

# PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Philosophy Department of Southwestern Illinois College is to introduce and encourage student participation in philosophical discourse so as to provide a foundation for living an examined life. An assumption of philosophical discourse is that persons have dignity and worth; a consequence of philosophical discourse is a commitment to continual assessment of teaching and of learning, as well as perpetual self-assessment.

## Goals

Students who successfully complete a sequence of courses will be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of philosophy;
- interpret varieties of philosophical literature;
- employ a thoughtful and sensitive approach to inquiry;
- exhibit an ability to comprehend and evaluate arguments;
- display the ability to explore varying points of view regarding philosophical issues;
- utilize strengthened abilities to communicate ideas effectively;
- apply or synthesize concepts in novel situations; and
- show in their discourse a cultivated interest in foundational philosophical issues and the life of learning.

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