

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION



"Truman's Philosophy & Religion program gives me the opportunity to get to know all my professors personally, and the support I get from them helps me realize my potential. My professors' genuine love for teaching inspires me to become a better student and their enthusiasm makes school fun."

Kara Boschert, Class of 2014
Pursued at Truman: Philosophy & Religion,
English minor
Hometown: St. Louis, MO

The "Pre-Life" Major Explores the Nature of Reality...

Dedicate yourself to freedom of thought and inquiry. Examine the efforts of human beings throughout history to know themselves, their society, and their purpose in life. Free yourself from the forces of ignorance, fear, and injustice in society. Explore religious traditions and see the world through others' eyes. Challenge your preconceived notions about what is "true" and "right" in the world. This program's emphasis on critical thinking, problem-solving, and clear communication makes our graduates among the most attractive to employers and graduate schools.

Learn. Understand. Prepare for a life that matters!

PURSUING PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

BA DEGREE OFFERED | **MINOR OFFERED**
Philosophy & Religion

50

approximate number of students pursuing this major

70

approximate number of students pursuing this minor

100%

of faculty members have a terminal degree in the field

10 full-time faculty members

2 part-time faculty members

DEPARTMENTAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
Philosophy & Religion Club, Art of Living Club and
Students for Middle East Peace

PHILOSOPHY-RELIGION.TRUMAN.EDU

Faculty

- The Philosophy & Religion Department includes 10 full-time and 2 part-time faculty members, all of whom hold a terminal degree (PhD or ThD) in their field.
- Learn more about the faculty at truman.edu/philosophy-religion-faculty

Curriculum

- Receive a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree or a minor in Philosophy & Religion.
- The Philosophy & Religion major is flexible. Almost half of your peers in this program students will be double majors!
- Gain a great complement to pre-professional programs, especially in Education and Health Sciences – fields in which Truman's Philosophy & Religion majors regularly find jobs after graduation.

What Makes Philosophy & Religion Students Distinctive?

- **Writing** The program emphasizes strong, clear, persuasive writing as the best place to demonstrate critical thinking. Leave with professional-level writing skills applicable to any kind of employment you wish to pursue – an essential qualification that will give you an edge over most other candidates for a job.
- **Research** Work closely with one or more faculty members on a research project – either yours or the professor's. Multiple presentation opportunities exist locally and nationwide for student work.
- **Honors** Get recognized for your academic achievements, including:
 - The Rhodes Scholarship: In Fall 2009, Truman was honored with its first Rhodes Scholar, Philosophy & Religion major Andrew McCall.
 - The Fulbright Scholarship
 - Phi Kappa Phi
 - Phi Beta Kappa
 - Theta Alpha Kappa: the undergraduate theological and religious studies honors society



"I count as my greatest success every student I've helped to think a little bit more deeply about the important questions in life. Who are we? What is our purpose? What should we believe? How should we act? I can't think of any greater accomplishment than that."

Dr. Chad Mohler
Professor of Philosophy & Religion

After the Degree

- **Graduate School** Enroll in any number of the top graduate programs in the country, including the University of Chicago, Vanderbilt University, Princeton University, Duke University, McGill University, and Georgetown Law. Prepare for studies not only in philosophy, theology, and religious studies, but also in fields as diverse as information science, chemistry, physics, library science, and music. Majors report entering graduate school far more prepared than most of their peers in the same programs.
- **Law** Receive an ideal preparation for the analytic and argumentative environment of the law profession. A recent survey states that the top major being admitted to law school is philosophy!
- **Education** Want to teach elementary or high school? Transition fluidly into Truman's Master of Arts in Education program, with specializations in English as a Second Language (Philosophy & Religion graduates have taught in France and China), Special Education, and Music Education.
- **Health Professions** Find opportunities in one of the fastest-growing fields of employment, working in nursing, hospital administration, elder care, and community health.
- **Ministry** Interested in religious outreach and education? Some graduates seek seminary degrees at such schools as Columbia Theological Seminary, Covenant Theological Seminary, Denver Seminary, Duke Divinity School, Princeton Theological Seminary, University of Chicago Divinity School, and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and have worked as pastors, chaplains, and youth ministers.
- **Non-Profits** Build values and skills that naturally lend themselves to work in non-profit organizations. Find positions in non-government organizations in the Middle East, the Missouri Historical Society, the Peace Corps, grants research, community theatre, intentional/sustainable communities, and state government – like recent Truman Philosophy & Religion interns did.