

# Philosophy

HARTWICK COLLEGE  
Know the Facts.



## The Hartwick Difference

Hartwick's philosophy faculty strive to bring philosophical ideas to life. In addition to practicing the skills of rigorous reflection, we sample the world views of diverse philosophers, questioning how their insights apply to our lives. Hartwick professors recognize the importance of genuine dialogue and foster discussion not only in classrooms but also in extensive drop-in office hours. Philosophy majors at Hartwick find themselves on an intellectual adventure, culminating in an individual senior project. Graduating majors and minors are prepared to approach future learning of all kinds with competence, confidence, and original perspective.

Philosophy offerings include courses in the history of philosophy, as well as systematic courses, which introduce students to the chief areas and topics of philosophical investigation. These courses, together with opportunities for directed individual study, permit students to do advanced and specialized work in philosophy and to develop competence in handling philosophical problems.

## Three-Year Program

Ready to move faster? Get the full Hartwick philosophy experience in three-quarters the time at three-quarters the cost. Learn more at [www.hartwick.edu/threeyeardegree](http://www.hartwick.edu/threeyeardegree).

[www.hartwick.edu/catalog](http://www.hartwick.edu/catalog)

## Major Components

Hartwick's philosophy major acquaints students with issues of contemporary philosophical inquiry, as well as the thinking of the great philosophers of the past. Major areas of study include epistemology, or how we come to know; metaphysics, the study of reality and ultimate origins; and ethics, the study of moral ideals and moral practice.

The philosophy curriculum at Hartwick aims to familiarize students with major philosophical systems alongside the skills of philosophical analysis and imagination. Majors become conversant with key issues in metaphysics, epistemology, value theory, and logic; tour significant portions of the history of philosophy; and explore at least one major thinker in depth for a semester. With student input, the department offers at least one Major Philosopher course each year. The Major Philosopher Series has recently covered Kant, Sartre, Nietzsche, Husserl, and Wittgenstein.

The major program culminates in a semester-long capstone project. We encourage students to take their skills of interpretation and analysis to greater depths, and to explore themes that are of particular individual interest.



SMALL CLASSES



PERSONAL ATTENTION



STUDY ABROAD



NETWORK THROUGH INTERNSHIPS

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# Find your place.

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HARTWICK  
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[www.hartwick.edu/philosophy](http://www.hartwick.edu/philosophy)

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For more information, contact  
the Office of Admissions  
at 607-431-4150 or  
888-HARTWICK (888-427-8942).

For specific inquiries, contact  
L. Gerald Hunsberger, Interim Department  
Chair, at 607-431-4738 or  
[hunsberg@hartwick.edu](mailto:hunsberg@hartwick.edu).

## Course Highlights

For the full online course catalog and requirements, visit [www.hartwick.edu/catalog](http://www.hartwick.edu/catalog).

Philosophy offerings at Hartwick include a popular introductory tour, Classics of Philosophy, a historical sequence with in-depth explorations of ancient and modern thinkers, and a variety of introductory courses with special themes such as Freedom and Determinism, Personal Identity, Mind and Body, and Skepticism. Many philosophy courses reach to make connections with other fields to help integrate the liberal education of majors and non-majors alike. Students with diverse majors come to the philosophy department to explore themes such as Philosophy of Mind, Values and Society, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy in Literature, Philosophy of Religion, Evolution and Ethics, Body and Gender, and Existentialism.

**Senior projects:** The major program culminates in a senior capstone seminar. In this course, we encourage students to take their skills of interpretation and analysis to greater depths and to explore themes that are of particular individual interest. Qualified students also are encouraged to write an honors thesis.

Recent thesis projects have explored Sartre on self and other; Nietzsche's *Birth of Tragedy*; Dewey's theory of education; Chomsky and Kripke on natural languages; Kierkegaard on faith, feminism, and philosophy; animal consciousness; the phenomenology of mathematics; Aristotle on friendship; and Merleau-Ponty and environmental ethics.

## Beyond the Classroom

**Honor society:** Hartwick is a member of Phi Sigma Tau, the international honor society in philosophy. Qualified students are inducted every spring, based on scholarly merit. Each year, Phi Sigma Tau organizes and sponsors philosophically related events, such as a speaker series or student conferences. The student philosophy club meets regularly and chooses discussion topics, events, and films according to student interest. Faculty members from Hartwick and from elsewhere often are invited to join in the dialogue.

**The Roundtable:** The Philosophy Department sponsors a weekly interdisciplinary discussion series. This open and informal group is hosted by students and faculty from a variety of disciplines and considers a wide variety of topics. Questions considered have included: Is it possible to face death honestly? Is torture ever permissible? Why do good people do bad things? What is the "self"? How is ethical solidarity possible? What is the relation of the body to the mind? and How do we respond to tragedy? The group prides itself on being open to everyone, aiming to promote dialogue across the disciplines.

## Putting Philosophy to Work

Philosophy is never studied just for the sake of acquiring credentials. But along the way, philosophy students become qualified for both career opportunities and postgraduate study in fields such as law, computer science, the social sciences, public service, literature, education, and publishing.

## Faculty

**Stanley J. Konecky**, Professor; M.A., New York University; Ph.D., University of Rochester. Areas of focus: existentialism, values, history of philosophy, consciousness

**Stefanie Rocknak**, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Boston University. Areas of focus: philosophy of mind, epistemology, history of philosophy, body and gender, philosophy of art

**Jeremy Wisniewski**, Associate Professor; M.Sc., London School of Economics and Political Science; M.A., Ph.D., University of California, Riverside. Areas of focus: moral and political philosophy, 19th and 20th century French and German philosophy