

PHILOSOPHY

Department Website (<http://www.cas.sc.edu/phil/>)

Christopher Tollefsen, *Chair*

The USC Department of Philosophy is an intellectually active and pluralistic community offering a congenial environment for graduate study. We host numerous invited speakers, workshops, and major conferences. The history of philosophy is foundational in the undergraduate and graduate programs and is a crucial part of the methodology of the faculty. The department has significant clusters of faculty who work in two special areas of research:

- The history and philosophy of science: We emphasize issues and methods that are closely tied to the actual content of the sciences, whether contemporary or historical. The faculty has particular strengths in the philosophy of physics, chemistry, mathematics, medicine, engineering, and technology.
- Theoretical and practical ethics: We see normative issues as intertwined with a host of other philosophical, scientific, and historical issues. The faculty has particular strengths in normative ethical theory, bioethics, engineering ethics, environmental ethics, and the ethics of emerging technologies.

Additionally, individual faculty members have research and teaching interests in the following areas: ancient philosophy, early modern philosophy, American pragmatism, twentieth century analytic philosophy, existentialism and phenomenology, contemporary European social philosophy, philosophy of language and mind, and philosophy of logic. The department collaborates with other units within the College of Arts and Sciences, including biology, chemistry, classics, comparative literature, history, linguistics, physics, psychology, religious studies, and women's studies. Individual faculty members also work in collaboration with other units across campus, including the School of Medicine, the School of the Environment, and the Consortium for Science, Technology, Environment, and Medicine in Society.

Deadlines

Students are normally admitted to the program only in the fall semester. The absolute deadline for applying for the fall semester is July 1. However, to receive full consideration for financial assistance, applications should be completed before January 15. Applicants who do not meet the January deadline will still be considered for and may even be awarded support, but opportunities become increasingly limited after this date.