

Fall 2005



Dear Interested Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our Graduate Program in Philosophy. Please apply online at <http://www.grad.uconn.edu/applications.html>.

Merit-based financial aid is available from the philosophy department in the form of Graduate Assistantships and fellowships. Teaching assistantships will range from \$17,220 to \$20,145 in salary for the academic year 2004-2005. Tuition is waived for graduate assistantships who are awarded half or full teaching assistantships and with full time registration (6 credits or more & maintaining a 3.0 or better). Both half and full teaching assistants may purchase excellent health-care coverage, heavily subsidized by UConn. There are also fellowships of up to \$10,000 as well as work-study and other forms of support. Graduate students accepted into the Ph.D. program are guaranteed three additional years of support at the full teaching assistant level.

Our deadline for fellowship applications is January 15, otherwise the deadline for fall applications is February 1. Applications for admission without aid are accepted until June 1, and there is always a chance that some money might be available. Need-based aid is available through the Financial Aid Office. To get their form, please visit their website at <http://vm.uconn.edu/~wwwfaid> or phone (860) 486-2819. While we accept new students for both the Spring and Fall semesters, we typically have no financial aid available for those who begin in the Spring, since we generally award aid packages for the entire academic year in the preceding Spring.

An application must include:

- 1) three letters of recommendation, preferably from your Philosophy professors (forms not required)
- 2) transcripts (Applicants must have a minimum 3.00 grade point average)
- 3) GRE scores
- 4) a statement of your academic goals and interests
- 5) a 10-15 page sample of your philosophical writing

PLEASE NOTE: ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL. See the Graduate School website at <http://www.grad.uconn.edu/applications.html> for more information.

Potential applicants should be aware that typical aid recipients have very good letters, respectable transcripts, GRE verbal scores in the 90's, and a writing sample that shows philosophical promise. We generally accept students with good letters and transcripts whose GRE verbal scores are in the high 70's to low 80's, but such acceptances usually include no offer of aid.

We are often asked about M.A. degrees earned from other institutions. We count M.A. degrees in philosophy towards our Ph.D., but we do not count M.A. degrees earned in other fields. Students who enter the Ph.D. program with an M.A. from another institution are reviewed after one year before they are allowed to continue towards the Ph.D. The criterion for being continued in the program is, "We can get this person a tenure-track job." If you seek a program that is willing to have you spend years earning a Ph.D. even though you have little prospect of employment as a professional philosopher, then some other program than ours would be more appropriate. Our placement record over the past decade is extremely good.

Our faculty is first-rate both in teaching and research (see the CV's on our web-page). Since our program is small (about 6-10 new graduate students per year), the faculty members are able to devote quite a bit of attention to each student. The interests and expertise of the faculty are wide-ranging and our students are exposed to a variety of areas in philosophy.

The environment here is friendly and intellectually stimulating. We have weekly, informal brown bag discussions, in which graduate students and faculty can try out papers and ideas. We also have a regular colloquium series, with distinguished outside speakers. Philosophy graduate students often take courses in UConn's world-renowned departments of Psychology and Linguistics. The motivated student can also attend colloquia at Yale, Harvard, and other area universities.

If you have questions about our program or your prospects, please contact me by phone, letter or e-mail.

Sincerely,

Samuel C. Wheeler III
Professor of Philosophy and Director of
Graduate Studies
Phone: office: (860) 486 3592
e-mail: samuel.c.wheeler@uconn.edu