

Philosophy

Introduction

The department offers a wide range of courses in various traditions of philosophy, with strengths and a well-established reputation in the history of philosophy, in ethics, metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of art as well as other central topics. We also have affiliated faculty members in the Law School, the Linguistics Department, the Political Science Department, and the Divinity School, and have close connections with the Cognitive Science Program. Our undergraduate major is thriving, in no small part, because of the excellent teachers on our faculty. Our graduate program welcomes students from various backgrounds, and our placement record for graduate students is extremely good.

The Department's main office is located in New Haven's oldest building, Connecticut Hall, on Old Campus, across the West Side of the Green, through Phelps Gate (right by the statue of Nathan Hale). Click [Directions](#) on the left for travel directions.

For more information about the department, contact one of the following people:

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John E. Smith, 1921-2009

We are sorry to report that our colleague, John E. Smith, passed away December 7, while visiting his daughter, Diana, in Virginia.

John was 88 years old. Before retiring from Yale in 1991, John was a faculty member in the department for nearly 40 years and was also chair of the department for three years in the 1960's. Among his many honors and recognitions was John's term as President of the American Philosophical Association in 1981.

John's family will be holding a private burial service. There will be a memorial service early in the new year.

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