Philosophy

Objectives
given to us by department: (as well as on SACs)

Proficiencies
Students are expected to be able to do the following:
(i) write and speak about philosophical topics clearly, logically, and effectively, to both
general and academic audiences;
(ii) interpret philosophical academic writing and discourse;
(iii) locate, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate philosophical information;
(iv) utilize electronic word processing, information retrieval, and communication
technologies in carrying out philosophical research.

Knowledge and Understanding
Students are expected to acquire broad understanding of the following:
(i) the philosophical traditions that have shaped our diverse society;
(ii) the aims and methods of philosophical expression;
(iii) the importance that abstract philosophical ideas have on the process of self-
understanding and in the shaping of society;
(iv) philosophically significant interrelationships between the individual and society.

Habits of Mind and Attributes of Character
Students are expected to have the following intellectual traits:
(i) sensitivity to philosophical differences;
(ii) recognition of the practical and theoretical import of ethical and epistemic norms;
(iii) a disposition to adjudicate between opposing philosophical viewpoints in the court of
reason and to develop an informed philosophical perspective;
(iv) an abiding intellectual curiosity about the nature of things;
(v) philosophical open-mindedness;
(vi) an appreciation for the broader philosophical contexts of individual events and
situations.

Students are also expected to possess basic technology competencies and information
skills/research competencies.
These competencies relate to basic computer skills, word-processing, use of databases,
internet use, e-mail use, and use of library
resources, including electronic library resources, e.g., e-reserves.

Mission
not given by department, but found on SACs
The learning goals adopted by the Department of Philosophy conform to the
Department's mission of offering a sound, comprehensive program for philosophy majors
that will prepare them for graduate work at institutions of the highest caliber. These
learning goals also conform to the Department's mission of preparing students for
professional careers in fields such as law and government.