

Thesis Goals and Objectives

Students will:

- Work independently and in a sustained way on a philosophical project
- Attend regular meetings with an advisor from the department
- Situate their work in the field of philosophy
- Formulate a question clearly, and develop an approach to address it
- Demonstrate depth of knowledge in a sub-field of philosophy
- Find, annotate, engage and critique appropriate sources in their field of inquiry
- Refine arguments through revision and engagement with a philosopher
- Write a clear, well-structured, substantive thesis which includes conceptual analysis
- Experience the life of an engaged scholar in philosophy

Honors Thesis Additional Guidelines

- Students should have a GPA in the major above 3.5
- Students must develop an original philosophical question that can be addressed in the course of an academic year
- At the beginning of the year, students must submit a proposal that is approved by the department
- In December, students must submit a draft of at least one substantive chapter of the thesis. The draft chapter or chapters should demonstrate the ability to complete an honors thesis. The draft must be approved by the department
- Students must defend their thesis argument orally at the end of the Winter term