FAQ for students who hoped to apply to the MA program for Fall 2021 (6 8 21)

I was hoping to apply for the MA program for Fall 2021, but I now see that it is closed. When can I apply for Spring 2022 or Fall 2022?

Spring 2022 admissions: Aug 1 through Dec 10 (last day of classes Fall 2021)
Fall 2022 admissions: Oct 1 through May 13 (last day of classes of Spring 2022)

Is there some way of taking classes toward the MA if I am not yet in the program?

Yes! You can still enroll in courses in the Department of Philosophy. Most classes taught at SFSU can also be enrolled in through Open University (College of Extended Learning). (One main difference is that you will not be eligible for financial aid if you take classes through Open University.)

If you have not yet taken the following courses (or their cognates at other universities) and received a B or better in them, then it would be a good idea to take them in Fall through Open University.

This is the list of prerequisite courses:

1. Logic (must be equivalent to PHIL 205)
2. Ancient Philosophy (PHIL 301) [or Phil 410 in Fall 2021]
3. Modern Philosophy (PHIL 303)
4. Ethics (PHIL 450)
5. One course in Metaphysics and Epistemology (broadly construed):
   o Philosophy of Science (PHIL 350)
   o Metaphysics (PHIL 605)
   o Theory of Knowledge (PHIL 610)
   o Philosophy of Perception (PHIL 611)
   o Philosophy of Mind (PHIL 620)
   o Philosophy of Language (PHIL 630)

Note: with the exception of Phil 205, these are at the upper-division level. This means that classes taken at a community college will not satisfy these requirements.

I'm not sure if the course I took as an undergraduate would count as one of these. What should I do?

You can always email one of the Graduate Coordinators who head the admissions committees:

Alice Sowaal at asowaal@sfsu.edu (between July 7 and August 13)
Jeremy Reid at jreid@sfsu.edu (from August 16 onward)

In the meantime, you can enroll in the relevant courses and later drop them (but be sure to do so before the official "drop deadline").