

PHILOSOPHY



AT HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

Studying philosophy at Hampshire allows students to complete substantial groundwork within the history of Western philosophy, while at the same time engaging in dialogue with other traditions and perspectives. Through Hampshire's classes, students become versed in the work of philosophers representing a wide range of cultural and historical backgrounds, and develop abilities to analyze, articulate, construct and criticize philosophical arguments. Philosophy courses are also utilized to strengthen an understanding of the law, gender studies, religion, psychology, social justice, and history or to supplement a focus in studio arts or film.

Admissions Office
Hampshire College
893 West Street
Amherst, MA 01002
tel. 877.937.4267
fax 413.559.5631

Sample First-Year Course

Love, Sex, and Death

This class examines conceptions of love, sex, and death, and how they influence both our private and public lives. We will discuss some of the philosophical literature on the natures of love, sex, and death, and contemporary issues such as same-sex marriage, pornography, prostitution, and abortion. Philosophy is more than a subject matter, it is a way of thinking, asking questions and evaluating answers to them. The aims of this course are not political but philosophical: to teach you to examine critically these issues and arguments, and to formulate and defend your own views on these topics. These topics are controversial for a reason: there are no easy answers. Assignments will consist of a series of short papers, and an independent project.

Student Project Titles

Comparisons Between Deleuzean Thought and Philosophical Taoism

The Changing Self: Reflections on a Computer-Mediated Existence

Free Will, Determinism, and Personal Responsibility

The Figuration of the Author in the Text

Impossible Recognition, Negotiations of Difference, and the Dissonant Body: A Reflection in Philosophy and Drawing

Identifying Agamben's Conception of the Homo Sacer in Democratic Kampuchea

Introspection and Inner States

Sample Courses

At Hampshire

Alienation
Between Husserl & Heidegger
Between Levinas & Derrida
Ethics, Aesthetic, Politics
& the Concept of Address
Happiness and the Good Life
Identity Beyond Identity Politics
Love, Sex & Death
On Derrida's Politics
On Time & Being
The Philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein
Philosophy of Mind
Philosophy, Relativism & Truth
Questioning the Self
The Residue, the Detail, the Intimate:
or, the Workings of Neoliberal Culture
Science & Religion: The History
& Philosophy of an Uneasy Relationship
Topics in Contemporary Political
Philosophy

Through the Consortium

Ancient Philosophy (AC)
Buddhist Philosophy (SC)
Feminism & Knowledge (MHC)
The Greek Period (MHC)
Kant (UMass)
The Meaning of Life (SC)
Metaphysics (UMass)
Philosophy for Children (MHC)
Plato (AC)
Problems in Social Thought (UMass)

(continued on reverse)

Faculty Profiles

Christoph Cox, professor of philosophy

Christoph Cox teaches and writes on nineteenth and twentieth century European philosophy and critical theories of art and music. He is the author of *Nietzsche, Naturalism and Interpretation* (University of California Press, 1999) and coeditor of *Audio Culture: Readings in Modern Music* (Continuum, 2004). Cox writes regularly on contemporary art and music for *Artforum*, *Cabinet*, *The Wire*, and other magazines and has curated exhibitions at The Kitchen, the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and G Fine Art Gallery.

Monique Roelofs, associate professor of philosophy

Monique Roelofs holds a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, an M.A. from the University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands, and was a postdoctoral fellow in the Pembroke Center at Brown University. She teaches and writes at the intersection of European, analytical, and postcolonial philosophies with a special focus on aesthetics, the philosophy of art and culture, feminist philosophy, and critical race theory.

Falguni Sheth, associate professor of philosophy and political theory

Falguni A. Sheth received a B.A. in rhetoric from University of California at Berkeley, and her M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from the New School for Social Research. Her teaching and research interests include various topics in political and legal philosophy, feminist philosophy, and philosophy of race.

Laura Sizer, associate professor of philosophy

Laura Sizer holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her teaching and research interests span topics in philosophy of mind, philosophy of psychology/cognitive science, philosophy of language and philosophy of science, as well as applied ethics, including environmental ethics. She has published articles in *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Mind & Language*, *Philosophical Psychology*, and the *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*. Laura Sizer is currently the Director of the FPR-Hampshire College Program in Culture, Brain & Development.

Ernie Alleva, associate dean of advising and faculty/staff associate in the School of Cognitive Science

Ernie Alleva received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University. His main interests are in moral and political philosophy, the philosophy of education, and the history of philosophy. Professor Alleva's current projects include work on philosophical issues regarding work, contemporary controversies about freedom of expression, and recent work on liberal political theory.

John Drabinski, visiting assistant professor of philosophy and critical theory

John Drabinski received his A.B. from Seattle University in 1991 and a Ph.D. from University of Memphis in 1996 with a thesis on the work of Emmanuel Levinas. He has since written over two dozen articles on phenomenology, post-modernism, and political theory, in addition to the books *Sensibility and Singularity* (2001) and *Godard Between Identity and Difference* (2008). John is currently at work on a book-length study of Édouard Glissant's poetics entitled *Abyssal Beginnings*, and is editing both *Between Levinas and Heidegger* (SUNY, forthcoming) and a special issue of *Journal of French Philosophy* on Godard and contemporary French theory. He is jointly appointed with the Department of Black Studies at Amherst College, where he teaches Caribbean and African-American philosophy, literature, and political theory.

Facilities and Resources

Soap Box is a philosophical society open to all members of the Five College community aimed at creating a supportive and enriching space for philosophic dialogue in the area. A biannual journal of philosophy composed of student work is published and open discussions are held weekly.

The program in Culture, Brain, and Development at Hampshire College was founded in 2003 with a grant from the Foundation for Psycho-Cultural Research. It provides an arena in which perspectives from a range of disciplines are brought to bear on questions about what is considered innate, how the social and the biological influence one another, and how experience is integrated into the developing architecture of the human brain. With core and advanced courses, the program sponsors seminars, lecture series, summer institutes, colloquia, and conferences, as well as collaboratively taught, cross-School courses. In addition, it offers stipends to encourage student and faculty work at the intersection of culture, brain, and development.

