REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER’S PROGRAM

The Master of Arts in Philanthropic Studies is a gateway to understanding the social, cultural, political, and economic roles played by philanthropy and nonprofit organizations and facilitates broad understanding that prepares graduates for leadership practice within the nonprofit sector. Students gain experience in understanding and applying cutting-edge research and develop critical thinking skills about the complex issues confronting the nonprofit sector. This 36-credit-hour graduate program includes 27 hours of core course work, 9 hours of electives, OR a 9-hour thesis option in lieu of electives.

Core Courses (27 credits)
PHST-P521 Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector
PHST-P524 Civil Society and Philanthropy
PHST-P535 Law of Nonprofit Organizations
PHST-P556 Grant Making and the Role of Foundations
PHST-P558 Principles and Practices of Fundraising
PHST-P590 Internship/Directed Off-Site Study
PHST-P515/HIST-H516 History of Philanthropy
ECON-E514/PHST-P530 Nonprofit Economy and Public Policy
PHIL-P542/PHST-P530 Ethics and Values in Philanthropy

Elective Courses (9 credits)-choose 3
Graduate level-courses approved by the Director of Master’s Degree Programs
PHST-P518 History of International Humanitarian Assistance
PHST-P527 Cross Cultural Dimensions of Philanthropy
PHST-P534 Gender and Philanthropy

Master’s Thesis Option (9 credits)
Students who write a master’s thesis must meet with the Director of Master’s Degree Programs for approval of one research methods elective (3 credits) and M.A. thesis credits (6 credits).

Research methods-as approved
PHST-P600 M.A. Thesis
PHST-P600-M.A. Thesis

Total: 36 credits

Core Courses (27 credits)
PHST-P521 Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector
Students examine issues of why people organize, give, and donate time; theories of the sector; policy formulation in the sector, etc., with the objective of becoming “philanthropically literate.” The preferred first course in the M.A. program.

PHST-P524 Civil Society and Philanthropy
The course explores the relationship of civil society to the state, how the nonprofit sector affects the state, and how the state regulates the sector. A continuing theme is how and whether the state and philanthropic institutions make civil investments in strengthening civil society.

PHST-P535 Law of Nonprofit Organizations
This seminar examines aspects of the legal regulation of nonprofit organizations. Topics include the formation, operation, and governance of nonprofit organizations, duties and liability of officers and directors, charitable solicitation, tax-exempt status for public benefit and mutual benefit organizations, charitable contributions, political activities, foundations, membership organizations, and religious organizations.

PHST-P556 Grant Making and the Role of Foundations
This course explores questions of legitimacy, effectiveness, and accountability among U.S. philanthropic foundations. Students will explore the role of foundations in society, how roles are successfully fulfilled, how role fulfillment is measured, and what current trends in foundation philanthropy might mean for the future of local and global philanthropy.

PHST-P558 Principles and Practices of Fundraising
The course covers the salient aspects of the fundraising process as organized carried out by nonprofit organizations—its base of core values, preparing a case for philanthropic support, relevant techniques and strategies, assessing potential sources of support, effective engagement of human resources, and process management. The course includes relevant theory to undergird practice, examination and analysis of current practice, proposal of practice standards, and discussion and examination of ethical problems in fundraising.

PHST-P590 Internship/Directed Off-Site Study
A course for the advanced student of philanthropy. Students work 10 hours per week for a nonprofit organization, applying knowledge gained in earlier courses to practical situations. Requirements include a journal and a substantial paper.

PHST-P515/HIST-H516 History of Philanthropy
This course examines traditions of giving and receiving charity and philanthropy in the modern era. It takes a comparative approach to giving including different historical contexts and traditions. Among the topics covered will be donor motivations, definitions of need, identity formation, and philanthropy, politics and social change.

ECON-E514/PHST 530 Nonprofit Economy and Public Policy
Students examine the role of nonprofit organizations (universities, churches, hospitals, orchestras, charties, day care, research, nursing homes) in mixed economies. Public policy controversies such as regulation of fundraising, antitrust against universities, “unfair” competition with for-profit firms, and the tax treatment of donations are considered.

PHIL-P542/PHST 530 Ethics and Values in Philanthropy
This course reflects an inquiry into the ethics and values of philanthropy rooted in a general understanding of philanthropy, as voluntary action for the public good, as an ethical ideal. Students consider philanthropic activity in light of this ideal.

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exercise their power and influence in philanthropy. Throughout this curriculum are examples of how women fundraising follow a one-size-fits-all format. Woven, donors must recognize that neither philanthropy nor CEO, fundraiser, board member, or volunteer – and PHST-P534 Gender and Philanthropy traditions in the United States and around the world. diverse system of giving and serving within philanthropy implications of philanthropy. The course focuses on the pursues critical inquiry into the historical and cultural Examines cross-cultural research on philanthropy and PHST-P527 Cross-Cultural Dimensions of Philanthropy Examines cross-cultural research on philanthropy and pursues critical inquiry into the historical and cultural implications of philanthropy. The course focuses on the diverse system of giving and serving within philanthropy traditions in the United States and around the world. PHST-P534 Gender and Philanthropy This course provides a broad overview and deeper understanding of giving and volunteering by gender from multiple perspectives, and how this knowledge can be applied across the nonprofit sector today. As the 21st century unfolds, nonprofit practitioners – whether CEO, fundraiser, board member, or volunteer – and donors must recognize that neither philanthropy nor fundraising follow a one-size-fits-all format. Woven throughout this curriculum are examples of how women exercise their power and influence in philanthropy.

PHST-P530 Variable Topics

PHST-P530 Community Foundations
This course will explore such areas as the role of and challenges facing community foundations and community philanthropy in Indiana and beyond; place-based giving in identity-focused groups, looking at Muslim community foundations and philanthropy; U.S. and comparative developments in the regulation and self-regulation of community foundations, including the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations; private and community foundation funding or the growth and diversity of the community foundation movement; challenges to community foundation from other economic and charitable actors; and other topics.

PHST-P530 Philanthropy Ethics—East and West
This course provides a graduate-level introduction to philanthropy ethics in comparative perspective, focusing on China and the United States. In addition to their in-person classes, students from Indiana University and Sun Yat-sen University will engage in discussion via Course Networking.

PHST-P530 Religion and Philanthropy
This course explores three relationships between people’s religious traditions and their philanthropic ideas and activities: 1) how diverse religious traditions have shaped distinctive philanthropic practices, 2) how political, economic and social forces have structured religious philanthropy, and 3) how competing visions of good lives and a good society have played out in the give and take of religious philanthropy. In examining the normative models of giving and service through a variety of religious traditions, we will analyze how religious narratives, practices, teachings and authorities have shaped people’s generosity and humanitarianism. In studying religious philanthropy in particular historical contexts, we will explore how religious philanthropy has been influenced by secular states and market economies, transforming religious traditions and communities along the way. In observing the tensions between the purposes of givers and takers, we will locate religious philanthropy in the world of social action so as to assess claims about the uniquely selfless, altruistic or civic nature of religious philanthropy.

PHST-P530 The Equity and Effectiveness of Philanthropy
What do we know about the experience of receiving help? What is it like for someone to walk in the door of a homeless shelter, a legal aid clinic, or a job training program and ask for help? How much do we really know about the experiences of those who motivate us to start a nonprofit, donate money, or volunteer time? While we have spent a lot of time studying those who give and the experience of those giving, we know far less about the experience of those receiving this help. This course draws on literature from anthropology, sociology, social psychology, and political science to examine the experience of receiving help. We will tease out when giving help is effective, why it’s often ineffective or less effective than it could be and then consider the implications for nonprofit management and public policy.

PHST-P530 Philanthropy and Public Policy: The German Context
The study-abroad program provides students with a first-hand learning experience in philanthropy and public policy. Students will have the opportunity to learn from German professors, researchers, policy-makers, and leaders from the nonprofit sector. Students will visit state and federal agencies, local nonprofit organizations, think tanks, and philanthropic foundations. Germany has one of the largest nonprofit sectors in the world. It provides a great model of philanthropy and public policy because most basic needs are met through its extensive social welfare policies, thus leaving philanthropic organizations to concentrate on community building and social innovation. At the center of debates surrounding globalization, environmental change, European integration and humanitarian aid, Berlin provides the opportunity to explore many global trends. After daily morning lectures on current European Public Policy issues, students take afternoon field trips to leading policy institutions, philanthropic organizations, and governmental agencies in Berlin.

PHST-P530 Altruism and Health
Does giving lead to better living? Or is caring wearing? What are the psychological and physical health consequences of prosocial versus more self-interested traits and behaviors? This course examines how extremes of self and other-focus affect both psychological and physical health outcomes.

PHST-P530 Diversity and Culturally-Responsive Philanthropy
This course will cover giving traditions of various ethnic groups and examine current practices in the philanthropic field through a culturally-responsive lens. A deep dive into the histories of these groups and their struggles for representation, validation, and justice will undergird our journey through relevant literature and scholarly works.