

Application for
Graduate Certificate in American Philosophy
Department of Philosophy
School of Liberal Arts
IUPUI

Contact person:

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Title of Certificate

Graduate Certificate in American philosophy.

Proposing department

Department of Philosophy, School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI.

Type of certificate

IU Graduate Certificate.

Statement of Purpose and Rationale

The purpose of the certificate program is to attract students who are interested in American philosophy but who are for a variety of reasons unwilling or unable to commit themselves to a full-fledged MA program, by broadening the range of academic products offered by the Philosophy Department. One of the main challenges faced by the recently implemented American philosophy concentration of the MA program has been that of attracting students. As this is a highly specialized concentration, the expectation was that prospective applicants would typically come from out of state or from abroad.

As it turns out, there is significant international interest in our MA program, but most of those who have expressed interest either already have an MA, or are now working on a PhD, or are enrolled in a foreign MA program. Given the length of our MA and the thesis requirement, our MA program is not a viable option for them, even though the presence of the scholarly editions (Peirce and Santayana) and the resources of the Institute for American Thought (IAT) make IUPUI a very attractive destination. That this is so is substantiated by a steady stream of visiting scholars, including foreign and domestic PhD candidates, postdocs, and occasional MA students working on a thesis. A certificate program would allow us to steer some long-term visitors to the certificate program, so that the time we already spend with them will begin generating an income for the university. An additional constraint on the MA program is that the out-of-state tuition fees make the two-year program prohibitively expensive for many.

By adding a certificate program to the already existing MA we could offer students who are already enrolled elsewhere the opportunity of enrolling in a focused program of study that can be completed within a single academic year and results in tangible recognition of their accomplishments. Also, courses taken toward the certificate may count toward their degree in their home institution.

Another reason that makes a certificate program in American philosophy desirable is that a few students currently enrolled in the bioethics concentration of our MA have expressed an interest in joining the American concentration as well (and vice-versa, students in the American concentration have expressed an interest in bioethics). A certificate program in American philosophy would enable students who have been accepted in the bioethics concentration to acquire a Philosophy MA with a concentration in bioethics and a certificate in American philosophy. (A parallel proposal for a certificate in bioethics is being submitted as well.)

In short, the main purpose of the certificate program here proposed is to strengthen our graduate program in American philosophy in the following ways:

- By generating more applications, we can increase the standards for the department's graduate program while ensuring that classes continue to be filled as certificate students and MA students take the same courses.
- The certificate gives an opt-out option to MA students who for whatever reason (new job, family problems, child, inability to finish the thesis, etc.) find the MA too challenging. They could switch to the shorter program instead.
- Students in one track may get a certificate in the other without having to do a double MA. Someone could earn an MA in philosophy with a concentration in American philosophy, while also earning a certificate in bioethics.
- We'll be able to direct long-term visiting students, most of whom are working on PhD's or MA theses, to the certificate program so that the time we already spend with them generates an income for the university.
- A powerful incentive for applicants is that a certificate comes at half the cost of an MA.

Target Audience

The primary target audience of the graduate certificate in American philosophy includes the following groups:

- International students with an interest in American philosophy who have recently completed their MA in their home country and are working on a PhD, or who are still working on their MA. The certificate program could be completed concurrently with research for an MA thesis or dissertation (see also Resources, below). A one-year certificate program is much less disruptive to people's lives than a two-to-three year Master's program, especially if it involves moving to the U.S.
- Domestic graduate students from other universities who are willing to take a year off from their regular program or who have reached the ABD stage. Most PhD programs have only one specialist in American philosophy, making a certificate in American philosophy an attractive option for those students busy writing their PhD dissertation.
- Students who do not yet want to commit themselves to a degree program in philosophy or who want to increase their chances of being admitted into a first-tier graduate program.
- Students who are enrolled in the Bioethics concentration of our MA program who have gained an interest in American philosophy.
- People who seek to broaden their philosophical horizon without aiming for a full-fledged graduate degree. In particular, a certificate would give GND students a

well-defined focus of study, and might be an incentive for some to return to school and take graduate courses at IUPUI.

- Students enrolled in other graduate programs or post-baccalaureate professional programs on campus who have an interest in philosophy.
- Students in programs that have an (international) exchange program with the philosophy department or the Institute for American Thought. For instance, a “Protocol of General and Special Agreement of Friendship and Cooperation” was signed by President Myles Brand and Rector Denis Roch of the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) in which both universities agreed to facilitate and intensify exchanges between the partners that fall within the areas of semiotics and philosophy, with a particular emphasis on the Peirce Edition Project and the Department of Philosophy at IUPUI, and the PhD program in Semiotics and the Department of Philosophy at UQAM. The Institute for American Thought has been developing extensive relations with the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo, in Brazil, and is exploring relations with Beijing Normal University, in Beijing, China. In addition, the Department is exploring the possibility of a joint Master’s degree with the University Marc Bloch in Strasbourg, France.

Evidence of Need and Compatibility with School Mission

American philosophy is a way of philosophizing that originated in the U.S. and derives some of its leading characteristics from its place of origin. Philosophy is often talked about in terms of its geographic origin, like Chinese philosophy, Continental philosophy, or Ancient Greek philosophy, and American philosophy is no exception to that. American philosophy is specifically understood as that tradition that takes inspiration in the work of Charles Sanders Peirce, William James, John Dewey, and others. Pragmatism is a dominant school in American philosophy, although the latter cannot be reduced to it.

American philosophy is a rapidly growing field of inquiry. For instance, since its inception thirty years ago, the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy has grown into a major professional organization with over thirteen hundred members. Another sign is the heightened interest of academic publishers in this field. For instance, in the area of reference works, last year saw the publication of *The Blackwell Guide to American Philosophy* (Blackwell) and the four-volume *Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers* (Thoemmes Continuum), while *The Encyclopaedia of American Philosophy* (Routledge) and *The Oxford Handbook of American Philosophy* (Oxford University Press) are both forthcoming. Louis Menand’s Pulitzer Prize winning bestseller *The Metaphysical Club*, reviewed in several magazines and in the *New York Times Book Review*, and based in part on research coming from IUPUI, further underscores the growing national and international interest in American philosophy. In short, there is a clear and growing interest in American philosophy among students, both in this country and world-wide. Major translations are underway in France, Italy, Spain, Brazil, and China.

The certificate program fits within the strategic plan of the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts, which seeks to establish itself as a center of excellence for both disciplinary and interdisciplinary research and scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. A healthy program in American philosophy will benefit the work that is being done at the

scholarly editions (Peirce, Santayana Douglass), and will strengthen the Institute for American Thought as an important national and international research center.

Relation to Existing Programs

The certificate program will run concurrently with the American philosophy concentration that is already being offered by the philosophy department. It will share its resources and its faculty. In fact, this is not so much a proposal for a brand-new program than a proposal to strengthen the existing program by tapping into different groups of students. The aim is to increase the number of students so that the graduate courses currently offered in American philosophy are ensured a steady and sufficient enrollment

Existing Resources

The integration of the Peirce Edition Project and the Santayana Edition within the Institute for American thought, or IAT, resulted in the consolidation of extensive resources in American philosophy.

The Max Fisch Library, which is housed in the basement of the Education and Social Work building, is one of the most extensive collections in American philosophy in the country. Over one hundred scholars from nineteen countries have visited the Max H. Fisch Library since 1993. At present, the library contains about twenty thousand books and well over three hundred linear feet of filing cabinet drawers filled with papers and items from the collections acquired by the editions. The archives include correspondence, lectures, notes, articles, manuscripts, photographs, newspaper clippings, book reviews, grant applications, vinyl recordings, and other items. The major collections housed in the library are the following:

1. *The Peirce Edition Collection* contains eighty linear feet of files. The collection includes photocopies of all known Peirce papers archived in libraries around the country, representing well over one hundred thousand manuscript pages. There are approximately twenty books with Peirce's annotations in them, several artifacts from the US Coast Survey, and other personal items.
2. *The Max H. Fisch Collection* contains over one hundred and ten linear feet of files and papers. The latter include correspondence, lectures, notes, published articles, pamphlets, conference programs, newspaper clippings, and other items connected with his research. Fisch spent nearly forty years collecting research to write Peirce's biography, a project he never finished. The collection includes a comprehensive reference catalog related to the life and work of Peirce, divided by subject, chronological year, and manuscript number in accordance with the Robin Catalog.
3. *The Carolyn Eisele Collection* contains over one hundred linear feet of papers. Carolyn Eisele (1902–2000) was a renowned mathematician, a historian of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century mathematics and science, and an expert on the life and work of Charles S. Peirce.
4. *The Charles W. Morris Collection* contains seventeen linear feet of papers. Charles Morris (1903–1979) was a student of George Herbert Mead. He edited much of Mead's

work, was involved in the Unity of Science Movement, and developed an original form of pragmatism. The collection includes, among other things, personal and professional correspondence, lecture notes of courses taken with Mead, unpublished papers, pamphlets, Morris's PhD dissertation, and copies of Peirce papers with Morris's annotations.

5. *The Santayana Edition Collection* serves as a centralized library for students and scholars researching the life and works of George Santayana. The collection includes photocopies of original Santayana manuscripts and papers held by libraries around the country. In addition to the photocopies of Santayana's manuscripts and papers, the Santayana Collection includes books published by Santayana, books published about Santayana, and translations of Santayana's works. The Santayana Collection maintains an electronic database that includes scanned copies of Santayana's books, articles, and letters. The database can be searched by topic or by keyword.

6. *The John O. McCormick Collection* contains copies of the marginalia from Santayana's books with McCormick's annotations, correspondence, notes, articles about Santayana, criticisms of Santayana, and receipts from McCormick's Spain research trip. John Owen McCormick (1918–) is a comparative literature/Santayana scholar and author of *George Santayana: A Biography* (Paragon House, 1987). McCormick's papers have been organized both by theme and by year in Santayana's life.

In addition, the IUPUI University Library has for many years now acquired almost every new book in American philosophy, while its archives house a major portion of the papers of Paul Weiss, and early editor of Peirce's papers and one of the greatest twentieth-century American philosophers. The above resources combined make IUPUI a premier location to study American philosophy.

New Resources Required

No new resources are required.

Proposed Date of Initiation

Spring 2007

Program Director

Cornelis de Waal, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, who also directs the American philosophy component of the department's existing MA program.

Initial Certificate Program Faculty

The initial program faculty is the same as the faculty that is currently involved in the American philosophy concentration of the Department's existing MA program.

Michael Burke (PhD University of Wisconsin—Madison, 1976)
Professor and Chair, Department of Philosophy

Area of Specialization: Metaphysics.

Arthur Burks (PhD University of Michigan, 1941)
Adjunct Professor, Department of Philosophy
Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Science, Logic, and Peirce.

André De Tienne (PhD Catholic University Louvain-la-Neuve, 1991)
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy;
Associate Editor/Associate Director, Peirce Edition Project
Areas of Specialization: Peirce, American Pragmatism, Pragmatistic
Textual Theory, semiotics.

Cornelis de Waal (PhD University of Miami, 1997)
Assistant Professor and Graduate Co-director, Department of Philosophy;
Associate Editor, Peirce Edition Project
Areas of Specialization: Peirce, American Philosophy, Modern
Philosophy, and Metaphysics.

Jason T. Eberl (PhD Saint Louis University, 2003)
Assistant Professor and Graduate Co-director, Department of Philosophy;
Affiliate Faculty, IU Center for Bioethics
Areas of Specialization: Bioethics, Metaphysics, Medieval Philosophy.

Carl Hausman (PhD Northwestern University, 1960)
Adjunct Professor, Department of Philosophy
Areas of Specialization: Peirce and Aesthetics.

Nathan Houser (PhD University of Waterloo, 1986)
Professor, Department of Philosophy;
General Editor/Director, Peirce Edition Project
Areas of Specialization: Peirce, Pragmatism, Philosophy of Mind.

Timothy D. Lyons (PhD University of Melbourne, 2002)
Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy
Area of Specialization: Philosophy of Science

Paul Nagy (PhD Fordham University, 1968)
Professor Emeritus, Department of Philosophy
Areas of Specialization: John Dewey, William James, Michael Polanyi,
Pragmatism and American Culture.

Ursula Niklas (PhD Warsaw University, 1977)
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
Areas of Specialization: History of Philosophy, Philosophy and Literature.

John Tilley (PhD University of Wisconsin, 1988)
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
Areas of Specialization: Ethical Theory, Practical Reason.

Recruitment Plans

A key recruitment tool is the department's website, which currently advertises the MA program, with clear links from and to the websites of the scholarly editions (Peirce and Santayana) and the Institute for American Thought. In addition, recruitment efforts run largely through professional organizations and already existing contacts and lines of communication. The latter includes the *Peirce Edition Project Newsletter*.

Projected Steady-State Enrollment

The projected steady-state enrollment is four students a year.

Admissions Requirements and Procedures

Applicants are expected to have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university or its equivalent, with a grade point average of at least 3.0 overall (on a scale of 4) and at least 3.0 in the student's major. There is no specific major requirement, but applicants must show a record of coursework (or equivalent experience) demonstrating that they are sufficiently prepared to do graduate work in philosophy. Acceptable coursework includes an undergraduate degree in philosophy. For their application, students are required to submit in addition to their application form: official transcripts, GRE scores, 1–3 letters of recommendation, and a personal statement. The department's admission committee for the American philosophy track of the MA program will also make decisions for the certificate. Foreign applicants are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). They must also take the IUPUI English (ESL) examination prior to their first semester of coursework and may be required to take additional classes in English as a second language.

Completion Requirements and Procedures for Certification

To complete the certificate students should take fifteen (15) credit hours in the IU system, at least nine (9) of which must be taken at the IUPUI campus. All courses must be at the 500-level or higher and be completed with a grade B or higher. Students are required to take P558, which is currently offered every fall. In addition, students should take nine credit hours in concentration specific courses, while taken the remaining three credit hours either in concentration specific courses or in courses that fall within the MA core. (See course listing below for course details.)

Course Listing

All courses listed below are already being offered as part of the Department's MA program. No new courses are required for the certificate program, and no new courses are being proposed.

Required Course

PHIL P558 American Philosophy (3 cr.)

General introduction to American philosophy.

Concentration Specific Courses

PHIL P503 The Semiotics of C. S. Peirce (3 cr.)

A general introduction to the semiotics of C. S. Peirce.

PHIL P507 American Philosophy and the Analytic Tradition (3 cr.)

An overview of the development of American philosophy with a special focus on its contribution to and influence on the American analytic tradition. This course discusses the views of such philosophers as C.I. Lewis, Rudolf Carnap, W.V.O. Quine, Donald Davidson, Hillary Putnam, and Susan Haack.

PHIL P514 Pragmatism (3 cr.)

This course examines what pragmatism stood for in its formative years and what it has become; then, after studying some conflicting views of well-known pragmatists, it considers what pragmatism might become. Part of the course is devoted to the contributions of pragmatism to different areas within philosophy.

PHIL P549 Bioethics and Pragmatism (3 cr.)

A survey of recent contributions of American philosophy to bioethics. The course strongly focuses on a growing group of philosophers and ethicists who seek their inspiration in Dewey, James, Peirce, Royce, and Mead, while dealing with contemporary issues in medical ethics.

PHIL P590 Intensive Reading (1-4 cr.) [Assuming concentration specific content.]

A tutorial course involving in-depth consideration of a specific philosophical area or problem or author. May be repeated for credit.

PHIL P600 Topics in Philosophy (3 cr.) [Assuming concentration specific content.]

This course addresses some particular topic within philosophy. May be repeated for credit.

PHIL P650 Topics in Semiotic Philosophy (3 cr.)

An examination of various historical and theoretical issues arising from the philosophical study of semiosis—the general phenomenon of representation, objectification, signification, and interpretation—through the work of mostly American philosophers from the late nineteenth century to the present, with an emphasis on the impact of Peirce’s semiotic philosophy.

PHIL P701 Peirce Seminar (3 cr.)

This course is designed to give students a firm and broad understanding of the philosophy of Charles S. Peirce.

PHIL P748 Seminar in American Philosophy (3 cr.)

Different topics course which students can take repeatedly for credit. Sample topics include American Phenomenology, American Realism, Emerson, James, Royce, Dewey, and Mead.

Core Philosophy Courses

PHIL P525 Topics in the History of Philosophy (3 cr.)

An advanced study of important themes or major figures in the history of philosophy.

PHIL P540 Contemporary Ethical Theories (3 cr.)

Fundamental problems of ethics in contemporary analytic philosophy from G. E. Moore’s *Principia Ethica* to the present.

PHIL P543 Contemporary Social and Political Philosophy (3 cr.)

In-depth discussion of representative contemporary theories.

PHIL P553 Philosophy of Science (3 cr.)

A study of theories with regard to the nature, purpose, and limitations of science. Attention is given to the cognitive significance of theories, the scientific method (hypothesis formation, theory construction, and testing), research paradigms, reductionism, and social epistemology.

PHIL P560 Metaphysics (3 cr.)

In-depth discussion of representative contemporary theories.

PHIL P562 Theory of Knowledge (3 cr.)

Advanced study of selected topics.

Sample Curriculum*Fall semester*

P558 American Philosophy (3 cr.)

P701 Peirce Seminar (3 cr.)

P553 Philosophy of science (3 cr.)

Spring semester

P549 Bioethics and Pragmatism (3 cr.)

P650 Topics in Semiotic Philosophy (3 cr.)

Program Governance

The day-to-day management of the program is conducted by the program director, who is also the director of the American philosophy concentration for the MA program. The Department's existing Graduate Program Committee will be responsible for general oversight and program development. This committee consists of (i) the department's graduate co-directors; (ii) the chair of the philosophy department; and (iii) at least one other faculty member who participates in the graduate program.

Procedures for Program Evaluation

The Department's Graduate Program Committee will monitor each student's performance, progress, and timely completion of requirements, and monitor each student's transition to further graduate education or to a professional career. The department will evaluate the program in its sixth year and submit a report to the SLA Graduate Curriculum Committee. Many elements that have a bearing upon the certificate program are monitored independently as part of the procedures that guide the department's MA program. Moreover, the IU Graduate School monitors all of its programs and periodically holds extensive program reviews in cooperation with the Office of Planning and Institutional Improvement.