

# Philosophy

How many times in your life have you faced a crisis or an opportunity and started a line of reasoning examining your goals, the lives of those around you, and the ultimate impact of your decision? Most likely the answer is many times. The Philosophy faculty and staff at BU work hard to enrich the intellectual lives of our students so that when life's big moments come calling, our graduates will be ready.

**The Department of Philosophy is committed to the following goals:**

- Creating a community of students and teachers who agree with Socrates that “the unexamined life is not worth living.”
- Learning how to **challenge conventional wisdom**.
- Preparing undergraduate students to make an **intellectual contribution** to the profession they enter.
- Supporting a faculty that works at the **highest levels** of academic scholarship and has gained **international renown**.
- Training graduate students to become professors.

**We have gone a long way toward achieving these goals:**

- **Over 2,000** BU students take our courses every year.
- Our Philosophy and History of Science Center, and our Institute for Philosophy and Religion, **sponsor public lectures year-round**, drawing more people into the circle of philosophical discourse.
- Our **alumni have become leaders in fields** such as commercial real estate, medicine, law, and managerial consulting, just to name a few.
- Two of our professors, Paul Katsafanas and David Liebesman, **won national awards** in 2012 for writing the best journal article of the year. Our faculty travel around the United States and to many foreign countries (Germany, Italy, France, China and New Zealand) to present the results of their research. As a group, we have **published books and dozens of articles** in the last two years.
- **Four of our Ph.D. students got tenure-track jobs in 2013**. Our department was recently ranked **18<sup>th</sup> in the country** in placing its graduate students in academic positions.

**But we can go a lot further toward achieving our goals. For that, we need your help. Please consider making a contribution to the Department of Philosophy.**

- **\$100 to \$1,000 will help fund undergraduate** student services.
- **\$2,000 to \$3,000 will help fund** summer research for our Ph.D. students.
- **\$10,000 to \$20,000 will seed a fund to support undergraduate and graduate student travel to conferences and seminars.**
- **\$100,000 will establish an** endowed **fund** supporting an annual scholarship for deserving undergraduates.
- **\$300,000 to \$500,000 will endow an annual dissertation fellowship** for a highly deserving Ph.D. student in her final year of graduate study.
- **\$1 million to \$2 million will** endow a career development chair for a new faculty member or **visiting faculty chair**, aiding our efforts to recruit the very best faculty to teach our students.

**Please remember the impact Boston University's Department of Philosophy had on you, and the impact your contribution can have on us, and be as generous as you can be.**

**For more information, visit our website: [bu.edu/philo/](http://bu.edu/philo/)**