Philosophy

Degree conferred
Philosophiae Doctor / Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Commencement of studies
An application for admission may be submitted at any time.

Regulation
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/dGGLK (French and German only)

Application procedure
Candidates with Swiss qualifications
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/0bJpN
Candidates with foreign qualifications
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/4a2qV

Fribourg profile

Diversity in method and pluralism in the range of subjects and philosophical currents studied are the distinguishing features of the doctoral programme of the Philosophy Department in the University of Fribourg. The Department regularly obtains research funding to promote doctoral studies as well as to create research groups drawing on the competence of the Department's members as well as that of numerous experienced scholars. Professors in charge of specific domains of research supervise doctoral students who are given the opportunity to discuss their work in weekly colloquia as well as to participate in activities organised at the doctoral level in collaboration with other universities in Switzerland and abroad.

In the field of ancient and medieval philosophy, research is centered on the study of the development of philosophy during the Renaissance. The Department’s research focuses on questions related to the ontological status and search for rational intuition and to phenomenological reflection. Proposals for theses can be submitted at any time.

Research in the domain of modern and contemporary philosophy integrates two currents of thought which have had a major influence on contemporary philosophy, phenomenology and «analytic» philosophy. Doctoral research and training are as much about the historical origins of these two traditions as about the theoretical examination of the questions they raise. Topics addressed in this context include the relationship between the subjectivity of experience and the objectivity of knowledge. These questions are analysed not only from the theoretical perspective, as part of the study of cognitive attitudes, but also from a more practical perspective, through an analysis of the rationality of action.

In the fields of ethics, political philosophy, aesthetics and philosophy of art, doctoral students receive individual support for their research projects, from their supervisor and from faculty more generally. They are offered various opportunities to continue their training and present their thesis projects. Every semester, external speakers are invited to give lectures on chosen topics. The colloquia for advanced students are an opportunity for master’s and doctoral students to exchange ideas and present their respective research. In addition, doctoral students are supported in setting up workshops and symposia. The themes and fields of research are multiple: questions of value, ethics and meta-ethics, practical philosophy, history of political thought, philosophy of social sciences, aesthetics, the relationship between aesthetics and politics, subjectivity and society, philosophy of art, philosophy of perception, theories of media and technology, philosophy of culture.

Professors who are eligible to supervise theses

- Prof. Filip Karfik

Areas of specialisation:
- Plato
- Plotinus
- Metaphysics
- Psychology
- Cosmology

- Prof. Tiziana Suarez-Nani
Areas of specialisation:
– Metaphysics
– Philosophy of nature and epistemology
– Psychology
– Cosmology

• Prof. Gianfranco Soldati

Areas of specialisation:
– Phenomenology
– Theory of knowledge

• Prof. Martine-Nida-Rümelin

Areas of specialisation:
– Phenomenal consciousness
– The identity and individuality of conscious individuals

• Prof. Ralf Bader

Areas of specialisation:
– Ethics
– Meta-ethics
– Political philosophy
– Decision theory
– Axiology

• Prof. Emmanuel Alloa

Areas of specialisation:
– Aesthetics and Philosophy of art
– Phenomenology (German and French)
– Philosophy of culture and of social sciences

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

ECTS credits can be earned.

Doctoral school

https://philosophie.cuso.ch
http://www.mediaevum.unifr.ch

Admission

In order to be admitted to a doctorate the candidate must have been awarded an academic Bachelor's and Master's degree or an equivalent qualification by a university recognised by the University of Fribourg.

Before applying for a doctorate the candidate must contact a professor who would be willing to supervise the thesis work.

There is no general right to be admitted to a doctorate.

The respective conditions of admission for each doctoral study programme are reserved.

Contact

Faculty of Humanities