tuition remission from the Morissey Graduate School or Arts and Sciences are not normally available for students in the M.A. program. For other forms of financial aid, see the section “Resources for the MA and PhD Students,” below.

2. Requirements for the degree

- 30 credits (10 courses, or 8 courses and an M.A. thesis)
- Proficiency in one foreign language
- Passing the comprehensive examination in the last year [this is currently under review].

2.1. Course Work

- The department offers courses intended exclusively for graduate students (7700-8800-9900 levels) as well as courses intended both for undergraduate and graduate students (5500-6699 levels). Both sorts of courses may be applied to the fulfillment of the course work requirement (30 credits).
- Students who have completed one full semester of graduate work may apply for transfer credit for up to two (2) graduate courses (6 credits) taken prior to entrance to the program and not applied to another degree program, subject to approval by the Graduate Program Committee. Only courses in which a student has received a grade of B or better, and which have not been applied to a prior degree, will be accepted. See also “Transfer of Credit” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below.
- Students may ask faculty to offer Reading and Research Courses (PHIL7799). See “Reading and Research” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below.
- Students may register for some courses in other departments. See “Cross-Registration” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below.

2.2. M.A. Thesis

- A student may write an M.A. thesis in place of two courses (6 credits).
- It is the responsibility of the student to secure a thesis supervisor and second reader and to prepare a thesis proposal.

- A copy of the proposal and the names of the supervisor and second reader must be presented to the graduate program director prior to registering for the thesis.
- Students writing a thesis must register for two semesters of PHIL888801 Master's Thesis.
- The typescript of the thesis must be prepared according to a recognized manual of style (e.g., the MLA) and to the formal specifications of the Morissey Graduate School. See the thesis checklist page (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/thesis-checklist.html>) and use the template downloadable on that page.
- For the validation of the thesis ("Signature Page" to be filled at the end of the defense), the online submission of the thesis, and the debriefing form, see again the thesis checklist page (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/thesis-checklist.html>).

2.3. Language Proficiency

- M.A. candidates must demonstrate proficiency in one of the following foreign languages: Latin, Greek, French, or German.
- Proficiency may be demonstrated by receiving a grade of "B" or better in two semesters of the language at the elementary college level or one semester at the intermediate college level, or in the 12-week summer language class for graduate students at Boston College, or by passing the department's own language examination. For further information on the language exam, please consult Prof. Peter Kreeft.
- Students may take a language course at Boston College at a reduced rate of tuition. Please see "Support for Language Study" in the "Other Resources" section, below, and consult the administrative graduate program assistant.

2.4. M.A. Comprehensive Examination [this whole paragraph is currently under review]

- The M.A. candidates are required to take a comprehensive examination at the end of the semester in which all course work and the language requirement have been fulfilled. The format of this examination is presently under revision.
- A failed examination may be retaken once and once only.

3. Advisement

- Each student will be assigned a faculty member as academic adviser. To help making the assignment as well adjusted as possible, students should complete the Advisement Questionnaire in attachment and return it timely.
- Students are urged to be proactive and get often in touch with their adviser, who will help them to design a sound course of studies, to assess their progress toward the degree, to resolve difficulties, and to elaborate plans for the future.

4. Standing

- A student will be seen as making poor progress toward completion of the degree when accumulating two (2) or more Incompletes turned into F for course work (see "Incompletes" in the "Other Procedures and Regulations" section, below), and/or two (2) or more grades of C or less.

- Any student in this situation must meet immediately with the graduate program director and will be given specific directions for what must be accomplished to return to good standing.
- Students can be removed from the program after being in bad standing for two years.
- Students with three or more F's are barred from registration for further courses.
- By Graduate School policy, students are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative average of 3.0.

4. Time Limit

- The M.A. candidates must complete all the requirements for the Master's degree within five consecutive years from the date of acceptance into the program.
- Extensions are permitted only with the approval of the department and of the Dean of the Morrissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

5. Morrissey Graduate School Regulations

- In addition to the regulations above, please check the on the Graduate School site the general academic policies and procedures (<http://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/policies-and-procedures.html>).

6. Important dates from the Office of Student Services for 2018-2019

October 1	last date to file on-line for December graduation
November 26	last date to take M.A. Comprehensive for December graduation
January 28	last date to file on-line for May graduation
March 29	last date to take M.A. Comprehensives for May graduation [this is currently under review]
Week of May 20	M.A. Comprehensive Examinations (tentatively, May 22) [this is currently under review]

A Quick Guide To Your First Year in the M.A. Program

What should you do *before* school starts?

- **Turn in your Advising Questionnaire sheet to RoseMarie DeLeo.** You will find this document in the attachments. This is how you will be assigned an academic advisor in the department.
- **Check this Graduate School web page** (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/admission/admitted-students.html>), **and this Student Services web page** (<https://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/gettingstartedgrad.html>).
- If you are a foreigner, you must register with the Office of International Students and Scholars (<https://www.bc.edu/offices/oiss/>).
- **Medical Insurance:** Massachusetts law requires all full-time students to be covered by a health insurance. Please read the Students Services information page (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/financial/medinsurance.html>) and the University Health Services page (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/uhs/services/insurance.html>).
- **Look over the courses offered.** You can find below in the attachments the courses offered next year in the department, or check the University Catalog (http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/univcat/grad_catalog/grad_cas.html) or the “Course Information and Schedule” in My Services (see explanations here [www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/courseinfosched.html]). See also “Course Selection” under “Other Regulations and Policies”, below. Graduate courses are those that are Level 5500 or above. Classes that meet 3 times a week are 50 minutes, classes that meet 2 times a week are 75 minutes, and courses that meet once a week are generally 140 to 150 minutes.
- **Think about which courses might help you** supplement any areas you are less strong in. For a full-time, 2-year program, it is recommended to take 5 courses each year; so, you probably should register for 2 or 3 courses for the fall semester; and for 3 or 2 next spring.
- **Register for Classes** (see “Selecting Courses” and “Registration” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below).
- **Come to Campus:** As soon as you can, come to campus to get your new Eagle One ID card (instructions [<http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/id/about.html>]).
- **Stop by the Philosophy Department:** Check in with RoseMarie DeLeo on the third floor of the north wing of Stokes Hall.
- **Make sure you will attend the orientation meeting** in the first week of class (08/30, 10:00am for the MA students).
- **Get in touch with your academic adviser** as soon as you have been notified whom you have been assigned too.

Who should you talk to if you have any questions?

Don't hesitate to ask even the most basic questions. There are several people who you can get in touch with as you get ready for your first year.

- RoseMarie DeLeo can usually answer questions about registering for classes or any administrative problem. Even if she can't answer your question, she usually knows who can.
- The graduate program director, Professor Jean-Luc Solère, can answer questions about coursework content, requirements, exams, or the program in general.
- Your Fellow Students: If you want to talk to your fellow students about living in Boston, advice for choosing courses, or even coffee shop recommendations, they are all happy to help. Marcus Otte (ottem@bc.edu), Christine Rojcewicz (rojcewic@bc.edu) and Lydia Winn (winnl@bc.edu) have volunteered to be new student liaisons. You can email them with questions, and they can also direct you to other students who might share your philosophical interests or have experience that might be valuable to you.

THE PH.D. PROGRAM

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1. In a nutshell

- During five years (four years for students who already have a philosophy MA¹), the students follow a large variety of courses, write and defend a qualifying paper and a dissertation, acquire experience as teachers and as members of an academic community through their participation to workshops, conferences, and seminars.
- Admitted students are generally fully funded by the Morissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.
- Doctoral students are expected to pursue the degree on a full time basis.
- Students entering the program without an M.A. earn that degree on their way to the Ph.D.

2. Funding

- Doctoral students are generally admitted with financial aid for a total of 5 (*4) years, in the form of: 1. Remission of tuition for required courses; 2. A stipend in return for working as research assistant and teaching fellow; 3. A University Fellowship in the last year.
- Students with sufficient external institutional funding (for example, a Fulbright grant) may be considered for admission in the program in addition to the students funded by the Graduate School. No self-funded student can be admitted.
- For the academic year 2018-2019, stipends for research assistants are \$22,000 and stipends for teaching fellows average \$22,300.
- By Graduate School policy, graduate students may not receive University financial aid (stipends and/or tuition scholarships) from two schools or departments simultaneously. Graduate students who hold fellowships or assistantships may not be employed full-time without the dean's approval.

2.1. Research Assistantship

- In their first year, doctoral students work as research assistants to earn a stipend, while they start taking courses.
- Research assistants are responsible for a total of up to 20 hours per week of service to faculty members of the department of philosophy. This responsibility begins on the first day of classes for each semester, and ends on the last day of classes for each semester. Students are exempt from working over the Christmas, spring and Easter Breaks, unless by agreement with a particular faculty member his/her hours are redistributed from the expected amount during the semester so as to extend into a break period.
- The assignments may change from the fall semester to the spring semester. The required 20 hours are usually divided among two or more faculty members. The student should work out a specific schedule with each of them.
- Each student is to maintain a careful record of time committed each week, to each faculty member. On a monthly basis, faculty members should sign this record, whereupon the student will deliver it to the graduate program director. Every sort of required activity should be recorded, whether it is research in the library, organizational support, or mandatory

¹ The year numbers for the students who already have an MA will hereafter be preceded by an asterisk (for instance: *4 or *4th, *3 or *3rd, etc.), as opposed to those for the students who enter the program without an MA.

attendance at the faculty member's courses (i.e., attendance at courses the student is not already taking for credit as part of his/her own program of studies). Research assistants cannot be asked to grade.

2.2. Teaching Fellowship

- After their first year, while they continue taking classes, doctoral students become teaching fellows to earn their stipend. In addition, they acquire an invaluable teaching experience that will serve them when they will be looking for positions.
- They teach in full responsibility their own class: one unit of the undergraduate core curriculum course Philosophy of the Person I in the Fall semester and Philosophy of the Person II in the Spring semester. The course description is currently as follows: “This course introduces undergraduate students to philosophical reflection and to its history through the presentation and discussion of the writings of major thinkers from ancient, medieval, modern, and contemporary periods. The course is designed to show how fundamental and enduring questions about the universe and about human beings recur in different historical contexts and from a range of approaches and methods. Emphasis is given to ethical themes, such as the nature of the human person, the foundation of human rights and corresponding responsibilities, and problems of social justice.”

2.3. University Fellowship

- Each student’s final year in the program (5th or *4th) is fully funded without any duty other than concentrated work on the dissertation.
- In order to receive this funding, a student must have completed his/her doctoral comprehensive examination by March 30 of the year immediately prior to the year to be spent concentrating on the dissertation. The graduate program director must have received by that date the proposal for the dissertation project, the name of the supervisor and the second reader of the dissertation committee, and the completed ballot of the doctoral comprehensive examination (see below, paragraph 5.6.)

3. Advisement

- New doctoral students have for academic adviser(s) the faculty member(s) for whom they are research assistant. In the following years, students may request to have one adviser of their choice, until they have found a dissertation supervisor, who will be and remain their academic adviser. Requests will be fulfilled to the extent it is possible; but in any case, each student will have an adviser.
- Students are urged to be proactive and get often in touch with their adviser(s) about the courses they should take, their progress in the program, the different exams, their research program, their publication projects, their plans for the future, and any difficulty they encounter.

4. Standing

- The students must be in good standing regarding their assistantship and teaching duties when applicable, and regarding their progress towards the completion of the degree with respect to the requirements listed below (paragraph 5).

- At the end of each year until completion of the degree, each student must turn in a written report on his/her activities and progress. The adviser(s) or dissertation supervisor (and second reader when applicable) adds comments and send the report to the graduate program director. See the form in the attachments at the end of the handbook.
- The teaching evaluations of teaching fellows made by faculty members who have visited their class are added to their dossier.
- On the basis of 1. their progress in the coursework and preliminary comprehensive examination, or their progress towards passing the doctoral comps, or their progress in the writing their dissertation, 2. the advisers' comments, 3. their teaching evaluations when applicable, the graduate program director, in consultation with the department chair person, gives the students one of the following evaluations: Satisfactory; Pass, but with concerns; Unsatisfactory.
- Any student who accumulates in his/her course work two (2) or more Incompletes turned into F (see "Incompletes" in the "Other Procedures and Regulations" section, below), and/or two (2) or more grades of C or less, will automatically be regarded as making unsatisfactory progress.
- By Graduate School policy, students are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative average of 3.0.
- Any student whose evaluation is "Unsatisfactory" or "Pass but with concerns" must meet immediately with the graduate program director to assess the situation.
- Any student can be removed from the program after receiving the evaluation "Unsatisfactory" for two years.
- By Graduate School policy, funding "may be discontinued by the department or the Graduate School at any time during an academic year if, either the academic performance or the in-service assistance is of an unsatisfactory character" (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/admission/financial-aid.html>).

5. Requirements for the Ph.D. degree

- 48 credits of course work
- Professional development curriculum
- Proficiency in logic
- Proficiency in two foreign languages
- Preliminary comprehensive examination
- Doctoral comprehensive examination
- Dissertation and oral defense of the dissertation.

5.1. Course Work

- The total course work required for the Ph.D. is 16 courses (48 credits).
- Students entering the program with an M.A. in philosophy may be given credit for up to 6 philosophy courses (18 credits) toward this requirement, but must take a minimum of 10

courses (30 credits) in the program. See also “Transfer of Credit,” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below.

- Students may ask faculty to offer Reading and Research Courses (PHIL7799). See “Reading and Research” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below.
- Students may register for some courses in other departments. See “Cross-Registration” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below.

5.2. Professional Development Curriculum

- In addition to the course work, doctoral students must take the Professional Development Curriculum which comprises: the Teaching Seminar, the Introduction to Graduate Studies and to Research module, the Writing Seminar, the Job Search Preparation module. None of these components count toward the doctoral requirement of 16 courses (48 credits).

5.2.1. Teaching Seminar

- To provide Ph.D. students with the requisite pedagogical instruction and supervision, the department requires first-year and second-year Ph.D. students who will become or are Teaching Fellows to participate for four semesters in the teaching seminar. This seminar should be taken during the academic year before the first year of teaching and during the first year of teaching (i.e., generally the first two years of the program).
- This seminar deals with such issues as preparation of syllabi and exam schedules, fundamentals of the art of teaching, grading, and advising. Each student presents a sample syllabus, which is then discussed by the group.

5.2.2. Introduction to Graduate Studies and to Research

- In their first and second year, students participate to meetings for this module as they are announced at the beginning of the semester.
- The topics include, on a rolling basis: How to survive grad school, Presentation of the library resources and of writing tools, How to plan a research, Clear writing practices, Introduction to the publishing process, Directions in research, How to write a dissertation proposal, etc.

5.2.3. Writing Seminar

- From their 2nd to their 5th (*4th) year, students participate in the Writing Seminar. (Students in their 1st year and after the 5th [*4th] year are welcome to participate too.)
- The seminar aims at providing help for the writing of a qualifying paper in view of the doctoral comprehensive examination (see below), for the improvement of papers in view of publication in a journal or other venues, and for the preparation of writing samples in view of future applications. The seminar is convened as needed, i.e. when materials are submitted.

5.2.4. Job Search Preparation

- In their 5th (*4th) year, students participate in meetings for this module as they are announced.
- The module prepares to apply to academic positions. Topics include: search strategies, how to prepare an application file, mock interviews, preparation to job talks, etc.

5.3. Proficiency in Logic

- The Ph.D. students must demonstrate proficiency in logic by taking PHIL5577 Introduction to Symbolic Logic with a grade of “B” or better, or by attaining a score of 80% or better on the Logic Proficiency Examination, or by showing evidence of comparable prior course work. Contact Prof. Patrick Byrne about the two last possibilities. See “Logic Guidelines” in the attachments at the end of the handbook.
- PL5577 may count towards the requirement of 16 courses.

5.4. Language Proficiency

- The Ph.D. student must demonstrate proficiency in two of the following foreign languages: Latin, Greek, French, or German.
- Proficiency can be demonstrated by receiving a grade of “B” or better in two semesters of the language at the elementary college level or one semester at the intermediate college level, or in the 12-week summer language class for graduate students at Boston College, or by passing the department’s own language examination. For further information on the language exam, please consult Prof. Peter Kreeft. Language courses do not count for credit.
- The requirement of the first language should be fulfilled before beginning the 3rd (*2nd) year of study at Boston College.
- Both language requirements must be fulfilled before taking the Doctoral Comprehensive Examination.
- With department approval, a language that is central to the candidate’s dissertation may be substituted for one of the two required languages.
- Students can take language courses at Boston College for free. Please see “Support for Language Study” in the “Other Resources” section, below, and consult the administrative graduate program assistant.

5.5. Preliminary Comprehensive Examination

- PhD students take the Preliminary Comprehensive Examination at the end of their first year in the program.
- The format of this examination is presently under revision.
- A failed examination may be retaken once and once only.

5.6. Doctoral Comprehensive Examination

- The Doctoral Comprehensive Examination is to be taken in the 4th (*3rd) year. The students must have completed all the course work requirements, and demonstrated proficiency in two languages and in logic, before taking the exam.
- While they take no course, students should register for Doctoral Comprehensives (998.01). No credit is granted by this registration.
- Prior to taking the exam, it is the responsibility of the students to ask the registrar to send a final transcript of grades to the administrative program assistant.
- The exam comprises two parts: 1. A qualifying paper, 2. A dissertation proposal.

5.6.1. Qualifying Paper

- The qualifying paper is a paper of publishable quality on a systematic question or on an author(s). Ideally, it should correspond to what will become an Area of Competence for the candidate (i.e., it is not directly related to the topic of the dissertation, which will become the Area of Specialization of the candidate). It may be a course paper that has been improved with the feedback of the instructor. In any case, it must meet the usual standards for academic publications with respect to both the form and the content.
- It should be written at the end of year 3 (*2) and over the summer, under the supervision of a faculty member (who is not necessarily the future dissertation supervisor), and normally defended in the fall semester of year 4 (*3).
- Students are responsible for finding, in consultation with their adviser, the faculty member who will supervise their paper, and for working with him/her to set up the defense (including the list of authors and/or texts – see below.)
- The defense is oral, with a board of three members that includes the paper supervisor, the future supervisor of the dissertation, and another faculty member (or two if the same person is the paper supervisor and the future dissertation supervisor). All board members must belong to the department faculty.
- The defense is based on the paper and on a reading list of 6 to 10 authors and/or texts from the history of philosophy that raise significant questions or challenges for the thesis of the paper. The reading list is to be established ahead of the defense with the paper supervisor, and sent in due time, with the paper, to the other board members. The paper, the list, the date of the exam, and the composition of the board, must also be given to the graduate program director.
- The students must pass the examination on the qualifying paper before they can advance to the examination of the dissertation proposal. The first part of the result form must be given to the graduate program director. See the result form in the attachments at the end of the handbook.
- In case the examination is failed, the paper may be resubmitted after improvement and defended again, only once, and (by Graduate School policy) not sooner than the following semester. The board decides when exactly the paper can be resubmitted and defended again.

5.6.2. Dissertation Proposal

- Students, in consultation with their adviser, are responsible for finding a tenured/tenure-track faculty member who will direct their dissertation, and for working with him/her to write a dissertation proposal first.
- See some advice on what should go into a proposal in the document “Dissertation Proposal Guidelines” in the attachments.
- The dissertation proposal is to be orally examined normally in the spring semester of the 4th (*3rd) year in the program at the latest, no later than March.
- The oral examination board is composed of 3 tenured/tenure-track members, including the dissertation supervisor. Except for the dissertation supervisor, they do not have to be the same persons as for the qualifying paper. The dissertation supervisor must be a tenured/tenure-track member of the department faculty. After approval by the Graduate Committee, one other member may be a tenured/tenure-track faculty member of another

department, either within Boston College or outside. The second reader of the dissertation should be appointed at that time and be a member of the proposal examination board (see below about the composition of dissertation committees).

- The proposal, the composition of the board, and the date must be given ahead to the graduate program director.
- At the end of the examination, the second part of the result form and the synthesis for the registrar must be filled, and given to the graduate program director. See the result form in the attachments.
- A failed examination may be retaken once and once only, and (by Graduate School policy) not sooner than the following semester.
- A student attains the status of a doctoral candidate by passing the doctoral comprehensive exam. By Graduate School policy, doctoral candidates are required to register each following semester until completion of the dissertation.

5.7. Dissertation

- The Ph.D. students are expected to complete a dissertation which embodies original and independent research and which demonstrates advanced scholarly achievement. The research must be carried out and the dissertation written under the direction of a tenured/tenure-track faculty from the Philosophy Department. The topic must correspond to the dissertation proposal that constitutes part of the doctoral comprehensive examination. The students must have passed that examination in order to submit a dissertation.
- With the approval of the dissertation supervisor, chapters or parts of the dissertation, as and when they are completed, should be given for supplementary feedback to the second reader, who has been appointed at the time of the doctoral comprehensive examination (see also below about the composition of dissertation committees.)
- The typescript of the dissertation must be prepared according to a recognized manual of style (e.g., the MLA) and to the formal specifications of the Morissey Graduate School (see the dissertation checklist page -- <https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/dissertation-checklist.html> -- and use the template downloadable on that page).

5.8. Dissertation Defense

- The dissertations are defended in a public oral examination. A defense committee should include at a minimum: 1. The dissertation supervisor, who must be a tenured or tenured-tenure track member of the department; 2. The second reader, who has been appointed for the Doctoral Comprehensive Examination and involved in the writing of the dissertation, and who may be external to the department; 3. A third reader, who must be a tenured or tenure-track member of the department if the second reader is not, and may be external if the second reader is a tenured or tenure-track member of the department; 4. The department chair person, who serves *ex officio* as chair of the defense committee in view of moderating the debate (exception is made when the department chair also is supervisor, second reader or third reader.) The department strongly encourages the enlistment of one person from outside the university, selected with the approval of the dissertation supervisor and the graduate committee.
- Well ahead of the defense date, the candidate must fill the form “PhD Dissertation Defense Preparation” (see in the attachments) and have it signed step by step, in the order indicated.

The composition of the committee must be approved by the department, and filed with the dean's office by the graduate program director.

- The defense must be held during the academic year (September to April). The defense cannot take place earlier than 30 days after a copy of the completed dissertation, approved by the supervisor and the second reader, has been deposited with the administrative program assistant and made available to anybody in the department. The date must be approved by the graduate program director.
- The candidate must also give the administrative program assistant an abstract of the dissertation with the names of the director and the readers (if a reader is outside the department, identify other Boston College department or the reader's university).
- Three copies of the "Signature Page" (see the form in the attachments) must be prepared for the day of the defense. The committee members will sign each of them after the dissertation has been successfully defended. Two original, hard copies must be transmitted to the Graduate School, and one given to the program administrative assistant. No photocopies or scanned copies are acceptable; only the three original hard copies. If a committee member has participated in the defense by audio or video transmission, the three original hard copies must be sent to her or him by mail for signature and returned by mail.
- It is the responsibility of the candidate to comply with the other regulations of the Morrissey Graduate School and with the requirements of the University registrar. See the instructions (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/dissertation-checklist.html>).
- After the defense, two copies of the dissertation (the original, printed one plus one copy) are to be turned in to the Graduate School, along with the required forms. One copy of the dissertation should be left with the administrative program assistant.

6. Time Limit

- By Graduate School policy, all requirements for the doctorate must be completed within 8 consecutive years from the beginning of doctoral studies (whether the student entered with an MA or not).
- After the final year of funding (year 5 or *4), students who have not finished their dissertation are said to be on "doctoral continuation." They must register each semester as such.
- Extensions beyond the limit of 8 years may be granted only on departmental recommendation and approval of the dean of the Morrissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.
- Students may be granted a leave of absence, subjected to certain conditions. See the Graduate School policy (<http://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/policies-and-procedures.html>).
- When a student has left the program without completing the degree and asks to be readmitted to defend a PhD dissertation, the graduate committee must examine the request on the basis of a statement of the dissertation supervisor certifying that he/she has been advising informally the student on the dissertation for at least one year before the date of the request. Before the defense is definitively authorized, the second reader must read and approve the dissertation. The defense committee will be constituted as specified above.

7. Morissey Graduate School Regulations

- In addition, please see the on the Graduate School site the general academic policies and procedures and the specific regulations for the doctoral programs (<http://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/policies-and-procedures.html>).

8. Important dates from the Office of Student Services for 2018-2019

October 1	last date to file on-line for December graduation
November 26	last date to turn in Ph.D. dissertation for December graduation
January 28	last date to file on-line for May graduation
March 29	last date to turn in Ph.D. dissertation for May graduation
Week of May 20	Preliminary Comprehensive Examinations (tentatively, May 22) [this is currently under review]

Timetable for the Ph.D. Program

Year 1

Coursework

- Remember that you have 16 courses to take in the total (at least 10 if you enter with an MA). As you will be teaching next year, it is advisable to take three courses each semester this year.
- It may be useful to choose courses that will help you prepare for your preliminary comprehensive examination at the end of the year.
- In addition to your three courses, you must take the Teaching Seminar each semester and participate in various other meetings for the Professional Development Curriculum.

Research Assistantship

- If you are funded by the Graduate School, you will be assigned to faculty members (generally two each semester), for whom you will work up to 20 hours per week from the beginning of the term until the beginning of exam week.

Preliminary Comprehensive Examination

- It is a good idea to begin studying as early in the year as possible.
- You may wish to form a study group.
- The examination takes place after commencement in May [this is currently under review].
- Generally, you must pass the exam prior to teaching in your second year.

Languages

- If you do not already have either of your language requirements fulfilled, you should begin taking a language course(s) during your first year or during the summer between years 1 and 2. The requirement of the first language should be fulfilled before the beginning of year 3 (*2).

Year 2²

Coursework

- It is advisable to take on average at least two courses each semester. If you came into the program with an M.A., you should finish your course work this year.
- You must take the Teaching Seminar each semester and participate in various other meetings for the Professional Development Curriculum.

² If you came into the program with an M.A. in philosophy, skip to Year 3, which corresponds to your second year, and so on for the remainder of the years (an asterisk will precede the number).

- If you haven't yet met the logic requirement, you should consider taking Symbolic Logic during this year, or study for the exam.

Teaching Fellowship

- If you are funded by the Graduate School, you will teach one unit of Philosophy of the Person I in the Fall and one unit of Philosophy of the Person II in the Spring.

Languages

- If you haven't fulfilled your language requirements, think about taking a language course during the year or in the summer between your second and third year. The requirement for one language should be completed before beginning 3rd (*2nd) year.

Year 3 (*2)

Coursework

- You should finish your coursework this year. Students who entered the program without an MA will generally need to take 3 courses each semester. Students who came with an MA will generally take 2 courses each semester, if they have taken 6 in year 1 and have received credit for 6 courses in their MA.
- Consider taking courses the papers for which may help you narrow in on a qualifying paper topic and a dissertation topic.
- If you have not met your logic requirement, you must either take Symbolic Logic or study for and take the department's logic examination Symbolic Logic this year.

Teaching

- If you are funded by the Graduate School, you will teach one unit of Philosophy of the Person I in the Fall and one unit of Philosophy of the Person II in the Spring

Languages

- If you have not met your second language requirement, you should do so this year or during the summer after.

Doctoral Comprehensive Examination

- You should start thinking about your doctoral comprehensive exam next year. In the first semester, talk with your adviser about finding a qualifying paper topic and supervisor, and a dissertation topic and supervisor.
- In the second semester, start preparing the qualifying paper and talk with your paper supervisor about the reading list, a date, and the examiners for the defense next fall.
- You should look for a dissertation supervisor in the department faculty, and start talking with her/him about your dissertation proposal.

Year 4 (*3)

Teaching

- If you are funded by the Graduate School, you will teach one unit of Philosophy of the Person I in the Fall and one unit of Philosophy of the Person II in the Spring.

Languages

- If you have not met all your language requirements, you must do so prior to taking your doctoral comprehensive examination, in the summer before the fall semester starts.

Doctoral Comprehensive Examination

- Before the beginning of the fall semester, you should finalize your qualifying paper and study of the reading list, and should have your board and your examination date (early fall) all set up. Send the paper and the reading list to the board members and to the graduate program director well ahead (at least 3 weeks).
- During the fall semester, you should write your dissertation proposal and schedule its defense no later than March.

Towards the dissertation

- In order to have your final year free of teaching duties, you must finish all your course work, language, and logic requirements, and pass your doctoral comprehensive examinations, which include your dissertation prospectus, no later than March 30. The Graduate Studies Committee will vote on your application by April 15.

Year 5 (*4), a.k.a. University Fellowship if you are funded by the Graduate School

Dissertation

- Nothing left to do but write!
- *Keep in mind that it is not certain that you will get adjunct teaching after your final year of funding. In general, though, the department is able to offer at least the teaching of one course per semester to students in good standing. But this no guarantee, and, anyway, it is better to finish your dissertation during your last funded year.*

A Quick Guide To Your First Year in the PhD Program

What should you do *before* school begins?

- **Turn in your advising sheet to RoseMarie DeLeo.** You will find this documents in the attachments. This is how you will be assigned an academic advisor in the department and how your info page will be created on the department website.
- **Check this Graduate School web page** (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/admission/admitted-students.html>), **and this Student Services web page** (<https://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/gettingstartedgrad.html>).
- If you are a foreigner, you must register with the Office of International Students and Scholars (<https://www.bc.edu/offices/oiss/>).
- **Medical Insurance:** Massachusetts law requires all full-time students to be covered by a health insurance. Please read the Students Services information page (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/financial/medinsurance.html>) and the University Health Services page (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/uhs/services/insurance.html>).
- **Look over the courses offered.** You can find below in the attachments the courses offered next year in the department, or check the University Catalog (http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/univcat/grad_catalog/grad_cas.html) or the “Course Information and Schedule” in My Services (see explanations here, www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/courseinfosched.html). See also “Course Selection” under “Other Regulations and Policies”, below. Graduate courses are those that are Level 5500 or above. Classes that meet 3 times a week are 50 minutes, classes that meet 2 times a week are 75 minutes, and courses that meet once a week are generally 140 to 150 minutes.
- Think about which courses might help you supplement any areas you are less strong in.
- **Register for 3 Classes** at least two weeks before classes start to insure that your funding and financial aid are processed quickly (see “Courses Selection” and “Registration” in the “Other Procedures and Regulations” section, below).
- **Register for the Teaching Seminar.** Register for this along with your 3 regular courses. NOTE: This is a required course for first year PhD students.
- **Come to Campus:** As soon as you can, come to campus to get your new Eagle One ID card (instructions [<http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/id/about.html>]).
- **Stop by the Philosophy Department:** Check in with the RoseMarie DeLeo on the third floor of the north wing of Stokes Hall. She will show you your cubicle, the department mailboxes, and how to use the photocopiers.
- **Get in touch with** the faculty member(s) for whom you are research assistants; they are also **your academic adviser(s)**.
- **Make sure you will attend the orientation meeting** in the first week of class (08/31, 1pm for the PhD students).

What will you be doing your first year in the department?

- Take 6 courses, three each semester.
- Register for the Teaching Seminar, if you receive BC funding and will teach (other students are advised to take the seminar anyway).
- Act as research assistant if you receive funding from BC.

- Study for and take the Preliminary Comprehensive Exam.

Who should you talk to if you have any questions?

Don't hesitate to ask even the most basic questions. There are several people who you can get in touch with as you get ready for your first year.

- RoseMarie DeLeo can usually answer questions about registering for classes or any administrative problem. Even if she can't answer your question, she usually knows who can.
- The graduate program director, Professor Jean-Luc Solère, can answer questions about coursework content, requirements, exams, or the program in general.
- Your Fellow Students: If you want to talk to your fellow PhD students about living in Boston, advice for choosing courses, or even coffee shop recommendations, they are all happy to help. Marcus Otte (ottem@bc.edu), Christine Rojcewicz (rojcewic@bc.edu) and Lydia Winn (winnl@bc.edu) have volunteered to be new student liaisons. You can email them with questions, and they can also direct you to other students who might share your philosophical interests or have experience that might be valuable to you.

OTHER PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS OF THE MA AND THE PhD PROGRAMS

1. Morrissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

- Students would do well to familiarize themselves with the General Regulations of the Graduate School, which are found in the *Boston College Catalog* or here (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/policies-and-procedures.html>).
- The Morrissey Graduate School Office is located in Gasson 108C. Associate Dean Candace Hetzner is ready to be of assistance to graduate students.

2. Advisement

- In view of the assignment of your adviser, please fill out the attached Advisement Questionnaire form about your background, interests and goals and return it to RoseMarie DeLeo in the Philosophy Department before August 17.

3. Course Selection

- Near-final listings of course offerings are available from the department in April (for the following fall) and November (for the following spring). Students can find full course listings in by clicking “Course Information and Schedule” in My Services, or in the University Catalog (http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/univcat/grad_catalog/grad_cas.html).
- Other than logic and language requirements, students may choose to fulfill their coursework with any graduate level philosophy classes. If you can, consult with a faculty advisor before finalizing one’s selections.
- Students should register two weeks before the classes begin to insure financial aid processing. However, students are encouraged to attend initial meetings of any number of courses in which they might be interested before making a final determination before the end of the first week of classes. Graduate students generally have two weeks to change courses, but since entrance into courses after the end of the first week can be disruptive, especially in the case of once-a-week and seminar courses, students are encouraged to attend several classes before making their final selection.

4. Reading and Research Courses

- Graduate students may ask faculty to offer Reading and Research Courses (PHIL7799) on an individual or small group basis on topics not covered in current course offerings. Such requests are more likely to elicit positive responses if they are made well in advance and if they advance the faculty member’s own research interests.

- The student should begin by securing the agreement of the faculty member in question, and then talk to the administrative graduate program assistant, who will create a section number and an index number for the course.

5. Registration

- Graduate students in degree programs must register each semester until they graduate. If you find that you cannot continue in the fall semester, you should apply for a leave of absence with the dean of the Morissey Graduate School.
- For instructions on how to register, see:
www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/registration/registrationandschedulinginfo.html#graduate-registration
<https://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/registration.html>
<https://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/students/uviewplus.html>
- If necessary the department will approve overrides for graduate students who desire to register for courses marked “Closed.”
- Regular graduate student registration continues through the seventh day of classes; after that date students have to follow the procedures for late registration.
- It is the responsibility of students to identify and correct any errors in their registrations.

6. Cross Registration

- If similar courses are not offered at Boston College at any time during the academic year, students may cross register for one course each fall and spring semester in the philosophy departments of Boston University, Brandeis University, and Tufts University, with which BC has a consortium agreement.
- With permission of the graduate program director, students may also take graduate courses relevant to philosophy offered 1. As “UNAS” graduate courses (#5000 and above) or in other departments at Boston College, e.g., Political Science, Theology; 2. By application, in The Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies (<http://web.mit.edu/GCWS/index.html>) and in the Boston Theological Institute if similar courses are not offered at Boston College at any time during the academic year (see <http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/crossreg.html> - consort).
- The necessary forms for cross registration can be picked up from the Office of Student Services in Lyons Hall.

7. Tuition Remission

- All students may take language courses at Boston College at a reduced rate of tuition, either during the academic year or during summers. Please see “Support for Language Study” in the “Other Resources” section, below, and consult the administrative graduate program assistant.
- Students who receive a tuition remission are expected to notify the department and the graduate school immediately if they drop a course for which they have applied tuition remission.

8. Transfer of Credit

- Credits received for courses completed more than ten years prior to a student's admission to his or her current degree program are not acceptable for transfer.
- Transfer of Credit forms, which are available in the department office, should be submitted to the graduate program director for approval, together with an official transcript.

9. Grading

- In each course in which a student is registered for graduate credit, the student will receive one of the following grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C, F, W, J, U, P, or I.
- The high passing grade of A is awarded for superior work. The passing grade of B is awarded for work that clearly is satisfactory at the graduate level. The low passing grade of C is awarded for work that is minimally acceptable at the graduate level. The failing grade of F is given for work that is unsatisfactory.
- A student who has not completed the research or written work for a course taken in the fall or spring semester or is absent from the course examination in either semester, may, with adequate reason at the discretion of the instructor, receive a temporary grade of Incomplete (I) (see paragraph 10, below).
- The grade J is recorded when the grade is deferred. A faculty member may assign this grade only for courses that continue beyond the normal semester period. Such courses may include Internship, Dissertation Direction, and Student Teaching.
- The letter U is recorded for ungraded courses such as doctoral continuation.
- Graduate students who withdraw from a course after the drop/add period (first seven days of the semester) will have a "W" recorded in the grade column of their academic record.

10. Incompletes

- All required work in any course must be completed by the date set for the course examination. A student who has not completed the research or written work for a course may, with adequate reason and at the discretion of the faculty member, receive an Incomplete (I).
- Incomplete courses are expected to be completed by the sixth week of the following semester.
- By the decision of the Educational Policy Committee of the Morrissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, an Incomplete that is not completed by the sixth week of the following semester (March 1 for the fall, August 1 for the spring, and October 1 for the summer) will be automatically changed to an F, unless the faculty member involved assigns another grade.
- Students with three or more F's will be barred from registration for further courses.
- Delay in the completion of Incompletes may be taken as an indication that a student is not maintaining satisfactory progress in the graduate program and may jeopardize a student's financial aid and standing in the program.

11. M.A. Degree for the Doctoral Students

- The doctoral students who entered the program without an M.A. and have fulfilled all the requirements for the Master's degree, **must** apply to the Morrissey Graduate School and Student Services for their Master's degree to be registered with the university.

12. Graduation

- To graduate, a student has to sign up for graduation. Students can sign up on line through U-View.

RESOURCES FOR THE MA AND THE PhD STUDENTS

1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1.1. Financial Aid

Information on this web page (<https://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/financial/finaid/grad.html>). The Financial Aid Office is located in Lyons Hall.

1.2. Graduate Assistantships and Employment Opportunities

There are some employment and assistantship opportunities at Boston College for students who enter without department funding. Positions available are listed on the Graduate School's website (<http://www.bc.edu/offices/gsc/students/assistantships.html>). See also this web page (<https://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/financial/studemploy.html>).

1.3. The Office of Sponsored Programs assists both faculty and graduate students in finding sources of external funding for their projects, and provides advice in the development of proposals. The Office of Sponsored Programs maintains a reference library of publications from both the public sector and the private sector listing funding sources for sponsored projects. The Office of Sponsored Programs is located at 31 Lawrence Avenue. For more information, please contact the Office of Sponsored Programs directly. See also this web page (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/research-funding.html>).

1.4. Travel to Scholarly Conferences: There are funds available to assist graduate students who are delivering papers at scholarly conferences. For further information please consult the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Morrissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, this Graduate School information page (<https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/mcas/graduate/current-students/policies-and-procedures.html>), and the Graduate Student Association page (http://www.bc.edu/offices/gsc/graduate_student_association.html).

1.5. Lonergan Fellowships: In recent years some financial aid and tuition remission has been available to assist graduate students specializing in the thought of Bernard Lonergan. For further information please consult Prof. Patrick Byrne.

1.6. Dissertation Fellowships: A year-long fellowship for PhD students who are finishing their dissertations after their final regular funded year. It is awarded competitively by the Morrissey Graduate School. The criteria are excellence of the project and the likelihood of completion within one year.

1.7. Teaching Excellence Awards: The Morrissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences sponsors a program of awards in the amount of \$600 each to recognize and reward excellent teaching on the part of Teaching Fellows.

2. LANGUAGE STUDY

The Morissey Graduate School of Arts and Sciences helps graduate students (Ph.D. and M.A.) to take languages courses (Greek, Latin, French, German)---either regular courses during the academic year (two successive semesters at elementary level or one semester at intermediate level), or intensive summer courses (Greek is not offered during the summer, though). Funded students may take these courses at no cost (for up to two languages); unfunded students may do so for the cost of one instead of three credit hours per semester. Students have to file a Credit Variation Form for each session. For details, please consult the administrative graduate program assistant.

3. PLACEMENT SUPPORT

3.1. For M.A. Students: The department provides assistance to M.A. students seeking admission to Ph.D. programs. The graduate writing seminar in the department is open to the MA students in view of improving writing samples. Each year the department also hosts a faculty panel for M.A. students applying to doctoral programs. Drawing upon their personal experiences, each faculty member discusses elements of the application process. Faculty members also offer specific feedback on draft personal statements, selection of writing samples, etc.

3.2. For Ph.D. Students: The department provides assistance to doctoral students applying for academic positions in several forms. The department's Placement Officer for 2018-19 is Professor Daniel McKaughan. The placement officer works with each student individually to enhance her or his applications. In addition to offering extensive information about the elements of an academic dossier, the placement officer hosts faculty panel sessions on compiling a strong dossier and interview techniques. Students also receive personal feedback on all the elements of their dossier from the placement director and other faculty. The department also conducts mock interviews, involving several faculty members, for both convention and on-campus interviews.

4. PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT OFFICE

4.1. Staff: RoseMarie DeLeo, the administrative graduate program assistant, is ready to help students with information, experience, and sound advice. She is generally present in her cubicle from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

4.2. Photocopying/FAX/printing facilities: The department copying room is open during office hours, closing a little before 4:30 p.m. It houses photocopy, FAX and laser printing machines. These are intended for the use of faculty and administrative personnel. Graduate students have access to the photocopy machine for work-related purposes. Large scale copy work should be done at the B.C. Eagle Print.

4.3. Computer Facilities: Teaching Fellows have desktop computers in their offices. Other graduate students have access to public computers in the department (Stokes North, 2nd floor) and additional computers in the O'Neill Computing Center. Laser printing is available at either site.

5. LIBRARY RESOURCES

5.1. Boston College Libraries: There are four main libraries on the Chestnut Hill and Brighton campus. On the middle Chestnut Hill campus, the O'Neill library houses the majority of Boston College's holdings and has a lot of study space. The Bapst library houses the art books and has a special study area reserved for graduate students. Its architecture is worth the visit. The Burns library houses the university's special collections (rare and ancient books, etc.). On the Brighton campus, the Theology and Ministry library offers quiet study spaces.

5.2. Boston Library Consortium: The Boston Library Consortium includes the following libraries: Boston College, Boston Public, Boston University, Brandeis, MIT, Northeastern, State Library of Massachusetts, Tufts, University of Massachusetts (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell), and Wellesley College. Students can obtain a consortium library card at the O'Neill reference desk. For User Guide and further information please consult the main reference desk in O'Neill Library.

5.3. Philosophy liaison librarian: In the O'Neill library, Christ Strauber is the philosophy specialist. Do not hesitate to contact him for advice (chris.strauber@bc.edu, 617-552-4447, Room 309). He maintains a Philosophy Portal (<https://libguides.bc.edu/philosophyportal>) to get started with research. See also the list of Services for Grad Students (<https://libguides.bc.edu/graduate-students>).

6. CENTERS/INSTITUTES/LECTURES

6.1. The Lonergan Center is dedicated to studies related to the work of Jesuit theologian and philosopher Bernard Lonergan (1904-1984). It is located on the fourth floor of Bapst Library. The Center houses a growing collection of Lonergan's published and unpublished writings as well as secondary materials and reference works.

6.2. The Institute of Medieval Philosophy and Theology unites the teaching and research efforts of faculty members in the Philosophy and Theology Departments who specialize in medieval philosophy and theology. The focus of the institute is the relationship between medieval philosophy and theology and contemporary philosophy and theology. The institute sponsors lectures, brown bag lunch discussions related to the study of Medieval philosophy and theology. For further information please consult Prof. Stephen Brown stephen.brown.1@bc.edu (Theology), or Professors Eileen Sweeney eileen.sweeney@bc.edu or Jean-Luc Solère solere@bc.edu (Philosophy).

6.3. The Albert J. Fitzgibbons Lecture Series is an endowed lecture series in the philosophy department inaugurated in spring 2008, featuring distinguished philosophers from the U.S. and abroad.

6.4. The Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy (BACAP) is a consortium of colleges and universities in Boston, Manchester, NH, and Worcester, sponsoring seminars and lectures in the field of ancient philosophy. For further information please consult Prof. Gary Gurtler, S.J., and Prof. Marina McCoy.

6.5. The Philosophy Forum sponsors sessions for the reading of papers, social events, and other activities of interest to graduate students. Usually one student presents a paper or work in progress to the group. The meeting is generally accompanied by a cocktail hour.

6.6. The Annual Graduate Student Conference takes place in March or April, sponsored by the graduate school and philosophy department. It is completely organized by graduate students in the philosophy department. All students are encouraged to get involved in the planning and organization.

6.7. Several other conferences or workshops are also organized by the graduate students, such as the Workshop on Contemporary Philosophy.

7. SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

Lonergan Workshop

Edited by Prof. Frederick Lawrence (Theology)

Method: Journal of Lonergan Studies

Edited by Prof. Patrick Byrne

Philosophy and Social Criticism (formerly Cultural Hermeneutics)

Edited by Prof. David Rasmussen

Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy

Edited by Prof. Gary Gurtler, S.J. and Prof. William Wians

Research in Phenomenology

Edited by Prof. John Sallis

8. GRADUATE LIFE

8.1. The Office of Graduate Student Life (www.bc.edu/offices/gsc.html) lists a number of resources. The Office offers several signature programs of interest, such as a “Dissertation Bootcamp.”

8.2. The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is a college wide organization that sponsors several theme parties throughout the Academic year including a Barbecue at the beginning of the year. GSA is located in Murray House (see below).

8.3. The Philosophy Graduate Student Association (PGSA), which includes representatives from the M.A. students along with the PhD Student Council (PSC; see below), is primarily responsible for managing department events and distributing the funds allotted to the students of the department from the Boston College GSA. The treasurer is a member of the PSC (see below).

This funding goes towards the Graduate Student Conference, the Contemporary Philosophy Workshop, the Philosophy Forum, and other events and activities.

8.4. The Ph.D. Student Council (PSC) is a group of elected representatives that exists to present the concerns and interests of the doctoral students to the graduate program director and faculty. This council also acts as part of the Philosophy Graduate Student Association. There are six members of the PSC, one representative from each year in addition to a non-voting representative, who also acts as treasurer for the PGSA and may be from any year of the program. Elections are held at the mandatory Ph.D. student meeting during the first few weeks of each Fall term.

8.5. The John Courtney Murray, S. J., Graduate Center is a space exclusively for graduate students, as well as through a wide range of programming developed, implemented, and promoted specifically for and by graduate students. The center is a great place for graduate students from all departments to study, offering several private study rooms, as well as a small computer lab for graduate student use. There is also a kitchen and a lunchroom, as well as a pool table, television room, and a deck with tables and chairs. Graduate students and graduate student organizations - along with BC employees, offices, and departments - are welcome to reserve various areas of the Murray Graduate Student Center as long as their purpose for gathering is graduate student related and/or includes graduate students. The Murray Center is located on Hammond Street across from Carney Hall.

Attachments

1. Advisement Questionnaire
2. Annual Review of the Doctoral Students
3. Logic Guidelines
4. Doctoral Comprehensive Examination Result Form
5. Dissertation Proposal Guidelines
6. PhD Dissertation Defense Preparation
7. Dissertation Signature Page
8. Academic Calendar (2018-2019)
9. Fall 2018 Electives Philosophy Department
10. Spring 2019 Electives Philosophy Department
11. Boston College map

June 2018

Attachment 1

ADVISEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Please send back to the RoseMarie DeLeo before August 22nd

The aim of this advisement questionnaire is to assist the graduate program director in knowing your profile and interests and in assigning a suitable academic adviser.

YOUR NAME:

1. Please outline briefly your main intellectual interests as you begin graduate studies in philosophy at Boston College (e.g., medieval philosophy, contemporary continental, philosophy of science, etc.):

2. If you are entering the MA program, please outline briefly your long-term goals. In particular, please specify whether you intend to apply to PhD programs or aim at an MA as terminal degree.

3. Please outline briefly your background in philosophy and related fields (e.g., languages, history, science, theology).

4. If there are definite issues that you would like to raise with an adviser, or factors of which you would like your adviser to take account, you may wish to outline them here.

Attachment 2

ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE DOCTORAL STUDENTS' PROGRESS

YEAR 2018-2019

To be returned by May 22

NAME:

YEAR YOU ENTERED THE PROGRAM:

TOTAL NUMBER OF FUNDED YEARS:

I. – COURSES (*If you have not yet completed the coursework requirements, please list the courses you have taken, from your first year in the program to this year, following the model given below; when you have satisfied the logic and the languages requirement, please also report it. If you are all done and have passed the doctoral comps, no need to report anything, delete the example and just write “Comps passed in ...”.*)

(example)

2016-2017

Title of the course:

Grade:

2017-2018:

Title of the course:

Grade:

etc.

II. – RESEARCH ACTIVITY

1. Progress toward doctoral comps, or dissertation progress:

2. Participation to conferences or workshops, talks, papers published or submitted for publication, etc. (please be specific):

III. – DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITY (*Attendance at lectures in the department, help with organizing conferences, service to the graduate students association, and all the ways in which you contributed to the life of the department*)

IV. – EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (*Anything that has contributed to your education and professional training*)

V. – PLANS FOR THE COMING SUMMER AND THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR (*E.g., summer research, summer programs or seminars, language learning, courses you plan to take next year, details about dissertation writing plans, qualifying paper and dissertation proposal for the doctoral comps, etc.*)

VI. – ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SAY (*Additional information, comments and remarks, complaints or praises, reflections on circumstances that have aided your progress or impeded it, etc.*)

VII. – ADVISER’S, OR DISSERTATION SUPERVISOR’S AND SECOND READER’S COMMENTS

Name(s) and signature(s) of the adviser, or of the dissertation supervisor and the second reader

Attachment 3

LOGIC GUIDELINES

All Ph.D. candidates are required to demonstrate proficiency in the area of logic. This may be accomplished in one of three ways: By taking PHIL5577, "Introduction to Symbolic Logic" with a grade of "B" or better; or by attaining a score of 80% or better on the Logic Proficiency Examination; or by showing evidence of comparable prior course work. The Examination will be administered once each year in the later part of May. Candidates are expected to have taken either the course or the Examination by the Spring of their second year.

The Logic Proficiency Examination is a two-hour written examination. It will cover both traditional and symbolic logic, and will include questions concerning the nature and purposes of logic, as well as questions testing logical skills.

Basic texts for the examination are:

Aristotle, *Prior Analytics*, and either
M. Bergman, J. Moor, I. Nelson, *The Logic Book*
Irving M. Copi, *Introduction to Logic* (MacMillan).

Questions covering the following areas may be expected:

1. Definition and illustration of basic logical terms. For example: validity, indifference, proposition, function, predication, relation, implication, description, syllogism, meta-language, definition, intension, logical system, "reduction to first figure," etc.
2. Identification and explanation of valid and invalid syllogisms.
3. Use of truth tables to show validity, contingency, tautology, and contradiction.
4. Symbolization of proposition and arguments; propositional and predicate logic.
5. Proofs for arguments both containing and not containing quantified propositions.
6. Explanation of the need for, uses of, and historical circumstances surrounding the rise of both traditional and symbolic logic.
7. Discussion of various forms of fallacy.
8. Comparison and contrast of induction and deduction.

Attachment 4

**DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
RESULT FORM**

Student's Name:

Eagle ID Number:

The present form is composed of **one ballot for each part** of the exam, **and a synthesis** for the Registrar Office ("Examination Report").

When the **qualifying paper** has been examined, **only the ballot for the first part should be completed**, and the whole form should be given to the Graduate Program Director.

A candidate cannot proceed to the defense of the dissertation proposal if the examination of the paper is failed. The board decides when the paper can be resubmitted and defended again (only once).

When the **dissertation proposal** has been defended, **the synthesis for the registrar should be completed together with the ballot for the second part**. The synthesis should be signed by the members of the second board, but not necessarily by the members of the first board (except the board chair person—the future dissertation supervisor—, who is present in both parts.) The whole form should be given to the Graduate Program Director.

In each of the two parts, the decisions "Passed with distinction", "Passed" and "Failed" must result from a majority decision.

In the synthesis for the Registrar Office,

The decision "Passed with distinction" shall result from "Passed with distinction" in each of the two parts of the examination;

"Passed" shall result from "Passed" in one of the parts and "Passed with distinction" in the other, or from "Passed" in both;

"Failed" shall result from "Failed" in one of the parts.

If the board decides to attach any conditions or stipulations to its decision, they should be added in writing to this report.

Part I — Qualifying Paper

Title of the Paper:

.....

Date of the Examination: / /

In the view of the examination committee, the student has:

Passed the examination with distinction.

Passed the examination.

Failed the examination.

.....

(Chair of the Examination Committee)

.....

(Examination Committee Member)

.....

(Examination Committee Member)

Part II — Dissertation Proposal

Title of the Dissertation Proposal:

.....

Date of the Examination: / /

The examination committee judges that the student has:

Passed the examination with distinction.

Passed the examination.

Failed the examination.

.....

(Chair of the Examination Committee)

.....

(Examination Committee Member)

.....

(Examination Committee Member)

**WHEN THE BALLOT FOR THE SECOND PART IS COMPLETED,
PLEASE ALSO COMPLETE THE NEXT PAGE**



BOSTON COLLEGE
OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR
CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02167

DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION REPORT

DATE: _____

Examinee : _____ BCID#: _____

Department: _____

The above examinee has completed the comprehensive examination. The board having considered and evaluated the totality of the examination judges that the examinee has:

Passed this examination with distinction _____

Passed this examination _____

Failed this examination _____

Therefore the examinee should/should not be promoted to the status of doctoral candidate.

Signatures: _____ (Chairperson)

N.B. To qualify, the examinee must be "passed" by a majority of the board.

The expressions "passed", "passed with distinction" indicate achievement in an ascending order of worth. The board's selection among these expressions should result from a majority decision.

If the board decides to attach any conditions or stipulations to its decision, they should be sent in writing along with this report.

Attachment 5

DISSERTATION PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

What should go into a dissertation proposal?

A dissertation is a piece of research, and so a dissertation proposal is the statement of a plan for a piece of research. The proposal should contain the following elements.

(1) The question or problem (or set of questions or problems) to be resolved in the dissertation. This part of the proposal answers questions like "What do you intend to find out in the course of researching and writing the dissertation?" "What do you hope to learn by doing this dissertation?" Some questions are mainly historical; others are mainly systematic; and many questions have both an historical and a systematic dimension. Questions may be of different types: Yes/No questions ("Is Aristotle's conception of substance in the *Categories* compatible with his conception of substance in the *Metaphysics*?"), but also more open questions ("What did philosopher A think about issue X, and why?", "What is the best solution to problem Z?").

(2) An indication of why this question or problem is of interest or significance, why someone should go to the trouble of researching and writing a dissertation about it. This answers the questions "Why bother?" and "What makes this topic so important?"

(3) An indication of why the question or problem needs the concentrated attention that goes into a dissertation. This answers the questions "What's so difficult about that?" and "Isn't the answer obvious?"

(4) An account of the state of discussion and literature on the question or problem to date, telling how much or how little has been said or written on the question or problem, sketching the main positions that have been taken, outlining the grounds on which these positions are based, and indicating why and how it is appropriate to contribute something further (the dissertation) to the discussion and the literature. This answers the question "Hasn't that been done already?" and addresses the possible reaction "Oh, No, not another dissertation on...."

(5) An indication of the principal data or sources of data relevant to solving the question or problem. This answers the question "Where do you intend to look for an answer to your question or problem?"

(6) An indication of the method you propose to follow in using the data to solve the question or problem. This answers questions like "How do you intend to handle your data?" and "Once you have located your data, what do you intend to do with them?" Examples: studying a text from a "mainstream" point of view or from a Marxist point of view or from a Straussian point of view; studying a problem from a Thomistic point of view or from a phenomenological point of view or from an analytic point of view. It is often appropriate to offer a brief explanation or defense of your method.

(7) A frank statement of your assumptions. These are matters that you will invite your reader to grant or concede at the outset, so that you don't spend the dissertation (or the defense) arguing for them. There are various types of assumptions. Some have a bearing on the set of data, e.g., the assumption that a given text is the authentic work of a certain author. Some have a bearing on method, e.g., the (highly debatable!) assumption that what Socrates says in a Platonic dialogue is identical with what Plato thinks. This section answers questions like

"What are you asking us to buy at the outset?" "What do you want us to grant you so that you can get on with your work?" and "Are you sure you're not just begging the question?" As with the method you propose to follow, it is often appropriate to offer a brief explanation or defense of your assumptions, to show that they are at least plausible. One aim of this part is to head off people saying things like "It's clear that a lot of work went into this dissertation; it's a shame that it rests on untenable assumptions." It is important that your initial assumptions do not by themselves dictate your conclusions; if your assumptions dictate your conclusions, that throws into question the value and significance of your research.

(8) A statement of your working hypothesis or hypotheses. This answers the questions "As of now, what kind of solution do you think you will come up with?" and "How much of an idea do you have about where you are going to end up?" Leave plenty of room for the possibility that the data will lead you to modify your working hypotheses or even to discard them in favor of others. One test of a good question is whether you are still interested in the question after the facts have forced you to give up what you thought was the right answer.

Much of the above can be summarized in the advice to distinguish carefully between questions and answers, between data and interpretations of data, between data and assumptions.

The above suggestions are, of course, no substitute for the most important activity in the formulation of a dissertation proposal: discussion with one's supervisor.

Arthur Madigan, S.J.

1 November 2005

Attachment 6

PhD DISSERTATION DEFENSE PREPARATION

A. Approval of the Composition of the Defense Committee

Name of the dissertation supervisor (first reader):

Name of the second reader, institution:

Name of the third reader, institution:

...

1. Approval of the graduate committee:

Date:

Signature of the Graduate Program Director:

2. Filing with the dean's office:

Date:

Signature of the Graduate Program Director:

B. Submission of the Dissertation to the Department

1. Approval of the dissertation by the first and second readers:

Dates:

Signatures:

2. Submission to the department:

Date:

Signature of the Graduate Program Secretary:

3. Date of the defense:

(NB: The defense cannot take place earlier than 30 days after the submission of the dissertation to the department)

Signature of the Graduate Program Director:

Attachment 7

BOSTON COLLEGE
Morrissey College of Arts & Sciences
Graduate School

The Dissertation of: _____
(Student's Name)

Title: _____

Submitted to the Department of: _____

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of:

in the Graduate School of the Morrissey College of Arts & Sciences has been read and approved by
the Committee:

Chair

Member

Member

Member

Date

Attachment 8

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

2018-2019

First Semester

August 27	Monday: Classes Begin
September 3	Monday: Labor Day – No Classes
September 5	Wednesday: Drop/Add Period Ends
October 8-9	Monday and Tuesday Fall Break - No Classes
November 21 - 23	Wednesday - Friday: Thanksgiving Holidays
December 11 - 12	Tuesday to Wednesday: Study Days
December 13 - 20	Thursday - Thursday Noon: Term Examinations

Second Semester

January 14	Monday: Classes Begin
January 21	Monday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No Classes
January 23	Wednesday: Drop/Add Period Ends
March 4 - 9	Monday - Friday: Spring Vacation
April 15	Monday: Patriots Day – No Classes
April 18 – April 22	No Classes: Holy Thursday - Good Friday - Easter Monday (except classes beginning at 4:00 p.m. and later)
May 3 - May 6	Friday to Monday: Study Days
May 7 - 14	Tuesday - Tuesday noon: Term Examinations
May 20	Monday: Commencement

Attachment 9

AY 2018-19 FALL PHILOSOPHY ELECTIVES

COURSE #	INDEX	CR	LV	COURSE TITLE	SCHEDULE	INSTRUCTOR
PHIL537201	5892	3	3	PATRISTIC GREEK	M 10-12 25	SCHATKIN
PHIL538701	1316	3	3	MAHAYANA BUDDHISM/E ASIA	T TH 3*	MOZINA
PHIL550001	9559	3	3	PHILOSOPHY OF LAW	M W F 10	VAN ROOY
PHIL550101	6975	3	3	POLITICS OF THE SOUL	M 6-8 45	BRAMAN
PHIL552001	3721	3	3	ARISTOTLE:AN INTRODUCTION	M W F 2	MADIGAN
PHIL552703	4721	3	3	PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE	T TH 12*	SWEENEY
PHIL552901	5890	3	3	METAPHYSICS	T TH 12*	GURTLER
PHIL553901	4339	3	3	1968 NOW: REV,ART, HIS&PL	W 6-8 45	KEARNEY
PHIL553901	4339	3	3	1968 NOW: REV,ART, HIS&PL	W 6-8 45	SAVAGE
PHIL553901	4339	3	3	1968 NOW: REV,ART, HIS&PL	W 6-8 45	GALLAGHER
PHIL554901	7225	3	3	SELECTED READINGS PHENOM	T TH 9*	MORAN
PHIL555001	5893	3	1	CAPSTONE:BUILDING A LIFE	M 3-5 20	MC MENAMIN
PHIL556301	5895	4	3	ETHICS,REL&INTERN POLIT	T TH 10 30*	DEPARTMENT
PHIL556302	5896	4	3	ETHICS,REL&INTERN POLIT	M W 3*	OWENS
PHIL557601	9849	3	3	EXISTENTIALISM	T TH 1 30*	KREEFT
PHIL557701	6224	3	3	SYMBOLIC LOGIC	T TH 3*	WEISS
PHIL558201	6405	3	3	TRUTH AND PRAGMATISM	M W F 11	ATKINS
PHIL559301	6225	3	3	PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE	T 4 30-7 15	VANDEWALL
PHIL660401	6976	3	3	SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION	M W 3*	GARCIA
PHIL664901	4485	3	3	PHILOSOPHY OF BEING I	M W 12*	BLANCHETTE
PHIL667001	6229	3	3	TECHNOLOGY&CULTURE	M 4 30-6 50	GRIFFITH
PHIL746001	8571	3	G	LAW & INTERPRETATION	M 3-5 30	DEPARTMENT
PHIL770401	9396	3	G	PLATO'S REPUBLIC	W 3-5 45	MCCOY
PHIL770501	144	3	G	LEVINAS AND DERRIDA	T TH 12*	BLOECHL
PHIL771601	5841	3	G	KANT'S FIRST CRITIQUE	M 3-5 45	STAN
PHIL774201	100	3	G	NARRATIVE&INTERPRETATION	T 4 30-7 15	KEARNEY
PHIL776101	4486	3	G	HEGEL/PHENOMENOL/SPIRIT	W 3-5 45	BLANCHETTE
PHIL776201	3209	3	G	SOREN KIERKEGAARD	TH 1 30-4 15	RUMBLE
PHIL776301	1216	3	G	EARLY MODERN METAPHYSICS	TH 4 30-7 15	SOLERE
PHIL779901	611	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	MCKAUGHAN
PHIL779902	5604	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	KEARNEY
PHIL779903	5605	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	GURTLER
PHIL779904	5606	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	GRIFFITH
PHIL779905	5607	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	MCKAUGHAN
PHIL779906	5608	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	BLOECHL
PHIL779908	7933	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	SOLERE
PHIL779910	7934	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	SWEENEY
PHIL779911	7935	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	SOLERE
PHIL779912	7936	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	TACELLI
PHIL779913	4300	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	DEPARTMENT
PHIL779914	4575	3	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	RUMBLE

PHIL880101	4576	3	G	MASTER'S THESIS	BY ARRANGEMENT	HUDSON
PHIL887101	9942	3	G	AQUINAS:SUMMA THEOLOGIAE	T TH 10 30*	KREEFT
PHIL888801	4578	0	G	INTERIM STUDY	BY ARRANGEMENT	GURTLER
PHIL999001	4579	0	G	TEACHING SEMINAR	F 12-3	BLOECHL
PHIL999801	4580	1	G	DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVES	BY ARRANGEMENT	GURTLER
PHIL999901	8904	1	G	DOCTORAL CONTINUATION	BY ARRANGEMENT	GURTLER

Attachment 10

AY 2018-19 SPRING PHILOSOPHY ELECTIVES

COURSE #	INDEX	LV	COURSE TITLE	SCHEDULE	INSTRUCTOR
PHIL519901	7041	3	GLOBAL JUSTICE AND COSMOP		HUDSON
PHIL529001	294	3	LIBERALISM & ITS CRITICS		DEPARTMENT
PHIL537301	7039	3	PATRISTIC GREEK II		SCHATKIN
PHIL550501	8895	3	THE ARISTOTELIAN ETHICS	M W F 2	MADIGAN
PHIL553401	9396	3	ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS	T TH 10 30*	BYRNE
PHIL554601	545	3	UTILITARIANISM	M W 3*	GARCIA
PHIL555901	1386	3	EPIST OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF	M W 1 30*	MCGILL
PHIL556101	8561	3	ARENDT/BUBER:LOVINGWORLD	T TH 12*	BERNAUER
PHIL556301	7038	3	ETHICS,REL&INTERN POLIT		
PHIL590101	5663	3	THE ETHICS OF CAPITALISM	T TH 12*	EVANS
PHIL590101	5663	3	THE ETHICS OF CAPITALISM	T TH 12*	SMITH
PHIL660501	4900	3	AUGUSTINE	M W 3*	BYERS
PHIL665001	4624	3	PHILOSOPHY OF BEING II	M W 12*	BLANCHETTE
PHIL667001	7045	3	TECHNOLOGY&CULTURE		GRIFFITH
PHIL710101	6161	G	HERMENEUTICS OF DESIRE	W 6-8 45	KEARNEY
PHIL720001	108	G	PHILOSOPHY AND MYSTICISM	TH 1 30-4 15	BLOECHL
PHIL724401	809	G	ARISTOTLE ON SECOND&FIRST	M 6-8 45	WIANS
PHIL770001	309	G	ANC/MEDIEVAL THEO/PASSION	T TH 10 30*	SWEENEY
PHIL771901	5794	G	AQUINAS ON VIRTUE&LAW	W 3-5 45	BLANCHETTE
PHIL775301	8721	G	READING JACQUES DERRIDA	TH 4 30-6 50	NEWMARK
PHIL779001	6788	G	PHENOMENOLOGY OF FEELING	TH 4 30-6 50	BYRNE
PHIL779101	6400	G	ARISTOTLE/PLOTINUS/SOUL	M 3-5 25	GURTLER
PHIL779401	7053	3	PHILOSOPHY/CHURCH FATHERS	TH 2-4 25	SCHATKIN
PHIL779901	7055	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	ATKINS
PHIL779902	7056	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	ATKINS
PHIL779904	7057	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	JOHNSON
PHIL779905	7058	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	BYRNE
PHIL779906	7059	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	DEPARTMENT
PHIL779907	7060	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	SALLIS
PHIL779908	7061	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	MCKAUGHAN
PHIL779909	7062	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	MCCOY
PHIL779910	7063	G	READINGS AND RESEARCH	BY ARRANGEMENT	NEWMARK
PHIL780101	625	G	PHENOMENLOGY:HUSSERL/HEID		MORAN
PHIL880701	6333	G	KANT'S CRITIQUE JUDGMENT	T 4 30-7 15	SALLIS
PHIL888801	7066	G	INTERIM STUDY		GURTLER
PHIL999001	9618	G	TEACHING SEMINAR	F 12-2 45	BLOECHL
PHIL999801	9619	G	DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVES	BY ARRANGEMENT	GURTLER
PHIL999901	9620	G	DOCTORAL CONTINUATION	BY ARRANGEMENT	GURTLER
				DISC GROUP	HAYES
				DISC GROUP	HAYES

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DISC GROUP	HOWE
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W 6-8 30	KERN
W 6-8 30	RUGG
W 6-8 30	RUGG
W 6-8 30	TATTERFIELD
W 6-8 30	TATTERFIELD

