

**A Guide to  
Programs in Philosophy  
for Undergraduates  
2017-2018**

**Philosophy Department Office  
Staff Contact Information**

**Stacey Quartaro**  
**Director of Academic Administration and Finance**  
**Room 708 Philosophy Hall**  
**212-854-8509**  
[sg2170@columbia.edu](mailto:sg2170@columbia.edu)

**Clayton Rains**  
**Student Coordinator**  
**Room 708 Philosophy Hall**  
**212-854-8507**  
[crr2141@columbia.edu](mailto:crr2141@columbia.edu)

**Asha Panduranga**  
**Financial Coordinator**  
**Room 708 Philosophy Hall**  
**212-854-8508**  
[ap3097@columbia.edu](mailto:ap3097@columbia.edu)

## Faculty Contact Sheet

| Name                     | E-mail                   | Office Number         | Notes   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Albert, David</b>     | da5@columbia.edu         | 706 Philosophy        | <b>Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS)</b>    |
| Bilgrami, Akeel          | ab41@columbia.edu        | 709 Philosophy        | On Leave Fall 2017                                |
| Carman, Taylor           | tcarman@barnard.edu      | 326C Milbank          |   |
| Clarke-Doane, Justin     | jc4345@columbia.edu      | 712B Philosophy       | On Leave 2017-2018                                |
| Collins, John            | jdc9@columbia.edu        | 714 Philosophy        |   |
| Fusco, Melissa           | mf3095@columbia.edu      | 717 Philosophy        |   |
| Gaifman, Haim            | hg17@columbia.edu        | 715 Philosophy        |   |
| Goehr, Lydia             | lg131@columbia.edu       | 710 Philosophy        |   |
| Gooding-Williams, Robert | rg2944@columbia.edu      | 701 Philosophy        |   |
| Honneth, Axel            | ah2592@columbia.edu      | 704 Philosophy        |   |
| Jagannathan, Dhananjay   | dj2493@columbia.edu      | 721 Philosophy        |   |
| Kitcher, Patricia        | pk206@columbia.edu       | 718 Philosophy        |   |
| <b>Kitcher, Philip</b>   | psk16@columbia.edu       | <b>718 Philosophy</b> | <b>Adviser for the Economics-Philosophy Major</b> |
| Lando, Tamar             | tal2108@columbia.edu     | 712A Philosophy       |   |
| Lewis, Karen             | klewis@barnard.edu       | 326e Milbank          |   |
| Mann, Wolfgang           | wrm4@columbia.edu        | 705 Philosophy        |   |
| Mercer, Christia         | cm50@columbia.edu        | 707 Philosophy        |   |
| Moody-Adams, Michele     | moody-adams@columbia.edu | 702 Philosophy        |   |
| Morrison, John           | jmorriso@barnard.edu     | 326b Milbank          |   |
| Neuhouser, Frederick     | fneuhous@barnard.edu     | 326d Milbank          |   |
| Paul, Elliot             | epaul@barnard.edu        | 326a Milbank          |   |
| Peacocke, Christopher    | cp2161@columbia.edu      | 704 Philosophy        |   |
| Rovane, Carol            | cr260@columbia.edu       | 711 Philosophy        | On Leave Fall 2017                                |
| Stojnic, Una             | us2166@columbia.edu      | 721 Philosophy        |   |
| Tabb, Kathryn            | kct2121@columbia.edu     | 717 Philosophy        |   |
| Varzi, Achille           | av72@columbia.edu        | 713 Philosophy        |   |
| Vogt, Katja              | kv2101@columbia.edu      | 719 Philosophy        | On Leave Spring 2018                              |

## Faculty Areas of Specialization

| Name                     | Areas of Specialization   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Albert, David            | Philosophical Problems of Modern Physics; Philosophy of Space and Time; Philosophy of Science   |
| Bilgrami, Akeel          | Philosophy of Mind; Philosophy of Language; Political Philosophy and Moral Philosophy; Moral Psychology   |
| Carman, Taylor           | 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Century European Philosophy   |
| Clarke-Doane, Justin     | Metaethics; Epistemology; Metaphysics; Philosophy of Mathematics  |
| Collins, John            | Metaphysics; Epistemology; Decision Theory  |
| Fusco, Melissa           | Philosophy of Language; Decision Theory   |
| Gaifman, Haim            | Logic, Foundations of Probability; Rational Choice, Philosophy of Mathematics, Philosophy of Language, Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein   |
| Goehr, Lydia             | Philosophy of Music; Aesthetics; Critical Theory; Philosophy of History; and 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy   |
| Gooding-Williams, Robert | Social and Political Philosophy (esp. antiracist critical theory); History of African-American Political Thought; 19 <sup>th</sup> Century European Philosophy (esp. Nietzsche); Existentialism; and Aesthetics |
| Honneth, Axel            | Social and Political Philosophy; Ethics; Social Theory  |
| Jagannathan, Dhananjay   | Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy; History of Ethics   |
| Kitcher, Patricia        | Kant; Philosophy of Psychology; Freud   |
| Kitcher, Philip          | Pragmatism (especially Dewey); Science and Social Issues; Naturalistic Ethics; Philosophy in Literature   |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Lando, Tamar          | Logic; Epistemology  |
| Lewis, Karen          | Philosophy of Language; Philosophical Linguistics  |
| Mann, Wolfgang        | Ancient Philosophy; German Idealism; Metaphysics   |
| Mercer, Christia      | Early Modern Philosophy; History of Platonism; History of Women in Philosophy  |
| Moody-Adams, Michele  | Moral Philosophy and Applied Ethics; Social and Political Philosophy; The Philosophy of Social Science; The Empiricists                                |
| Morrison, John        | Philosophy of Mind; Early Modern Philosophy (esp. Spinoza)   |
| Neuhouser, Frederick  | 19th-century German Philosophy; Social and Political Philosophy  |
| Paul, Elliot          | Early Modern Philosophy; Epistemology; Creativity  |
| Peacocke, Christopher | Philosophy of Mind and Psychology; Metaphysics; Epistemology   |
| Rovane, Carol         | Metaphysics; Philosophy of Language and Mind; Ethics   |
| Stojnić, Una          | Philosophy of Language; Formal Semantics and Pragmatics of Natural Languages; Philosophy of Logic; Philosophy of Mind; Cognitive Science; Epistemology |
| Tabb, Kathryn         | History of Modern Philosophy; Philosophy of Science and Medicine; Bioethics  |
| Varzi, Achille        | Logic; Metaphysics; Philosophy of Language   |
| Vogt, Katja           | Ancient Philosophy, Metaethics, Normative Epistemology, Skepticism   |



**PASS/FAIL** Courses taken pass/fail normally do not count towards the major.

**SUMMER COURSES** Two courses taken in summer sessions can count towards the major.

**SUBSTITUTIONS** In some cases, it is possible to substitute courses for the specific courses required. Any requests for substitution must be submitted to the DUS (Director of Undergraduate Studies). Students who have already been allowed substitutions cannot expect to receive further substitutions.

**CLASSES IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS** In some instances, courses in other departments can count for credit towards the major. For example, the Religion department offers courses in philosophy of religion, and the Political Science Department offers courses in political philosophy. Questions about whether courses in other departments will count towards the major should be submitted to the DUS.

**BARNARD COURSES** The Columbia and Barnard Philosophy departments function together as a unit. The courses specifically designed for Barnard students (first-year and senior seminars) do **not** count towards the Columbia major or concentration. But all other courses in the Columbia-Barnard joint curriculum **do** count for the major or the concentration, regardless of whether the instructor is associated with Barnard or with Columbia.

**CORE CLASSES** Core classes such as Contemporary Civilization may not count towards the major or concentration.

**TRANSFER CREDIT / STUDY ABROAD** Courses taken at other institutions may count only after review and approval by the DUS (a written record of approval must be submitted to 708 Philosophy by the student or DUS). No more than 5 courses taken elsewhere may be applied to the major, and no more than 4 to the concentration.

# **The Joint Major in Economics-Philosophy**

Philosophy Adviser: Professor Philip Kitcher, 717 Philosophy Hall, [psk16@columbia.edu](mailto:psk16@columbia.edu)

Economics Advising: Contact [econ-advising@columbia.edu](mailto:econ-advising@columbia.edu)

Economics-philosophy is an interdisciplinary major that, while introducing students to the basic methodologies of economics and philosophy, stresses areas of particular concern to both. These include subjects such as rationality and decision making, justice and efficiency, freedom and collective choice, the logic of empirical theories and their testing. Many of the issues are dealt with historically.

Two advisers are assigned for the interdepartmental major, one in the Department of Economics and one in the Department of Philosophy. Please note that the economics adviser can only advise on the economics requirement and the philosophy adviser can only advise about on the philosophy requirements.

The departmental advisers strongly encourage prospective majors to discuss the major early in their sophomore year. Each major is expected to talk to the departmental advisers in the middle of his or her junior year and at the beginning of his or her senior year.

## **Philosophy Requirements for the Joint Major**

PHIL UN1010 Methods and Problems of Philosophical Thought

PHIL UN3411 Symbolic Logic

PHIL UN3701 Moral Philosophy (or another adviser-approved course in moral or political philosophy)

PHIL UN3551 Philosophy of Science or PHIL W3960 Epistemology (or another adviser-approved course on topics in either epistemology or philosophy of the sciences).

PHIL GU4561 Probability and Decision Theory

ECPH GU4950 Senior Seminar in Economics and Philosophy

## **Economics Requirements for the Joint Major**

(NOTE: Please consult with the Economics Department on these Economics requirements.)

ECON UN1105 Principles of Economics

ECON UN3211 Intermediate Microeconomics

ECON UN3213 Intermediate Macroeconomics

ECON UN3412 Introduction to Econometrics

MATH UN1101 Calculus I

MATH UN1201 Calculus III

STAT UN1211 Introduction to Statistics B (or a higher level statistics course)

Three Economics electives. Two of these must be chosen from a prescribed list available from the Economics Department; the third may be any elective at the 3000 level or above.

# **Senior Theses**

Undergraduates majoring in Philosophy or Economics-Philosophy may propose to write a senior thesis. Students who wish to write a thesis should approach a faculty member at the end of their junior or beginning of their senior year, and begin working on the proposal early in the fall semester of their senior year. Proposals are due in early December, and will be reviewed by a committee which will include the Director of Undergraduate Studies; students will be notified of the committee's decision within two weeks. Students whose proposals are approved should register for their faculty advisor's section of Supervised Independent Research for the spring term of the senior year. Theses are due in early April.

Students who have a grade point average of 3.6 or above in the major and who complete a thesis will be placed into consideration for departmental honors, though any senior may complete a thesis regardless of their grade point average (upon approval of the proposal).

See the full policy and procedure concerning senior theses on the departmental webpage:  
<http://philosophy.columbia.edu/content/senior-thesis-philosophy>

# **Departmental Honors**

Departmental honors are highly competitive. Normally no more than 10% of the majors graduating in the department each year will receive departmental honors.

In order to qualify for departmental honors in philosophy, a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.6 in the major.

For students with a GPA of 3.6 or above, there are two possible routes to consideration:

1. A student may complete a senior thesis; those students who complete senior theses will automatically be considered for honors without having to be nominated.
2. A student may be nominated by a faculty member early in the spring semester of the senior year; nominated students will be invited to submit a writing sample at least 15 pages in length. A nominated student who is also writing a thesis may submit their thesis as the writing sample, or may choose to submit a different work.

Both the senior theses and writing samples are due in early April. The departmental honors committee will then review the submitted material and the academic records of the writers, and will report to the full faculty.

The full faculty will then decide which students to recommend for departmental honors to the Columbia College and General Studies administrations.