

## MASTER OF ARTS PHILOSOPHY

### ***INTRODUCTION***

The Department of Philosophy (College of Arts) offers a Master of Arts program in **Philosophy**. Full-time and part time students are admitted to this program. Language of instruction is Arabic. The program is designed to prepare the graduate student for a career in areas concerned with the development, analysis and refinement of thought. The emphasis in this program is on developing skills in argument, analysis of concepts, study and evaluation of major developments in philosophy including the most enduring problems, concepts, systems and methods.

*According to the University Council decision dated 4/2/2007, Thesis students admitted with effect from September 2007 are exempted from the comprehensive examination.*

### ***PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS***

#### **36 TOTAL COURSE CREDITS**

#### **21 COMPULSORY (3 credits each)**

0360-501	Philosophic Texts in a Foreign Language
0360-502	Metaphysics
0360-508	Philosophy of Contemporary Science
0360-509	Social and Political Philosophy
0360-515	Islamic Philosophy
0360-517	Modern Philosophy
0360-518	Contemporary Philosophy

#### **6 ELECTIVES (3 credits each):**

0360-503	Analysis of a Philosophy Book
0360-506	Axiology (Philosophy of Value)
0360-510	Logic and Methodology
0360-514	Studies in Contemporary Arabic and Islamic Thought

#### **9 COMPULSORY**

0360-597	Thesis	(0)
0360-598	Thesis	(0)
2000-599	Thesis	(9)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION****0360-501: PHILOSOPHY TEXTS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**  
**CR: 3**

Diversified selection of texts from major works of philosophers. In view of the present background of students, the texts will be in English unless the study of a student needs another language. The texts are translated and commented upon. The concepts and technical terms are explained with the help of specialized dictionaries.

**0360-502: METAPHYSICS**  
**CR: 3**

A study of the concepts of existence and identity in their historical context, beginning with Plato and ending with Quine. The Interrelations of the two concepts are closely studied to determine the effects on the philosophy systems of Aristotle, Kant, Avicenna, Hegel & Frege among others.

**0360-503: ANALYSIS OF A PHILOSOPHY BOOK**  
**CR: 3**

Depending on one's field of specialization, a major book of a Muslim or a Western philosopher is selected every year. The study of the book includes its style, main subject, place in the works of its author and influence on philosophical thought in general, as well as the author's own school of thought. Development of the philosopher's thought is traced with a view to shed light on the experience of philosophizing in the selected book.

**0360-506: AXIOLOGY (PHILOSOPHY OF VALUE)**  
**CR: 3**

A study of the major values: Truth, Goodness, Beauty and the Sacred; the scale of values and their changes; civilizations and values; the role of values in social, political and artistic organizations and institutions.

**0360-508: PHILOSOPHY OF CONTEMPORARY SCIENCE**  
**CR: 3**

A profound study of a scientific theory from a philosophical point of view. The course includes a definition of the most important features of contemporary science with reference to past developments in the field of science, presenting the

most important schools of the philosophy of contemporary science, new tendencies relating to a change in traditional schools concerning both the explanation of the history of science and the pattern of scientific development; a detailed exposition of one of the major theories in science (Evolution theory, relativity theory,...etc.) and their intellectual impact on thought in general and on philosophical thought in particular.

**0360-509: SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY**  
**CR:3**

A comparative and historical study of the theories of philosophers and sociologists concerning society; the growth of social and political institutions; factors of social change with emphasis on the most important philosophical problems arising from the current political and social conditions of the world.

**0360-510: LOGIC AND METHODOLOGY**  
**CR: 3**

A study of the most important developments in formal logic especially during the 19th and 20th centuries; a comparative study of major theories and trends; a treatment - from untraditional point of view - of the methods of the natural sciences, mathematics and humanities on the basis of the main developments that have currently occurred to these methods. The student is assigned to carry out research work related to the major topics.

**0360-514: STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY ARABIC AND ISLAMIC THOUGHT**  
**CR: 3**

Study of the works of a modern Arabic thinker (such as Tahtawi, Khair ed-Deen, Shumayyil.Mohd. Abdu, Taha Hussein..), or a major issue in the modern and contemporary Arabic thought (such as: Freedom, Justice, Despotism, Progress, Secularism, Liberalism..).

**0360-515: ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY**  
**CR: 3**

This course deals with philosophical problems of Islamic Philosophy through selected texts (such as: Man, Mind, Happiness, Interpretation, Politics..).

**0360-517: MODERN PHILOSOPHY**

**CR: 3**

The study of the most important problems of existence, knowledge, ethics, politics, and esthetic, which were presented by modern philosophers, such as Descartes, Leibnitz, Lock, Hume, Kant, Hegel, and others relying on their texts and concepts.

**0360-518: CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY**

**CR: 3**

The study of the most important problem of existence, knowledge, ethics, politics, and esthetic, which were presented by contemporary philosophers, such as George Moore, Russell, Wittgenstein, Carnap, William James, John Dewy, Husserl, Heidegger, Sartre, Merleau-Ponty, Gadamar, Foucault, Deleuze and others relying on their texts and concepts.

**0360-597: THESIS  
CR: 0**

**0360-598: THESIS  
CR: 0**

**2000-599: THESIS  
CR: 9**