

Philosophy

► The University of Rochester's Department of Philosophy offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs that investigate foundational questions spanning epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of language, history of philosophy, logic, ethics, social and political philosophy, philosophy of science, and philosophy of religion.

Faculty members are engaged with the issues and challenges of many fields across the University and around the world. These include global justice, sustainability, philosophical issues in science, legal and medical ethics, and educational reform. The undergraduate program stresses Western, ancient, and modern philosophy and gives particular emphasis to recent and contemporary Anglo-American philosophy. Students graduate with honed skills in critical reasoning, analytical writing, and problem solving.

The department's coursework provides an excellent foundation for graduate work in law, cognitive science, and medicine, as well as in

The department's faculty philosophers have a variety of specialties and represent diverse perspectives. They help students at all levels understand, analyze, and answer fundamental questions such as these: What exists? Do we have free will? Why should we be moral? What do we know? Is there a God?

philosophy itself. A major in philosophy is also a valuable asset when combined with a major in political science, economics, psychology, or in a natural science such as biology, chemistry, environmental science, or physics. Nearly two-thirds of philosophy students double major.

Graduate students are attracted to the department's collaborative ethos, access to distinguished faculty, and specialty areas of research. The program leading to the doctorate emphasizes training for scholarly research and teaching.

Points of Pride

Research

Faculty members are recognized nationally and internationally as is evident from their many publications,

lecture invitations, and visiting professorships in the United States and abroad. They are also editors of leading philosophy journals and serve on numerous editorial boards. Many have received grants to support their research and teaching.

Collaboration

The department offers a PhD in cognitive science in collaboration with the Departments of Computer Science, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, and Linguistics. As part of the University's Humanities Project and the Ferrari Humanities Symposia, the department has also collaborated with the Departments of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Psychology, Political Science, Modern Languages and Cultures,

"Throughout our lives, we all come across important questions about morality, reality, knowledge, and consciousness. Being a philosophy major allows me to study these topics in a rigorous manner, surrounded by friendly and accessible professors."

Levan Bokeria '14
philosophy major



and Optics. The department provides a unique bridge between philosophy and the sciences, such as through its well-established partnership with the Departments of Physics and Optics in researching and sponsoring lectures on the foundations of quantum physics.

Resources

The department is home to the Lewis White Beck Memorial Library, a resource for students containing more than 10,000 books and journals. Beck was the Gideon Webster Burbank Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy and founded the University's doctoral program in philosophy.

How You Can Help

Giving to the Department of Philosophy helps it provide an academically rigorous program led by esteemed faculty in a collegial environment—hallmarks of a Rochester education. Consider the following opportunities:

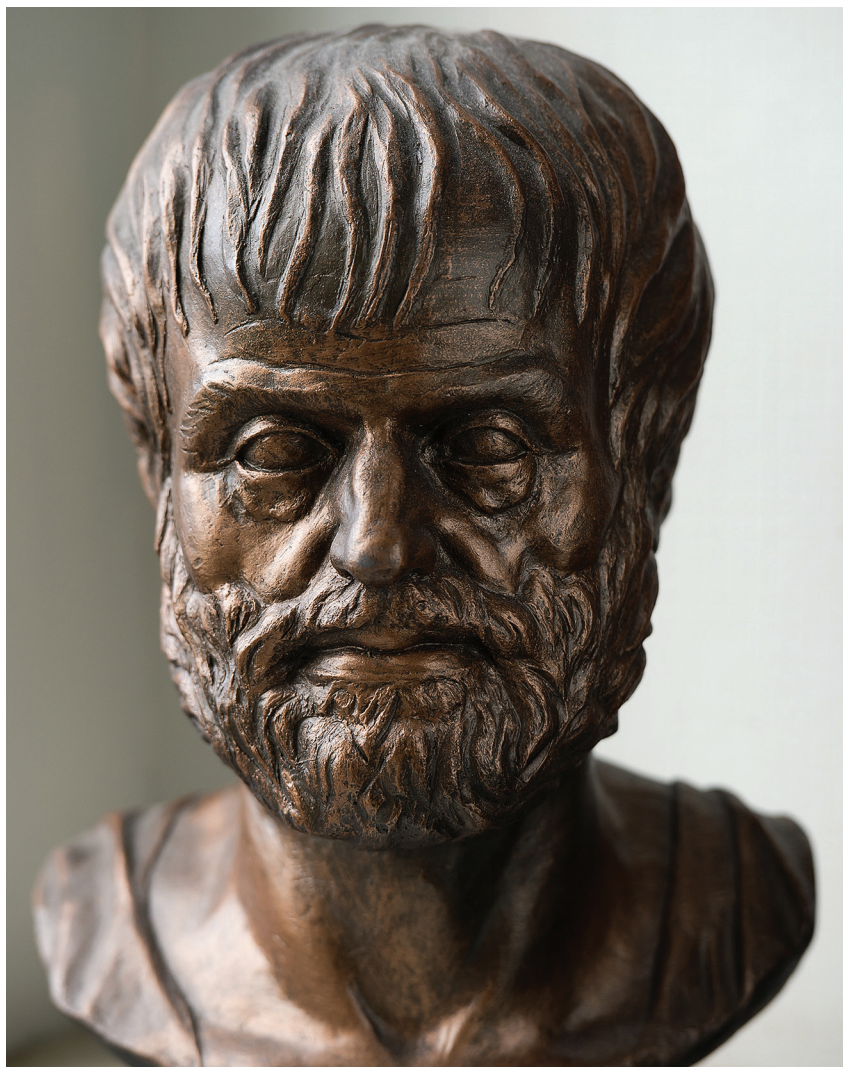
Students

Supporting students is one of the highest ongoing priorities at Rochester. Assist the department in the recruitment of qualified scholars by funding graduate student stipends. Or complement and enhance student coursework by endowing a named lecture series fund.

Faculty

Endowed professorships help to attract and retain faculty of exceptional talent and are visible honors recognized across the University and by other top institutions. You can endow a position in global justice, the philosophy of cognitive science, or the philosophy of sound and music. Other opportunities

include making contributions in support of faculty research, which enriches the learning environment and inspires a new generation of researchers.



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