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# **University of Kentucky**

## **Graduate Studies in Philosophy**

### **Regulations**

The Department of Philosophy at the University of Kentucky offers programs of study leading to both the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Arts degrees. Ordinarily, most applicants will enter the Ph.D. program. Applicants may, however, apply to take an M.A. only.

The purpose of the Ph.D. program is to develop the student's ability to do serious, advanced research in Philosophy and to prepare students for the profession of college and university teaching.

The purposes of the M.A. program are to provide the student with a fundamental understanding of the major historical and contemporary points of view in all of the basic areas of philosophical inquiry and to develop the student's capacity to formulate and analyze philosophical problems. Such a program is suitable either as preparation for further study in Philosophy or as a complement to advanced training in a variety of other fields.

What follows is a general outline of the requirements and procedures for successful completion of the Ph.D. and M.A. degree programs in Philosophy. This is not intended as a substitute for the Graduate School Bulletin, which students should consult for a complete statement of Graduate School rules and regulations. Each student is responsible for knowing and meeting all requirements.

## Section I: General Procedures

### I.A. Admission

1. **Application Materials:** Admission to the program is based upon a combination of undergraduate and, if appropriate, graduate grade point averages; GRE scores; a writing sample; a written statement of professional goals and objectives; and three letters of evaluation. For application instructions see the department website.
2. **Admission Requirements:** The minimum requirements for admission to either the Ph.D. or the M.A. program are:
  - 2.1. proof of completion of a B.A., B.S., or M.A.;
  - 2.2. evidence of superior skills on the GRE; and
  - 2.3. an overall grade point average of 3.2 or better on a 4.0 scale in undergraduate work and an overall grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in all graduate work.

On approval of the Graduate Faculty, the Director of Graduate Studies may recommend admission of an applicant failing to meet any of these requirements if there is other evidence of the student's capacity for advanced graduate work in philosophy.

Neither an undergraduate major in philosophy nor an M.A. in Philosophy is required for admission to either the Ph.D. or M.A. program, but students lacking preparation in the history of philosophy or in logic may be required to remedy deficiencies by doing course work not carrying graduate credit.

**N.B.** Successful completion of the M.A. program in Philosophy at the University of Kentucky is no guarantee of admission to the Ph.D. program.

3. **Provisional Admission:** The Director of Graduate Studies may recommend provisional admission of an applicant because of deficiencies in the student's previous work. Provisional status is allowed for a maximum of one semester or up to 12 hours, after which the student's work will be reviewed and a determination made by the Graduate Faculty regarding whether the student will be allowed to continue in the program.

### I.B. Financial Assistance

Two types of financial assistance are available to graduate students: teaching assistantships and fellowships. Normally, teaching assistantships will be awarded only to students in the Ph.D. program. Contingent on the availability of funds and a student's making satisfactory progress in the program, every effort will be made to ensure that each Ph.D. student is offered aid in the form of a teaching assistantship or fellowship for five years of study. Information on financial assistance is available from the Director of Graduate Studies. There is no separate application form for financial assistance.

To be eligible for financial support, students must enroll in a minimum of six graduate credit-hours per semester. These credit-hours should directly contribute to the student's degree, i.e., should not be courses audited or taken for a grade of 'satisfactory' unless such credits are all that remain to complete the student's degree requirements.

### **I.C. Satisfactory Progress**

All students are expected to make satisfactory progress toward the completion of the degree program in which they are enrolled. As required by the Graduate School, the department will provide a written assessment of progress to each student annually, normally around February/March. For all students, satisfactory progress includes observance of the standards of professional behavior (I.K below) as well as maintenance of a 3.0 or higher grade point average in all course work. Beginning in their third semester, students are also expected to maintain a 3.4 or higher cumulative GPA in graduate-level Philosophy courses. In addition:

1. **For full-time Ph.D. students entering without an M.A. in Philosophy from the University of Kentucky**, satisfactory progress is defined as fulfilling the following requirements:
  - a. Students are required to take a first comprehensive exam no later than the August exam sitting prior to the beginning of their third semester.
  - b. Students are required to pass one comprehensive exam by no later than the January sitting prior to their fourth semester. Failure to satisfy this requirement may affect the student's eligibility for a TAship in the following academic year. A decision whether to renew the student's TAship is normally made at the annual meeting in that fourth semester when faculty evaluate students in the program.
  - c. Students are required to pass both comprehensive exams and all other M.A. requirements no later than the January sitting prior to the beginning of their sixth semester. Failure to satisfy this requirement renders a student ineligible for a TAship in the following academic year. This status can be appealed by

written petition. In order for a student who has become ineligible for a TAsip to be renewed as a TA, the graduate faculty must accept the petition by no later than the annual meeting in that sixth semester when faculty evaluate students in the program. Such petitions are accepted only under compelling circumstances.

- d. Students are required to complete in a timely fashion the Qualifying Exam and any special requirements set by a student's Advisory Committee.

Students may not take the Qualifying Examination until they have passed the Comprehensive Examinations and completed all other requirements for the M.A. (see Section III below).

2. **For full-time Ph.D. students entering with an M.A. in Philosophy from the University of Kentucky**, satisfactory progress will be determined by the timely completion of required coursework, and the timely meeting of any special requirements set by a student's Advisory Committee. Students may not take the Qualifying Examination until they have passed both Comprehensive Examinations.
3. **For full-time M.A. students**, satisfactory progress will be determined by the timely completion of required coursework, the Logic and Language requirements, the 20th-century course requirement, a Comprehensive Examination, and any special requirements set by the Director of Graduate Studies. A full-time M.A. student planning to continue in the Ph.D. program will normally sit at least one Examination no later than the first examination sitting following the second semester of programmatic work and will have passed the two Comprehensive Examinations by the first examination sitting following the third semester of programmatic work.

Students may take the Comprehensive Examinations on any of the scheduled occasions (beginning of fall term, beginning of spring term), provided that they so inform the Director of Graduate Studies in writing by the date designated by the Director of Graduate Studies.

4. **For Ph.D. candidates** who have completed their course work and passed the Qualifying Examination, the determination of satisfactory progress will be the responsibility of the candidate's Advisory Committee (see II.B.).

## 5. Annual Reviews

- 5.1. Each January/February and October the Graduate Faculty of the Department will evaluate all graduate students who have been in the program for one or more semesters who are not making satisfactory

progress due to grades or Incompletes.

- 5.2. In late January or early February of every year, the Graduate Faculty will meet to review the progress of all graduate students. Students whom the Graduate Faculty determines are not making satisfactory progress will be so notified in writing by the Director of Graduate Studies.

#### **I.D. Incompletes ("I" grades)**

1. The Graduate School requires that Incompletes be cleared before a student schedules a Qualifying or Final M.A. or Ph.D. examination. In addition, the department has the following rules governing the grade of Incomplete.

- 2.1. Incompletes will not be granted in independent studies. Exceptional cases may be appealed to the Graduate Faculty of the department.

- 2.2. Students with grades of Incomplete will not be permitted to take a full load of courses.

- 2.2.a. Students who are not teaching assistants may register only for a maximum number of credit hours equal to 12 less the number of hours of Incomplete. For example, a student with 6 hours of Incomplete may register for only 6 hours of work.

- 2.2.b. Students who are teaching assistants may register only for the following number of credit hours:

- 2.2.b.i. during semesters they are teaching one section, the maximum number of hours is 12 minus the number of hours of Incomplete;

- 2.2.b.ii. during semesters they are teaching two sections, the maximum number of hours is 9 minus the number of hours of Incomplete. For example, a student teaching two sections and having 3 hours of Incomplete may not register for more than 6 hours.

**N.B.** As stated above, Teaching Assistants are required to be enrolled for at least 6 hours of credit. Thus, a student who has six or more hours of Incomplete will be ineligible for an assistantship requiring the teaching of two sections.

#### **I.E. Warnings and Termination**

1. **Warnings:** The Graduate Faculty, by majority vote, may instruct the Director of Graduate Studies to send a student a warning of unsatisfactory progress if the student is failing to make satisfactory progress, as defined above, or the student has 6 or more hours of Incompletes.
2. **Termination by the Philosophy Graduate Faculty:** The Graduate Faculty, by majority vote, may terminate a student for failure to maintain satisfactory progress as defined above, or for:
  - 2.1. a grade point average below 3.0 in any two consecutive semesters each of 6 hours or more; or
  - 2.2. 6 or more credit hours of Incomplete which are a year or more old; or
  - 2.3. 9 hours of Incomplete of any duration.
3. **Notice of Termination by the Graduate Faculty:** A student who is terminated by the Graduate Faculty will receive from the Director of Graduate Studies a written notice of the decision stating the grounds for the decision. The student will be afforded an opportunity to meet with the Graduate Faculty. After such a meeting with the student, the Graduate Faculty will review the termination. The decision of the Graduate Faculty is final.
4. **Termination by the Graduate School:** The Graduate School automatically terminates any student who twice fails either the Final Examination for the M.A., the Qualifying Examination for the Ph.D., or the Final Examination for the Ph.D.

#### **I.F. Course and Seminar Offerings**

The department attempts to offer all regular graduate seminars and 500-level courses on a recurring, rotating basis, so as to facilitate students' planning of orderly programs of study. A copy of the course and seminar rotation schedule is available on the department website and from the Director of Graduate Studies.

#### **I.G. Comprehensive Examinations; Ph.D. Qualifying and Final Examinations; M.A. Final Examination**

##### **1. Comprehensive Examinations**

1.1. The department has two Comprehensive Examinations:

- 1.1.a. **Value Theory:** This examination is divided into three historical periods: ancient-medieval; 17th-19th centuries; the

entire period from Plato-Nietzsche.

1.1.b. **Metaphysics and Epistemology:** This examination is divided into three historical periods: ancient-medieval; 17th-19th centuries; the entire period from Plato-Nietzsche.

- 1.2. Each examination will consist of nine questions, three on the ancient-medieval period, three on the period from the 17-19th centuries, and three on the entire period from Plato-Nietzsche. Students must answer at least one question from each of the three periods.
- 1.3. Normally, students will be allowed six hours to complete each of the written exams. Students in special circumstances may, at the time that they notify the Director of Graduate Studies in writing of their intention to sit for an exam, also petition the Graduate Faculty for permission to be granted a longer period of time in which to complete a written exam.
- 1.4. In writing the examinations, students may not consult books, articles, or notes, either in material or in electronically stored or transmitted form.
- 1.5. Each of the examinations is scheduled twice a year: (a) in the week immediately preceding or the week beginning Fall semester; (b) in the week immediately preceding or the week beginning Spring semester.
- 1.6. A student may take both of the examinations on any of the scheduled occasions, provided that he or she informs the Director of Graduate Studies in writing on or before the date specified by the Director of Graduate Studies.
- 1.7. These examinations are prepared and administered by special committees consisting of at least four members of the Graduate Faculty of the department, appointed to one-year terms by the Director of Graduate Studies in consultation with the department chair. The chair of each committee will be a full (i.e., Associate or full Professor) member of the Graduate Faculty. The names of all members are available to students.
- 1.8. Reading lists of major works to be used by the special committees in constructing the examinations and by the students in preparing for the examinations are available. Furthermore, files containing lists of questions from which exams are to be drawn will be available.
- 1.9. Examinations will be graded blindly and awarded a grade of "pass"

or "fail". Evaluation of an examination will ordinarily be completed and the results reported to the student no later than three weeks from the date the examination took place.

- 1.10. In all decisions the majority opinion of the committee prevails. If a committee is evenly divided, the examination is a "fail".
2. Each student pursuing a course of study leading to the Ph.D. degree must pass
  - 2.1. the two Comprehensive Examinations in Philosophy (see I.G.1);
  - 2.2. a Qualifying Examination (see II.C. and II.H.); and
  - 2.3. a Final Oral Examination on the dissertation (see II.K.).

#### **I.H. The M.A. Degree *en passant***

Students entering the Ph.D. program without an M.A. degree in Philosophy from the University of Kentucky will be eligible to receive an M.A. once they have (a) passed one Comprehensive Examination and (b) completed all other requirements for the M.A. degree in Philosophy (see Section III below).

#### **I.J. Academic Leave**

1. In order to go on temporary leave, students must submit a request to the Director of Graduate Studies. The request must specify the number of academic semesters the student wishes to be on leave and the reasons for doing so. Students have the right to appeal decisions of the DGS on this matter to the Graduate Faculty. Note that the Graduate School allows a maximum of two semesters of consecutive leave and four semesters total, and does not permit leave to be taken after the Qualifying Exam.
2. In order to be considered to be making satisfactory progress with respect to the department's policy of attempting, under normal circumstances, to extend five years of financial support to students in good standing (see I.B.), students on leave must (a) resume their studies at or before the time agreed to by the DGS and (b) notify the DGS of their intent to return by no later than that general review of the graduate students that occurs in the spring semester (late January or early February) prior to the academic year the student plans to return (whether the student intends to return in the fall or spring semester of that year).
3. Students who have been granted leave but who either (a) fail to notify the DGS of their intent to return by the time indicated in I.J.2, or (b) return



later than the period originally agreed to by the DGS, will not be considered to be making satisfactory progress for purposes of awarding financial aid. They will receive support on an ad hoc basis dependent upon the judgment of the Graduate Faculty and the availability of funds.

### **I.K. Standards of Professional Behavior**

All students should become familiar with the university “Policy on Discrimination and Harassment” (<http://www.uky.edu/regis/files/ar/ar6-1.pdf>). Failure to conform to this policy may result in dismissal from the program.

The department also expects all students to maintain normal professional standards of honesty, decency, and mutual respect. Examples of behavior that this precludes include (but are not limited to): cheating; plagiarism; intimidating, threatening, or disruptive behavior; failure to perform assigned teaching duties; and dishonesty in representations made to the department, for example, in the Graduate Application or with regard to the moonlighting policy. Reusing papers written for a previous course, without express permission from the professor to whom the work is being submitted, is also prohibited. Failure to observe these standards may result in dismissal from the program.

### **I.L. Moonlighting Policy**

Any teaching assistant who wishes to hold employment, during the fall or spring semester, in addition to his or her TAship must first clear this with the Director of Graduate Studies. The Director of Graduate Studies will grant permission for additional employment only after (1) consulting with either the chair of the student’s dissertation committee or, in case the student has not yet formed a committee, the chair of the department, and (2) securing agreement from the Graduate School. Any teaching assistant who fails to clear additional employment with the Director of Graduate Studies could forfeit further financial support—TAships and PTIs— from the department.

## **Section II: Doctor of Philosophy Program Requirements**

### **II.A. Area of Specialization; Completion of Degree Program**

1. The Philosophy Department requires every student to declare an area of specialization. This is the area which will be covered by the student's Qualifying Examination; typically, it will be the area in which the student intends to write the dissertation.
2. As indicated above (I.H), students entering the Ph.D. program without an M.A. degree in Philosophy from the University of Kentucky will become eligible to receive an M.A. degree in Philosophy *en passant* once they have successfully completed one Comprehensive Examination and all other requirements for the M.A. degree, as specified in Section III.

### **II.B. Advisory Committee**

1. **Time of Constitution:** Upon completion of the Comprehensive Examination requirement (see II.C.3.), each student should concentrate on composing an Advisory Committee. Normally, the Advisory Committee will be appointed for the student by the Director of Graduate Studies by the end of the semester in which the student completes the Comprehensive Examination requirement.
2. **Membership of the Committee:** The Advisory Committee will have a core of four members, consisting of the Major Professor as Chair, two other members from the student's major area—Philosophy—and at least one representative from outside of the Department. All members of the core must be members of the Graduate Faculty of the University of Kentucky, and three (including the Major Professor) must possess full Graduate Faculty status. The core of the Advisory Committee must be kept at its full complement throughout the student's graduate career; thus, vacancies must be filled before any vote can be taken. Changes in the composition of the Committee must be approved by the Graduate School on the basis of the reason(s) explained in a written petition from the student.
3. **Procedures; Responsibilities of the Advisory Committee:** All decisions of the Advisory Committee are by majority vote and must be reported promptly to the Director of Graduate Studies, who is responsible for transmitting these decisions to the Dean of the Graduate School.
  - 3.1. The responsibilities of the Advisory Committee include the planning of the student's program of study, the administration

of the Qualifying Examination, the approval of the student's dissertation proposal, supervision of the preparation of the dissertation, and the administration of the final oral examination on the dissertation.

- 3.2. In planning a student's program of study, the Advisory Committee, in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies, will have the authority to set special requirements for the student as regards courses to be taken and the number of hours above the minimum to be completed.

### **II.C. Advancement to the Qualifying Examination and Admission to Candidacy**

Students will be admitted to candidacy only upon completion of the Qualifying Examination, as described in II H. The Graduate School requires that the Exam be completed within five years of admission to the program, although extensions can be granted in extenuating circumstances. Before a student can take the Qualifying Examination, several prerequisites must be satisfied.

1. **Teaching Methods Requirement:** The student must complete with a grade of pass PHI 740: Proseminar on Teaching Methods.
2. **Language and Logic Requirements:** The student must have satisfied the language and logic requirements (see II.D. and II.E.).
3. **Comprehensive Examination Requirement:** Before the Qualifying Examination may be taken, all Ph.D. students must pass both of the Comprehensive Examinations. See I.C and I.G.
4. **Completion of 36 Hours of Course Work:** Before the Qualifying Examination may be taken, all Ph.D. students must have completed, with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, 36 hours of graduate-level course work, distributed as required for the Master of Arts part of the program (see III.B). These hours constitute the M.A. or M.A.-equivalency course requirement and are distinct from the 12 hours specified in II.G below. The requirement for students who enter the program with a two-year M.A. in Philosophy is at least 18 hours, of which at least 12 must be in Department of Philosophy graduate courses and at least 9 must be in regularly scheduled Department of Philosophy graduate seminars. That for students who enter with a one-year M.A. in Philosophy is at least 27 hours, of which at least 15 must be in Department of Philosophy graduate courses and at least 12 must be in regularly scheduled Department of Philosophy graduate seminars.

5. **Contemporary Course Distribution Requirement:** To ensure competence in contemporary developments in philosophy, all Ph.D. students are required, prior to taking the Qualifying Examination, to satisfy the contemporary course requirement (see II.F)

#### **II.D. Language Requirement**

1. Students must demonstrate reading competence in one foreign language. Normally, French, German, classical Greek, or Latin is required, but the Director of Graduate Studies, in consultation with the Graduate Faculty, may approve another language if warranted by a student's program of study.
2. The language requirement may be satisfied in any of five ways:
  - 2.1. completing one of the accelerated graduate level language courses with a grade of "B" or better;
  - 2.2. completing the Educational Testing Service examination with a minimum score of 450;
  - 2.3. completing four semesters (or equivalent) of the language with a grade point average of 3.0 or better at the University of Kentucky or some comparable institution;
  - 2.4. completing, with a grade of "B" or better, Special Examinations given for the graduate reading courses (forms may be obtained from the Registrar's Office; other types of special examinations are scheduled in the Graduate School Records Office); or
  - 2.5. transferring a language taken to satisfy the requirements for a Master's degree at another university.

#### **II.E. Logic Requirement**

All graduate students must demonstrate their competence in logic in one of three ways:

1. completion of PHI 520 with a grade of "C" or better;
2. passing, with a grade of "C" or better, the departmental examination in logic, which, if requested of the Director of Graduate Studies at least seven days in advance, will be offered the first full week of the Fall and Spring terms; or

3. providing evidence of completion of a course in logic comparable to PHI 520 at another institution, with a grade of "C" or better. Determination of the satisfaction of the logic requirement in this way is to be made by the DGS in consultation with the Department's logic faculty.

## **II.F. Contemporary Course Distribution Requirement**

To ensure competence in contemporary developments in philosophy, all Ph.D. students are required, prior to taking the Qualifying Examination, to complete at least nine credit hours in contemporary philosophy, of which at least three are in value theory and at least three in metaphysics and epistemology. Courses that count toward this requirement are so marked in the course description booklet that is produced prior to registration each semester. Normally, in order to qualify at least half or more of the course readings will be drawn from works written circa 1975 to the present. Determination that a course qualifies is made by the faculty member teaching the course in consultation with the department chair. PHI 520 does not count towards fulfilling this requirement.

At the prerogative of the Director of Graduate Studies, and after consultation with the instructor of the relevant UK course, one course (or up to two courses for students who enter with an M.A. in Philosophy) of approximately the same length and content taken elsewhere for graduate credit can be substituted for a corresponding contemporary philosophy course.

## **II.G. Course Work; Post-Qualifying Examination Residency Requirement; Grade Point Average**

The Graduate School requires that students complete the two-credit dissertation residency course, PHI 767, in at least two semesters (including at least once in the Fall or Spring) prior to graduating with the Ph.D. Note that a student need not be physically present on campus while enrolled in this course.

In addition to the dissertation residency course, the department requires at least 12 hours of additional graduate credit (following those stated in II.C above) in regularly-scheduled graduate courses and seminars, excluding independent studies. At least 9 of these hours must be in regularly scheduled Department of Philosophy graduate seminars. Note that these are minimum requirements and that students may take more hours at their discretion.

A grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale in all graduate course work is required for graduation.

## **II.H. Qualifying Examination**

1. A student will be admitted to candidacy only after passing the Qualifying

- Examination. The examination will be prepared, administered, and its results evaluated by the student's Advisory Committee, a majority vote of the committee being required for successful completion.
2. The examination will consist of both a written and an oral component, and will cover the student's declared area of specialization.
  3. The Qualifying Examination must be scheduled through the Director of Graduate Studies and its administration approved by the Graduate School at least two weeks in advance of the proposed administration. The results of the examination must be reported to the Director of Graduate Studies, who in turn must report them to the Graduate School within 10 days of the conclusion of the examination.
  4. If the result of the examination is "fail," the Advisory Committee determines the conditions to be met before another examination may be given. The minimum time between examinations is four months. If a second examination is given, it must be taken within one year after taking the first examination. A third examination is not permitted.

## **II.I. Dissertation Proposal**

Each candidate must present a dissertation which is the result of original research. Before the candidate may begin writing the dissertation, a dissertation proposal must be approved by the candidate's Advisory Committee.

1. After a dissertation topic has been chosen by the candidate in consultation with her or his Dissertation Director and the other members of the Advisory Committee, the candidate will prepare a proposal outlining the general nature of the dissertation topic. It should be detailed enough so as to leave no doubt about the candidate's basic understanding of the nature and dimensions of the topic. It should include a statement of the overall aim of the project, a defense of the topic's importance, and an account of the methods of investigation to be pursued. The proposal should also include a tentative bibliography sufficient to demonstrate the candidate's familiarity with the relevant sources.
2. Once the proposal is prepared, a meeting of the candidate's Advisory Committee will be scheduled by the Director of Graduate Studies for discussion and approval of the topic. The time and place of the meeting will be announced to the Philosophy Graduate Faculty at least two weeks in advance. The meeting will be open to all members of the Graduate Faculty of the Department of Philosophy, though only the members of the candidate's Advisory Committee may participate in voting on the dissertation proposal.

3. All decisions of the Advisory Committee must be by majority vote. The Committee has three options: approval; approval, conditional on minor changes; or rejection.
4. The Advisory Committee's decision will be reported to the Director of Graduate Studies.
5. If the proposal is rejected, the candidate may submit a second proposal after an interval of at least two months. A third attempt is not permitted.

## **II.J. Dissertation Writing**

It will be responsibility of the Advisory Committee to supervise the writing of the dissertation. Day to day responsibility will be in the hands of the Dissertation Director, but all members of the Committee will be available at all times for consultation with the candidate. The Director of Graduate Studies should also be kept informed regularly of the candidate's progress.

## **II.K. Final Oral Defense and Approval of the Dissertation**

1. Prior to scheduling the dissertation defense, the candidate should circulate a copy of the dissertation to all members of the Advisory Committee and obtain the agreement of the majority that the dissertation is ready to be defended. It is the responsibility of the candidate to notify the Dissertation Director when this consent has been obtained.
2. The style and form of the dissertation must be in conformity with the instructions prepared by the Graduate School and any additional requirements set by the Advisory Committee. For specific instructions, the candidate should consult *Instructions for the Preparation of Theses and Dissertations* on the Graduate School website.
3. The Final Examination
  - 3.1. The Final Examination is a defense of the dissertation; it is not a Comprehensive Examination. The Graduate Dean and President of the University are ex officio members of all final examination committees.
  - 3.2. The Final Examination is a public event and its scheduling is published and announced beforehand. Any member of the University community may attend.
  - 3.3. At least eight weeks prior to the Final Examination, following

notification by the Dissertation Director that the dissertation has been approved for defense by a majority of the Advisory Committee, the Director of Graduate Studies will advise the Graduate School of the intent to examine. At this time the Graduate Dean appoints an Outside Examiner as a core member of the Advisory Committee.

- 3.4. The Final Examination must take place no later than eight days prior to the last day of classes of the semester in which the student expects to graduate.
4. In all decisions, the majority opinion of the Graduate Faculty members on the Advisory Committee prevails. If the Advisory Committee is evenly divided, the examination receives a "fail."
5. In the event of failure, the Advisory Committee recommends to the Dean of the Graduate School the conditions under which the candidate may be re-examined, if re-examination is deemed appropriate. When the conditions set by the Dean of the Graduate School have been met, the candidate may be re-examined. A third examination is not permitted.
6. After the Final Examination is passed, the final copy of the dissertation is prepared. Final copies are then submitted to the Graduate School along with the signatures of the Dissertation Director and the Director of Graduate Studies. The dissertation in its final form must be received in the Graduate School office within 60 days of the Final Examination. If this deadline is not met, the candidate must undergo a second examination.

## **II.L. Time Limits**

For the doctorate, all degree requirements must be completed within five years following the semester or summer session in which the candidate successfully completes the Qualifying Examination. In extraordinary circumstances, the Director of Graduate Studies may petition the Graduate School in writing for an extension Note that extensions beyond one year require approval by the Graduate Council.



### **SECTION III: Master of Arts Program Requirements**

This section describes the requirements for an M.A. in Philosophy, both taken *en passant* (see I.H) and as a separate degree program.

#### **III.A. Advising**

The Director of Graduate Studies serves as advisor to all students prior to formation of their Advisory Committee. While the Director of Graduate Studies assists students in developing a course of study and ensuring that all requirements for the Master's degree are fulfilled, the student is responsible for knowing and meeting all requirements.

#### **III.B. Course Work Requirements; Grade Point Average; Transfer of Credit**

1. Students must complete a minimum of 36 semester credit hours of graduate courses, distributed in the following manner:
  - 1.1. At least 24 must be in regular, scheduled graduate courses, excluding independent studies;
  - 1.2. At least 24 must be in Department of Philosophy graduate courses;
  - 1.4. At least 18 hours must be in regularly scheduled Department of Philosophy graduate seminars at or above the 600 level.
2. A student must have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale for all graduate coursework.
3. **Transfer of Credit.** For the purposes of earning a philosophy M.A. from the University of Kentucky, a student—in either the M.A. or Ph.D. program—may transfer up to 9 semester credit hours from another graduate program at this or another university. Such credits must not have been used for a degree received. Such transfer requires the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the Dean of the Graduate School.

#### **III.C. Language Requirement**

The student must complete the Language Requirement as specified in II.D above.

#### **III.D. Logic Requirement**

The student must complete the Logic Requirement as specified in II.E above.

### **III.E. Contemporary Course Distribution Requirement**

The student must complete the Contemporary Course Distribution Requirement as specified in II.F above.

### **III.F. Comprehensive and Final Examinations** (See also I.G.)

Students pursuing a course of study leading to the M.A. degree are normally expected to pass at least one of the Comprehensive Examinations. In such a case the passed Examination constitutes the M.A. Final Examination for Graduate School purposes. A passed Examination is counted as such, however, only once the student has completed all other requirements for the M.A. degree in Philosophy and the Director of Graduate Studies reports this fact to the Graduate School.

In exceptional cases a student may petition to substitute a Master's Thesis for a Comprehensive Exam. Such a petition will be entertained only when (a) the student is in the terminal M.A. program, or (b) the student is enrolled in the Ph.D. program but plans to withdraw upon completion of the M.A. To receive the M.A. *en passant* toward the Ph.D. requires passing a Comprehensive Exam, as stated above (I.H). Petition for this purpose should be made to the Director of Graduate Studies and requires approval by a majority of the Graduate Faculty. The thesis should be at least 50 pages long (typed and double-spaced) and may incorporate work previously written for courses. Upon approval by the Graduate Faculty, the Director of Graduate Studies will appoint a committee consisting of a chair and two other members of the Graduate Faculty who will read and assess the thesis. The student should coordinate with the chair to schedule a Thesis Defense, which will serve as the M.A. Final Examination. In the event of a failure, the committee may by majority vote allow a further defense; however, only one such further examination is permitted.

### **III.G. Time Limits**

Activities which are used to satisfy degree requirements must be completed within six years preceding the proposed date of graduation. Extensions of time up to eight years will be considered by the Graduate Dean upon the written request of the Director of Graduate Studies. Any further request for extension of time will be considered by the Graduate Council. Under no circumstances will work completed more than ten calendar years preceding the proposed graduation date be accepted.