

## **Departmental Honors in Philosophy**

The **Le Moyne College Catalog** includes the following entry:

*Some departments offer an honors degree to superior students who complete specified requirements in the major field. Department chairs invite qualified applicants to pursue this degree at an appropriate time in their academic program. Departmental honors thus provides a challenge for the student who excels in the major or for the transfer student who enters Le Moyne too late to participate in the Integral Honors Program.*

The Department of Philosophy offers this opportunity to exceptional students.

A student is eligible for Philosophy Departmental Honors provided that:

- (i) the student is a declared philosophy major
- (ii) the student has achieved an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher
- (iii) the student has achieved a GPA in Philosophy of 3.25 or higher
- (iv) the student successfully completes an Honors Project.

While the Department Chair will invite students to undertake Honors work, qualified students are encouraged to take the initiative as well.

Typically, the Honors Project will consist of a research paper, written under the guidance of the “Project Director” and, usually, two other members of the Philosophy Department (collectively, the “Project Committee.”) Successful completion of the Honors Project will include an oral defense.

During the second semester of the junior year, it is the responsibility of the student to secure a Project Director, and to develop an Honors Project description: a working title, thesis, outline, and preliminary bibliography. Upon the approval of the Project Director, the student will register for PHL 490, “Research in Philosophy.”

The student will enroll in PHL 490 in the Fall Semester of the senior year, and work with the Project Director and the other members of the Project Committee. The student will enroll in PHL 490 for the Spring Semester.

Prior to the “Drop-Add Deadline” of Spring Semester, the student will meet with the Project Director and other members of the Project Committee to demonstrate progress on the Honors Project. Provided that adequate progress is being made, the student will remain enrolled in PHL 490 for the Spring Semester.

By April 1 of the senior year, the student will have presented the penultimate draft of the Honors Project to the Project Director and other members of the Committee. Additionally, the student will have arranged a time and place for the oral defense. The student will, in light of the oral defense, revise the Honors Project as appropriate, and submit the final version to the Honors Project Director no later than two weeks following the defense. The Project Director, in consultation with the other members of the Project committee, will determine whether the student graduates with Departmental Honors in Philosophy.