



# STUDENT HANDBOOK



Department of Philosophy

Arts Undergraduate Student Handbook  
Academic Year 2009-2010

Department of Philosophy  
Room A-3070 (Arts and Administration Building)  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NL A1C 5S7  
Phone: (709) 737-8336  
Fax: (709) 737-2187  
E-mail: [dawe@mun.ca](mailto:dawe@mun.ca)  
Website: [www.mun.ca/phil](http://www.mun.ca/phil)

**Printing Information**

First Edition (Fall 2009)

**Disclaimer**

The information contained in this handbook was current at the time of publication and does not take precedence over the official University Calendar, located here:

[www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar)

All information and contact information are subject to change.



## Table of Contents

Message from the Head of the Department	3-4
What is Philosophy? Why study Philosophy?	5
Department Contact Information	6
Planning Your Degree	7-8
Related Programs/Related Diploma Programs	9
Philosophy Course Offerings	10-13
Study Abroad Opportunities	14-15
Instructors	16-19
Scholarships and Awards	20
What can I do with an Philosophy Degree?	21
ArtsWorks	22
Places on Campus You Should Know About	23-25
MUNSU	26
The Writing Centre	27
Some General Advice for Writing a Good Paper	28
Campus Resource List	29



## Message from the Head of the Department

Welcome to the university! Here, if you take full advantage of all that is offered, you will find your skills and horizons constantly expanding. It is not likely that many of you will have read or studied much philosophy at high school. But now is your chance to learn about a subject which questions the things that everywhere else and in every other discipline are taken for granted.

Our courses are designed to take you through the different answers that great philosophers have given to fundamental questions. These answers are globally influential; they are live options; and they provide the framework in which many other disciplines are pursued. From the first day onwards in our courses, you will learn by constant writing and discussion how critically to explain and to analyze the basic concepts and ideas we employ all the time without usually noticing them. It is because philosophy students know how to explain and analyze that they have such successful careers. Yet make no mistake: philosophy is a challenging and demanding subject, in which there are no short cuts and we all need as much help as we can get. For that reason, from its earliest beginnings in ancient Greece, philosophy has been a social activity and is inseparable from debate and discussion. This is why our department makes every effort to be the kind of place where students have the opportunity for philosophical debate and discussion outside as well as inside the classroom.

So we have The Kieft Room (A3068), which houses our departmental library, and is for everyone's use. This is the study and social centre of the department, where you will meet other philosophy students, in particular the members of our very active Student Philosophy Society. There is also a Graduate Room (A3106), for the use of our graduate students. Throughout the academic year, the department organizes individual lectures by philosophers, local and visiting. These, like all our public events, are open to everyone and are always followed by discussion. In the Winter Term, we have our 'Winter Colloquium', which consists of lectures given each week by a different philosopher on some selected common theme. The Student Philosophy Society also runs its own Student Colloquium in the Winter Term, at which students give lectures on philosophical topics of their choosing. On the last Tuesday of each month in term time, we have the St. John's Public Lectures in Philosophy. Meetings are held downtown at the Ship Pub and cover a very wide range of topics, from God to obesity. And right throughout the whole year, both in and out of term time, we have the completely informal, come-and-go-as-you-like, Jockey Club, which meets to discuss writings on all conceivable philosophical topics every Friday, 4.30-6.30, usually in a pub downtown and sometimes in people's homes.



Department of Philosophy  
Undergraduate Student Handbook 2009-2010

Faculty of Arts

---

So you will find a great deal going on. We not only offer a wide range of courses covering all the key areas of philosophy, but we also welcome and encourage you to join us in our various activities. These, for professors as well as for students, are a key part of the learning and career-enhancing experience that university offers.

Are you ready for the challenge?

Please feel free to contact me, or any member of the department, about what we do, how we do it, and what prospects philosophy offers you.

See you at the Jockey Club!

Yours,

Jim Bradley  
Professor and Head  
Department of Philosophy



### What is Philosophy?

Philosophy is the study of general and fundamental problems concerning matters such as existence, knowledge, truth, beauty, law, justice, validity, mind, and language, using a critical, generally systematic approach relying on reasoned argument.

Philosophy is one of the most influential of all areas of study, providing the frameworks in which we think and act. Allowing us to make sense of ourselves and our surroundings, Philosophy teaches not what to think but how to think.

### Why study Philosophy?

Studying Philosophy gives one a chance to understand reality, clarify the nature of interactions between individuals and society, and come to terms with the problems of existence and ultimate values.

Philosophy develops your intellectual abilities. Beyond the knowledge and skills required for any particular profession, a good philosophical education enhances the capacity to participate responsibly and intelligently in public life.

Philosophy graduates are among some of the best readers, researchers and writers, and the emphasis on presentation and discussion of students' work fosters confidence and proficiency in communication in the students of the Philosophy Department.



Department of Philosophy  
Undergraduate Student Handbook 2009-2010

Faculty of Arts

---

Department Contact Information:

**General Office**

Room A-3070 (Arts and Administration Building)

Phone: (709) 737-8336

Fax: (709) 737-2187

Email: [dawe@mun.ca](mailto:dawe@mun.ca)

**Office Hours:** Monday to Friday, 8:30-4:30

**Department Head**

Dr. James Bradley

Office: A-3070A

Phone: (709) 737-2668

Email: [jbradley@mun.ca](mailto:jbradley@mun.ca)

**Departmental Secretary**

Jennifer Dawe

Office: A-3070

Phone: (709) 737-8336

Email: [dawe@mun.ca](mailto:dawe@mun.ca)

**Undergraduate Advisor**

Dr. Arthur Sullivan

Office: A-3105

Phone: (709) 737-8333

Email: [arthurs@mun.ca](mailto:arthurs@mun.ca)

**Graduate Coordinator**

Dr. Antoinette Stafford

Office: A-3103

Phone: (709) 737-8341

Email: [stafford@mun.ca](mailto:stafford@mun.ca)



## Planning Your Degree

Courses are numbered across departments and faculties according to the depth of their focus and the amount of work expected from the student as part of the class. At the 1000-level, courses provide a general overview to the discipline, providing basic concepts you will use throughout your study of Philosophy. 2000-level courses become more specific, introducing major areas of study within the discipline, and 3000-level courses present an even more specific look into and in-depth study of various topics. At the 4000-level, courses become seminar courses, which often focus on specific problems and are centered around student contribution to the class.

The significance of these numbers can become important as you progress through your degree – for example, it may be wise not to end up with five 4000-level seminar courses during the last term of your degree. Look into the courses you choose each semester and ask around to get a feel for the workload you can expect from each. Talk to your professors or drop by Academic Advising in SN-4053 ([advice@mun.ca](mailto:advice@mun.ca)).

## Bachelor of Arts Degree Regulations

As a student of Philosophy you will be working towards your Bachelor of Arts degree. Information about the set of core requirements for this degree can be found at [www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/sectionNo=ARTS-0109](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar/sectionNo=ARTS-0109). Students should pay careful attention to the regulations for this degree – in particular, the often overlooked second language requirement, which requires the student to complete two courses in the same second language in order to graduate.

## Philosophy Undergraduate (B.A.) Program

As an undergraduate student at Memorial, you have several options for studying Philosophy as you complete your Bachelor of Arts degree. The most current information can always be found in the University Calendar - [www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar) - and the information found there should always take precedence over information gathered from any other source, including this handbook. Students who enroll with the Department of Philosophy in the major program must choose a faculty advisor through consultation with the Head of the Department. Students who enroll in the Minor program have the option to choose a faculty advisor in agreement with a member of the Philosophy Department.



- Students Working Towards a **Major** in Philosophy

*In addition to* the core requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree, a major in Philosophy requires the completion of 12 courses (36 credit hours) to be completed within Philosophy with an average of at least 60% in those courses, excluding those at the 1000-level.

Students must complete:

- Philosophy 1200, 2210, and 2220
- One from each pair: Philosophy 2230 or 3400, 2701 or 2702, 3730 or 3740
- Either Philosophy 3800, 3840, or 3850
- Either Philosophy 3910, 3920, or 3940
- One course in the 4700-4790 series
- One course in the 4800-4890 series
- An additional two courses in Philosophy

- Students Working Towards a **Minor** in Philosophy

*In addition to* the core requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree, a minor in Philosophy requires the completion of 8 courses (24 credit hours) to be completed within Philosophy, with an average of at least 60% in those courses, excluding those at the 1000-level.

- Philosophy 1200, 2210
- Either Philosophy 2230 or 3400, and either 2701 or 2702
- One major author course (i.e. one of 3730, 3800, 3840, 3850)
- An additional three courses in Philosophy

- Students Working Towards an **Honours** in Philosophy

Students with aspirations of going on to graduate school should strongly consider completing a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree. Along with the requirements for a major, honours students in Philosophy are required to complete:

- Philosophy 3910 and either 3920 or 3940
- An additional course at the 4000 level
- Either Philosophy 4998 (Comprehensive Honours Examination) or Philosophy 4999 (The Honours Essay)

Note: Students must achieve an academic average of 70% or higher OR an average of 75% or higher in all Philosophy courses beyond the 1000-level, as well as a minimum of 70% on the Honours essay/examination.



## Related Programs

- Arts undergraduate students should note that there are many interdisciplinary, diploma and certificate programs available to them to complete as part of, or as complement to their chosen degree program. Listed here is a chosen representation of programs which relate specifically to an undergraduate degree in Philosophy, and a full list of opportunities can be found on the Faculty of Arts webpage.

### **Communications Studies Major**

In the global landscape where information is a prime currency, Communications Studies has emerged as the central tenet of all disciplines. Students will look at questions such as: Who controls the media and why? What shape does communication take in today's global world? What are the different media technologies and at whom are they targeted? The major in Communication Studies will address these questions and others as it critically examines the role and development of communication in modern society. A student can major in Communications Studies alone, or complete the program as a double major with another subject.

Visit [www.mun.ca/interdisciplinary/communications](http://www.mun.ca/interdisciplinary/communications) for more information, or contact Dr. Erwin Warkentin at [ejwarken@mun.ca](mailto:ejwarken@mun.ca).

### **Related Diploma Programs**

#### **The Diploma in Applied Ethics**

The Department of Philosophy has developed a diploma program in Applied Ethics to offer a basic foundation in ethics for all its students and an opportunity to specialize in one of three specific fields: bioethics, ethics of mental health or environmental ethics. The Diploma will develop and focus a range of skills in a unique segment of the student population: writing in a theoretically sophisticated yet practical manner, researching significant ethical issues and institutions, building policy analyses, crafting communications and liaison abilities, and learning about important Newfoundland organizations.

Interested candidates should visit [www.mun.ca/arts/diploma/ethics/introduction](http://www.mun.ca/arts/diploma/ethics/introduction) for more information, and contact Dr. Peter Trnka at [ptrnka@mun.ca](mailto:ptrnka@mun.ca).

Please note that students of other faculties with an interest in Philosophy can also enroll in Philosophy courses to meet the requirements of a Bachelor degree without declaring Philosophy as a major or minor. All students are strongly encouraged to check the University Calendar ([www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar)) or visit the Academic Advising Center (SN-4053) for accurate information regarding their degree regulations.



## Philosophy Course Offerings

Listed below is a summary of some of the Philosophy courses available to Memorial students. Not all courses are offered every semester. Professors, other students, and the Academic Advising Center are all available to you to help with the course selection process. Students should check department homepages when registering each term, as new courses being offered as of that semester are often posted there.

**1100 - Critical Thinking** aims to impart critical analytic skills: i.e., the ability to recognize good and bad arguments, to explain why a particular argument is good or bad, and a general understanding of why a good argument ought to persuade and a bad argument ought not to persuade.

**1200 - Introduction to Philosophy** is a general introduction to the study of Philosophy both as a contemporary intellectual discipline and as a body of knowledge. The course covers the main divisions, fundamental questions and essential terminology of Philosophy through a reading of classical texts.

**1600 - Philosophy of Human Nature** is an approach to philosophical thinking by way of analysis and critique of theories of human nature, classical and modern, and the world views associated with them.

**2000 - Introduction to Metaphysics** is an introduction to the systematic inquiry into the nature of reality. Topics may include the nature of being, time, the question of God, appearance and reality, the one and the many, mind and matter, essence and existence.

**2210 - Logic** is an introduction to traditional and modern logic.

**2220 - Principles of Human Knowledge** examines various concepts of knowledge - empirical, rational, transcendental, systematic - and their metaphysical grounds and implications. Students will look at the concept of scientific knowledge, real and abstract entities, and objectivity and subjectivity.

**2230 - Moral Philosophy** examines the sources and validity of ethical principles which underlie individual and social action.

**2400 - Introduction to Philosophy of Law** employs historical and contemporary sources to explore major traditions and concepts in the philosophy of law. Topics covered include natural law, legal positivism, the nature of legal interpretation, the relationship between law and morality, and the concepts of rights, responsibility, and justice.



**2500-2550 - Contemporary Issues** discusses the philosophical dimensions of an area of practical concern such as contemporary culture, professional ethics, leisure, education, the mass media, gender, war and human rights.

**2551 - Health Ethics** examines concepts of health and illness and their ethical implications.

**2552 - Mental Health Ethics** examines concepts of mental health and illness and their ethical implications.

**2553 - Biomedical Ethics** examines medical dilemmas from legal and ethical points of view.

**2561 - Environmental Ethics** examines concepts of nature and their ethical implications.

**2571 - Technology** examines concepts of technology and their ethical implications.

**2581 - Philosophy of Film** introduces some of the central philosophers, topics and themes in the philosophy of film. Topics and themes include: the nature of film image, the relationship between film and “reality”, the social/political role and function of film and the nature and value of the documentary. The course will also consider the representation of broader philosophical idea in film. A film or films will accompany each section.

**2591 - Restorative Justice** explores the phenomenon of violence. When we understand violence, the need for justice quickly comes into view. With this need, however, comes a complex mixture of personal and political affairs. Justice can be retaliatory or restorative. The meaning and consequences of each kind of approach to justice will be traced through selected ancient and contemporary authors.

**2701 - History of Ancient Philosophy** is a survey of the origin and development of Western philosophy among the Greeks and Romans.

**2702 - History of Modern Philosophy** is a survey of the development of Western philosophy since the 17th century.

**2710 - Philosophy of Language and Mind** is a survey of philosophical thinking about human language and thought, and about how these phenomena relate to the rest of the natural world. Topics covered include the nature of language, the relations between thought and language, and the nature of consciousness.



**3110 - Elements of Symbolic Logic** examines techniques and topics in the logic of propositions, of predicates and of induction and probability. Normally the second course in logic.

**3120 - Philosophy of Language** investigates various uses of language and its relationship to thought, as well as particular features of language, such as meaning, synonymy, reference, translation and interpretation.

**3150 - Philosophy of the Natural Sciences** examines major issues in the origins, methods and philosophical implications of science. Science as a form of knowledge; its relation to metaphysics; to more general theories of knowledge. Science and values.

**3400 - Political Philosophy** examines leading philosophical ideas concerning the origin and justification of political institutions.

**3500 - Philosophy of Religion** examines the philosophical aspects of religious belief, religious language and theology.

**3600 - Philosophy of the Humanities** examines the expression and interpretation in the humanistic disciplines: theology, history, art and literature, language. Philosophical Hermeneutics.

**3730 - Plato** examines selections from the works of the Greek "lovers of wisdom" - the first philosophers - particularly Plato.

**3740 - Aristotle** examines the works and legacy of perhaps the most influential systematic thinker of all time.

**3800 - Descartes** is a systematic introduction to the works and thought of the "father of modern philosophy".

**3820 - Rationalism** is a study of rationalism in Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz and of subsequent developments of this standpoint.

**3830 - Empiricism** is a study of classical empiricism in the works of Locke, Berkeley and Hume and of later developments of this philosophical standpoint.

**3840 - Hume** is a study of the work and influence of Hume on theories of knowledge, metaphysics and moral philosophy.



**3850 - Kant's Theory of Knowledge** is an introduction to the work of one of the most influential thinkers of the modern era, concentrating on his theory of knowledge, particularly as stated in the *Critique of Pure Reason*.

**3851 - Kant's Ethics** is an introduction to the work of one of the most influential thinkers of the modern era, concentrating on his ethics, particularly as stated in *The Foundations of the Metaphysics of Morals* and *The Critique of Practical Reason*.

**3860 - Hegel** examines selections from Hegel's system with emphasis on the nature of dialectical and speculative philosophy and its enormous influence in the present time.

**3870 - Utilitarianism** examines moral, political and jurisprudential themes in Bentham, J.S. Mill and their followers. Recent utilitarian theories.

**3880 - Post-Idealist Thought** examines 19th century reactions to idealist systems, the critique of Metaphysics, the rise of Positivism.

**3890 - Marxism** examines the political, social and historical theories of Marx and Engels and their later developments; themes in Marxist analysis of class and capitalism.

**3910 - Analytic Philosophy** examines selections from established texts in contemporary analytic philosophy: Russell, Carnap, Wittgenstein and others.

**3920 - Phenomenology** is an introduction to the philosophy of Husserl and some of his followers, e.g. Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty.

**3930 - Pragmatism** examines the pragmatist standpoint from Peirce to the present.

**3940 - Existentialism** examines the philosophy and literature of Existentialism from Kierkegaard, Nietzsche and Dostoevsky to Sartre, de Beauvoir and Camus.

**4900 - Advanced Readings in Ethics** is an individualized course tailored to the specialized moral interests of each student.

**4998 - Comprehensive Examination** is part of the Honours program.

**4999 - Honours Essay** is part of the Honours program.



## Study Abroad!

### Message from Chris Hibbs, Go Abroad Coordinator (UC-4010C)

Like most of life's unexplored territories, it is difficult to understand the value of something if you have never experienced or been exposed to it. Studying abroad is no exception. Before going, you might find it difficult to justify spending a significant amount of money for the sake of one brief experience, with little but memories and mementoes to show for it. After having gone, you will wonder why you didn't do it sooner!

An Arts education is about knowledge - reaching out over centuries and across continents. Much of this can be explored from the comfort of your dorm room, armchair, or library cubby.. but to truly experience your learning first hand, staying here is no substitute for going global. Fortunately, there are many ways in which you can go abroad with the Faculty of Arts.

- Find yourself enamored with European languages and cultures? A number of our departments offer study abroad semesters in France, Germany, Italy, and Russia. Whether you want to go with a group from Memorial or branch out on your own with an exchange program, there is an experience that will fit your needs.
- Ever heard of Harlow? Conveniently located just north of London, Harlow is the base for an academic exploration of English culture, society and history, not to mention a departure point for experiencing continental Europe. The Faculty of Arts makes extensive use of this campus, and regularly sends groups of students to make the most of Harlow and its environs. The programs are often an eclectic mix of disciplines, opening the doors to multiple majors and minors. And each program makes extensive use of the English context for field trips and beyond-the-classroom learning experiences.

Whether it is the group study program or department-specific academic exchange, don't miss the opportunity to explore the world while a student at Memorial University. With some careful planning and diligent saving, you can explore much more than a vacation abroad. The value of this experience will pay for itself through your own personal growth and exploration. And professionally too, you will reap the benefits from being abroad - you are putting yourself out there beyond your comfort zone; interacting with other cultures, appreciating differences, discovering commonalities, digesting vast histories and hypothesizing about possible futures. The resourcefulness, openness, grace under pressure, ideas and perspectives which can be developed while abroad will be an asset to any organization from which you seek employment.

Whether you are in it for the passport stamps, academic accolades or professional skills, going abroad will help you grow broadly. Find out more today:

[www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/abroad](http://www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/abroad)

[goabroad@mun.ca](mailto:goabroad@mun.ca)



## Studying Abroad

Students should check with the department website for information regarding upcoming study abroad opportunities, as Arts students have many options when it comes to studying away from the St. John's campus with their degree. A comprehensive table of these opportunities, broken down by department, can be found at [www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/abroad](http://www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/abroad).

## Work Placements

**5000 - Instructional Field Placement in Applied Ethics** is a part-time, one semester period of practical work designed to provide experience in medical, psychiatric, environmental, or other similar settings. Students may be placed, for example, in a government policy office or a hospital.



Instructors: Faculty Members

**Sean McGrath** Assistant Professor

Office: A-3098

Phone: (709) 737-3754

Email: [sjoseph.mcgrath@gmail.com](mailto:sjoseph.mcgrath@gmail.com)

**Areas of Specialization:** Phenomenology, German philosophy, philosophy of religion

---

**Natalie Oman** Assistant Professor

Office: A-3102

Phone: (709) 737-8335

Email: [noman@mun.ca](mailto:noman@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:** Intercultural negotiation, conflicts over the universalizability of human rights standards, with particular attention to the issue of humanitarian intervention

---

**Walter Okshevsky** Associate Professor

Office: ED-3060

Phone: (709) 737-7613

Email: [wokshevs@mun.ca](mailto:wokshevs@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:** Critical thinking and knowledge in education, moral education in a multiculturally pluralist democracy, critical theory, pragmatism and hermeneutics in education, philosophical issues in educational leadership, Kant, Habermas, Rawls and discourse, philosophical analysis in elementary and secondary education, research paradigms in educational policy and practice, ethical issues in educational practice and policy, problems and issues in academic freedom at the university level

---

**Seamus O'Neill**

Office: A-3066

Phone: (709) 737-8332

Email: [sjoneill@mun.ca](mailto:sjoneill@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:** Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Neoplatonism, Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysics



Department of Philosophy  
Undergraduate Student Handbook 2009-2010

Faculty of Arts

---

**Daryl Pullman** Professor of Medical Ethics  
Office: H-2832  
Phone: (709) 777-6220  
Email: [dpullman@mun.ca](mailto:dpullman@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:** Research ethics; clinical ethics; human dignity, moral epistemology

---

**Sumangali (Suma) Rajiva** Assistant Professor  
Office: A-3107  
Phone: (709) 737-8307  
Email: [srajiva@mun.ca](mailto:srajiva@mun.ca)

**Areas of Specialization:** Kant and early modern philosophy (Descartes to Hume)

---

**Evan Simpson** Honorary Research Professor  
Office: A-2062  
Phone: (709) 737-8966  
Email: [esimpson@mun.ca](mailto:esimpson@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:** Moral philosophy, political and social philosophy, philosophy of mind including philosophy of the emotions

---

**Antoinette (Toni) Stafford** Associate Professor  
Office: A-3103  
Phone: (709) 737-8341  
Email: [stafford@mun.ca](mailto:stafford@mun.ca)

**Areas of Specialization:** Existentialism, Kierkegaard, Kant

---

**Arthur Sullivan** Assistant Professor, Undergraduate Advisor  
Office: A-3105  
Phone: (709) 737-8333  
Email: [arthurs@mun.ca](mailto:arthurs@mun.ca)

**Areas of Specialization:** Philosophy of language and mind, logic, epistemology, metaphysics



Department of Philosophy  
Undergraduate Student Handbook 2009-2010

Faculty of Arts

---

**Peter Trnka** Associate Professor  
Office: A-3067  
Phone: (709) 737-8338  
Email: [ptrnka@mun.ca](mailto:ptrnka@mun.ca)

**Areas of Specialization:** Ethics, political theory, epistemology, modern philosophy (Spinoza, Hume, Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, Deleuze, Foucault)

---

Instructors: Contractual Faculty and Adjunct Professors

**Darren Hynes**  
Office: A-4007  
Phone: (709) 737-7650  
Email: [dhynes@mun.ca](mailto:dhynes@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:**

---

**Andrew Latus** Adjunct Professor  
Office: A-3104  
Phone: (709)737-8339  
Email: [alatus@mun.ca](mailto:alatus@mun.ca)

**Research Interests:** Ethics, Epistemology, Medical Ethics



## Scholarships and Awards

The following is a partial list of awards awarded by the University and available to Philosophy undergraduate students, based solely on the criteria that the student is an undergraduate student in Philosophy. For more information on these and on all scholarships and awards available, drop by the Scholarships, Award and Financial Aid Office in UC-4018, or visit their website at [www.mun.ca/scholarships/home/](http://www.mun.ca/scholarships/home/).

The Baird-Stephenson Scholarship	Barend Kieft Memorial Award
The Birks Family Foundation Bursaries	James A. Good Scholarship in Philosophy
The Canadian Federation of University Women St. John's Bursaries	Ethel H. Judson Memorial Scholarship
The Dr. G.A. Frecker Memorial Alumni Bursaries	The Hector and Fanny McNeil Memorial Trust Fund Scholarships
The Dr. Leslie Harris Memorial University Alumni Association Scholarships	The M.O. Morgan Alumni Scholarships
MUN Endowment Scholarships	Royal Canadian Legion (St. John's Branch No. 1) Memorial Wall Scholarships
The MUN Faculty Association Scholarship Fund	Sceptre Investment Counsel Limited Bursary
The R.A. Parsons Scholarship Fund	Sodexo Scholarship
Robert Gillespie Reid Memorial Scholarships	The James J. Walsh Memorial Scholarship
The Ashbridge Scholarships/Bursaries	The John and Jane Crosbie Scholarship
The Calgary Alumni Scholarship	The John and Anna Daley Scholarship
The Vivian Douglas Memorial Scholarship	The G. Alain Frecker and Helena M. Frecker Memorial Scholarship
Friends of India Association Scholarship	Greystone Managed Investments Scholarship
The C. D. Howe Memorial Foundation Scholarship	Heaslip Scholarship
The Roberta H. Sellars Scholarship	The Cornelia Learning/Annie Butler Moores Scholarship
R. Bertram Green Class Scholarship	The Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro Scholarships
The Stuart O. Pierson Prize	The John M and Elsa S. Scholarships



## What Can I Do with an Philosophy Degree?

Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in any specialization already equips you with some of the most important employable skills you need to obtain any successful career. Arts students learn exceptional research, writing and editing skills, as well as the tools – and the confidence – to express themselves and their ideas effectively and persuasively.

Philosophy is the ultimate transferable work skill. Philosophy graduates have employability rate in North America of 98.9%.

Students of Philosophy graduate with a knowledge base and a set of skills which prepares them for work in a number of fields. Popular career choices include systems analyst, ethical consultant, diplomat, librarian, professor, data processor, announcer, arts consultant, lobbyist, news writer, public policy manager, journalist or psychologist, but Philosophy is a degree which serves as a solid foundation for work in almost any career.



## ArtsWorks

Are you...

- An undergraduate Arts student seeking information about resumes, interview skills, grad schools, volunteering or going abroad...?
- Wondering what you can do with an Arts degree?

Then ArtsWorks is for you!

ArtsWorks is a national award-winning program that provides both current and prospective Arts students the opportunity to complement classroom skills with practical application – easing the transition from University to a number of post-graduate opportunities.

ArtsWorks will provide you with information, advice and practice on topics which include resume and cover letter writing, networking, interviews techniques and creating career portfolios – as well as how to study and work abroad and how to take full advantage of all the services available to you on campus.

ArtsWorks is a non-mandatory, non-credit 10 week program. Students are required to complete 21 hours of the program over the semester comprised of 50-minute sessions, skill building workshops and a volunteer placement in the community or on campus. Students who complete the program qualify for the Bronze Level Award from the Student Volunteer Bureau's Volunteer Incentive Program, which is a great addition to any resume and an excellent recognition of the work you completed as part of the ArtsWorks program.

ArtsWorks is a program which all Arts students should explore during their time at Memorial University. The skills and information you will acquire in your completion of the program will help you throughout your academic and professional life – and if you don't know where you want your Arts degree to take you, ArtsWorks is a great place to start.

For more information, contact:

Sarah Cahill  
Senior Career Development Coordinator  
UC-4002  
[secahill@mun.ca](mailto:secahill@mun.ca)

Or visit:  
[www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/careers](http://www.mun.ca/arts/undergraduate/careers)





## Places on Campus You Should Know About

### Student Affairs and Services

[www.mun.ca/student/home](http://www.mun.ca/student/home)

The University Centre (UC) (officially the Joseph Smallwood Centre) is the student centre of Memorial, and the home of the department of Student Affairs and Services.

The UC houses essential student resources such as Answers, the Dean of Student Affairs and Services, the University Bookstore, the Centre for Career Development and Experiential Learning, the Counselling Centre, the Landing Student Space, the Student Health Service and the Chaplaincy, while providing students with practical services such as MUNSU (the Student Union), The Attic (post office, copy centre and bus passes), the Breezeway bar, Travel Cuts, the campus Pharmacy, bank machines, the food court, and many of the campus clubs and societies.

The UC is fully accessible to everyone, with elevators on every floor. It also houses the University's main public transportation stop on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and students can pick up printed bus schedules in the lobby of the QEII Library.

- **Answers**  
Answers (UC-3005) is your resource for campus cards, lockers, student loans, grants, and general questions. They organize tons of great student events throughout the year, so keep your eyes and ears open – and visit [www.mun.ca/answers](http://www.mun.ca/answers) to see what they're all about.
- **The University Bookstore**  
The Bookstore provides a wide range of retail services either in direct support of the educational mission of the University or as a convenience to its students, faculty and staff. For crested clothing, gifts, rings, school supplies, convocation videos and much more, visit the second floor of the University Centre.
- **The Centre for Career Development and Experiential Learning**  
One student has said, "If you plan to work after you graduate, you should definitely check out the Centre for Career Development". Offering on-campus employment through the MUCEP program, resume critiquing, mock-interviews and unbeatable resources, guidance and assistance, the CCD is here to make you employable. Find them in UC-4002, Monday to Friday, from 9 to 4:30 or online at [www.mun.ca/cdel/career](http://www.mun.ca/cdel/career).



- **Student Volunteer Bureau**  
The SVB, located in UC-4001, helps students interested in finding a rewarding volunteer placement. Their Volunteer Incentive Program can help you get recognized for the great work you do, and the friendly staff is always around to find you the perfect fit. Check out [www.mun.ca/cdel/volunteer](http://www.mun.ca/cdel/volunteer) for more information.
- **The Glenn Roy Blundon Centre**  
The Blundon Centre provides services and programs for students with disabilities affecting mobility, vision, hearing, learning, chronic illness or mental health, or for students with temporary mobility or health issues. Open Monday to Friday, 9 to 5, the Centre is located in UC-4007. More information can be found on their website: [www.mun.ca/blundon](http://www.mun.ca/blundon).
- **The Counselling Centre**  
The Counselling Centre is here to help with personal issues that can become overwhelming at University. Through individual and group counselling, the professional faculty at the centre aim to develop students' personal capabilities. They offer a number of workshops and events throughout the year to coach students in preparing for exams, staying healthy and dealing with stress. You can find them Monday to Friday, 9 to 5 in UC-5000, and online at [www.mun.ca/counselling](http://www.mun.ca/counselling).
- **The Landing**  
The Landing, UC-3018, is a student venue available free of charge to student groups. It is a "smart" room which is very versatile and has been used for a variety of events including presentations, receptions, launches and parties – whatever Memorial students can envision. For information and to book the Landing, go to [www.mun.ca/student/landing](http://www.mun.ca/student/landing).
- **Student Health Services**  
Student Health Services, located in UC-4023, provides primary health care to the students of Memorial University. For a list of their services, staff and their hours of operation, visit [www.mun.ca/health](http://www.mun.ca/health).



Department of Philosophy  
Undergraduate Student Handbook 2009-2010

Faculty of Arts

---

### Library

[www.library.mun.ca](http://www.library.mun.ca)

Memorial's QEII Library offers more than an extensive collection of work on a variety of topics – they provide students with guides on paper formatting and tutorials for programs like Excel. Take a look around their website and drop by the Circulation Desk to find out more.

### Academic Advising Centre

[www.mun.ca/advice/aac](http://www.mun.ca/advice/aac)

The place to go for program information, scheduling advice, available student services, and much more. Drop by SN-4053, email [advice@mun.ca](mailto:advice@mun.ca), or check them out online. They're open Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 4:45.

### Office of the Registrar

[www.mun.ca/regoff](http://www.mun.ca/regoff)

If there is one office you find on campus during your stay at Memorial, let it be this one. The Office of the Registrar is important to every aspect of your academic program, from registration for your first course through to graduation day. The latest course offerings, exam schedules and much more can be found online and the office itself can be found in A-2003.



## MUNSU

Comprising more than 13,000 undergraduate students, Memorial University's Students' Union has been representing students at Memorial since 1968, and as an undergraduate student at Memorial, you are automatically a member. The MUN Students' Union is a member of the Canadian Federation of Students – Canada's national student movement – and therefore advocates on issues at Memorial as well as provincially and nationally.

- **Assistance with Appeals:** MUNSU helps you undertake academic appeals on grades or courses as well as student financial aid, or in appeals processes such as academic misconduct or disciplinary action.
- **Representation:** The Students' Union coordinates student representation on university committees and other bodies – both administrative and academic – to ensure that students' voices are heard and students' needs are adequately met.
- **Services:** MUNSU operates the Breezeway Bar, Digital Copy Centre and Attic Post Office, Walksafe/Safedrive, Legal Aid Service, ISIC Card, CHMR-FM, and the Handbook & Dayplanner. Within the university, they operate the Student Volunteer Bureau, Childcare Facility, Campus Food Bank, and the Emergency Student Loan Fund. They also hold a majority-share in Travel Cuts, which has an office in the UC.
- **Health & Dental Plan:** All full-time students are covered by the Student Union health and dental plans. To opt-out, provide proof of alternate coverage before the opt-out deadline in September. This can be done online by visiting [www.munsu.ca](http://www.munsu.ca)
- **Clubs & Societies:** The Students' Union operates over 80 clubs and societies which enable students to organize activities according to their academic or extra-curricular interests. Any member of the Union is eligible to form their own club and receive resources and support by contacting the Executive Director of Student Life at [studentlife@munsu.ca](mailto:studentlife@munsu.ca) or visiting the MUNSU General Office (UC-2000)
- **Resource Centres:** The Students' Union operates seven Resource Centres which provide an active range of resources and support to students who have historically been oppressed or marginalized. They include: Women's Resource Centre; Lesbian-Gay-Transgendered Students at MUN (LBGTMUN); International Students' Centre; Student Parents at MUN; MUN Disability Information Support Centre; Students Older Than Average; and the Aboriginal Resource Centre.
- **Individual Merit Funds / Special Project Grants:** Students can apply for these grants to assist in the costs of either extracurricular activities or those relating to their academic studies (excluding costs relating to tuition).

As a Memorial undergraduate student you have the ability to meet with your elected representatives or become one yourself in the General Election held every winter semester. It is YOUR student union – become involved in it!



## The Writing Centre

The one thing all specializations within a Bachelor of Arts degree have in common is the emphasis on research and writing.

The Writing Centre is a free facility open to all students of Memorial University – both undergraduate and graduate – who are looking to improve their writing, editing and critical thinking skills.

Trained student tutors are available by appointment in SN-2053 or on a first-come, first-served basis at their desk at the Commons in the QEII Library to help you through every stage of the writing process.

**Before you write**, the Writing Centre can help you:

- Determine what the assignment is asking
- Develop strategies for dealing with difficult material
- Brainstorm ideas, organize them and put them into words
- Understand the requirements of University writing

**As you are writing**, the Writing Centre can help you:

- Recognize whether or not you are staying on topic
- Evaluate your own writing
- Understand and deal with writer's block

**After you have written**, the Writing Centre can help you:

- Ensure that your intended message has been conveyed and that your writing is accessible to a reader other than yourself
- Ensure that you have used appropriate voice, tone, and academic writing conventions

The Writing Centre can also help you assess your own strengths and weaknesses as a writer, and outline ways to work toward changing habits which impede your writing.

To get the most out of a session with a writing tutor, it is important to time the meeting appropriately. Waiting until the last minute will not benefit either of you, and you must consider that changes may take time to make.

The Writing Centre can be found in SN-2053, over the phone at 737-3168 and online at [www.mun.ca/writingcentre](http://www.mun.ca/writingcentre).



## Some General Advice for Writing a Good Paper

From the Director of the Writing Centre, Virginia Ryan

### The Introduction

- Provide all necessary background information and a context for your topic.
- Provide a clear thesis statement: a statement of *your* claim or position.
- Clearly state for your reader the way(s) in which your paper will defend or prove this claim, and the order in which you will present your ideas.

### The Body of Your Paper

- Ensure that each paragraph has a topic sentence that clearly states how this paragraph relates to your thesis statement.
- Try to use transitional language at the beginning and/or the end of each paragraph. This indicates to your reader how what you are about to say will relate to what you have previously said, and vice versa.
- Avoid multi-page paragraphs. While each paragraph should address a distinct point, if doing so creates a very long string of sentences, consider dividing them into two or more paragraphs with transitional language that makes their close relationship clear.

### The Conclusion

- Reiterate your thesis statement, but word it differently.
- Remind your reader briefly of the key evidence that has supported your claim.
- Attempt to relate your very particular claim to a more general – but thoughtful! – claim about your subject area, by way of closure.

### Using Sources

- Paraphrase rather than quote, wherever possible.
- When you do use quotations, use only essential parts of the original, and always integrate them into your writing – do not “isolate” a quote as its own sentence.
- Explain your quotations before and/or after presenting them to make clear their significance to your paper, rather than hoping they will “speak for themselves.”

### Additional Helpful Strategies

- When in doubt about requirements for your paper, always ask your instructor for clarification far ahead of its due date.
- Avoid filler words and phrases. Make every word count.
- Unless directed to do otherwise, write your paper for an “educated lay reader” who may not know as much about your topic as you do.
- Avoid handing in a “first draft” when your instructor is expecting a final one. Allow ample time to review, revise, and edit your paper before submitting it.



## Campus Resource List

Answers	UC-3005	737-7461
Academic Advising	SN-4053	737-8801
Blundon Centre (Disability Centre)	UC-4007	737-2156
Bookstore	UC-2006	737-7440
Breezeway MUNSU Bar	UC-1004	737-7464
Campus Enforcement and Patrol	FM-1018	737-8561
Cashier's Office	AA-1023	737-8228
Centre for Career Development	UC-4002	737-2033
Counselling Centre	UC-5000	737-8874
Equity Co-ordinator (Sexual Harrassment)	UC-3000	737-2015
International Student Advisor	Corte Real 1000A	737-8895
MUNSU (Students' Union)	UC-2000	737-7633
Native Liaison Office	UC-4003	737-3495
Off-Campus Housing	Hatcher House	737-3765
Office of Student Recruitment	AA-1000	737-8896
On-Campus Student Housing	Hatcher House	737-7590
QEII Library	QE II Library	737-7427
Registrar's Office	AA-2000	737-8260
Student Affairs and Services	UC-5029	737-7594
Student Health Services	UC-4023	737-7597
Student Volunteer Bureau	UC-4001	737-4301
The Commons	QE II Library	737-6159
The Works (Field House/Aquarena)	Field House	737-3000
The Writing Centre	SN-2053	737-3168
Travel Cuts	UC-3014	737-7926
Walksafe/Safedrive	UC-6020	737-3737
Wellness Education	UC-5002	737-2659
Women's Resource Centre	UC-1009	737-4366

This handbook was published in the Fall of 2009 and is intended as a guide for undergraduate students at Memorial as they begin and progress through their Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy. It is meant to bring together all the information provided to an undergraduate student by the University in one neat, organized and simple package.

The handbooks, however, **do not take precedence over the official University calendar**, located here: [www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/calendar), as all information is subject to change post-publication.

This is just one of the resources you should take advantage of as you progress through your degree at Memorial University. Student Services, Academic Advising, other students, faculty and staff are all available to you to help with any questions you may have.