



# **Master's Degree in Philosophy and Theological Anthropology**

## **Program Overview**

The Master's Degree in Philosophy and Theological Anthropology (M.A.Phil.) at the Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) is a rigorous graduate program designed to form scholars and professionals capable of developing advanced philosophical reasoning, analytical depth, and research competence in the humanities and social thought.

This program focuses on the critical intersection between classical philosophy, modern epistemology, and contemporary ethical and cultural issues, equipping students with the intellectual tools necessary to interpret, critique, and reconstruct ideas within today's pluralistic and technological context.

The M.A.Phil. trains graduates to move beyond mere conceptual analysis toward applied philosophical inquiry, connecting reflection with human and social transformation. It develops abilities in reasoning, interpretation, ethical judgment, and theoretical innovation, ensuring that philosophical knowledge contributes to interdisciplinary dialogue and the pursuit of the common good.

This two-year graduate program (60 credits) provides intensive formation in philosophical foundations, research methods, ethics, and transdisciplinary integration, preparing professionals to:

- Conduct philosophical research in academic, cultural, or institutional contexts.
- Teach philosophy and humanities at higher education levels.
- Engage in ethical consulting, critical analysis, and cultural mediation.
- Contribute to interdisciplinary and humanistic projects that promote dignity, rationality, and justice.

The M.A.Phil. at UNICA represents an academic space for rigorous reflection, ethical responsibility, and intellectual creativity in service of humanity.



## **Justification**

The Master's Degree in Philosophy and Theological Anthropology responds to the pressing need to reaffirm humanistic and critical thought in an era dominated by technological acceleration, information overload, and moral uncertainty. Modern societies require philosophers capable of interpreting complexity, questioning assumptions, and articulating meaning in fields ranging from science and politics to culture and ethics.

This master's program is justified by three core imperatives:

1. **Reconstruction of Rationality:**  
To train thinkers who can bridge classical wisdom with contemporary paradigms, overcoming the fragmentation of knowledge.
2. **Ethical and Cultural Responsibility:**  
To develop philosophical discernment that addresses dilemmas in technology, bioethics, politics, and education through ethical reasoning and anthropological reflection.
3. **Research and Knowledge Production:**  
To generate new philosophical perspectives through original research that nourishes academic dialogue and fosters intercultural understanding.

## **Institutional Identity**

The Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) reaffirms its commitment to forming integral human beings—intellectually rigorous, ethically responsible, and socially engaged—through advanced academic and philosophical education.

## **Mission**

To form Masters in Philosophy with solid theoretical grounding, methodological competence, and interpretive capacity, capable of engaging in philosophical research and dialogue that contribute to cultural development, human dignity, and rational discourse.

## **Vision**

To be a leading graduate institution in the field of philosophy, recognized for the intellectual excellence of its research, the publication of original works, and its contribution to global academic dialogue.



## Values

Rational inquiry, intellectual rigor, ethical responsibility, truth-seeking, and respect for human dignity.

## Technical Program Sheet

Field	Description
<b>Program Name</b>	Master's Degree in Philosophy and Theological Anthropology (M.A.Phil.)
<b>Academic Level</b>	Graduate / Master's Degree
<b>Total Duration</b>	2 years (4 semesters)
<b>Total Credits</b>	60 credits
<b>Average per Semester</b>	15 credits
<b>Modality</b>	Virtual and blended (synchronous seminars, research workshops, and analytical practicums)
<b>Language of Instruction</b>	Spanish / English (emphasis on philosophical and interdisciplinary sources in English)
<b>Degree Awarded</b>	Master's Degree in Philosophy and Theological Anthropology — Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA)

## Graduate Profile

Graduates of UNICA's Master of Arts in Philosophy will be professionals with the intellectual capacity to:

- 1. Comprehend and Interpret the History of Philosophy:**  
Analyze major thinkers and traditions from antiquity to postmodernity with depth and contextual understanding.
- 2. Develop Theoretical and Ethical Reasoning:**  
Apply logical, hermeneutical, and dialectical methods to address philosophical problems concerning being, knowledge, and action.
- 3. Engage in Interdisciplinary Dialogue:**  
Connect philosophical inquiry with the sciences, arts, politics, and religion, fostering integrative and creative approaches to knowledge.



**4. Conduct Applied Research:**

Design, execute, and present philosophical research that contributes to critical discourse and academic innovation.

**5. Promote Critical and Ethical Leadership:**

Exercise philosophical reflection as a guide for ethical decision-making, educational practice, and social transformation.

**Curriculum by Semester (2 Years — 60 Credits)**

Semester	Code	Course	Credits	Description	Emphasis	Prerequisites
<b>1</b>	MAPH-501	History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy	6	Study of foundational ideas from Greek, Roman, and Scholastic philosophy.	Historical	None
	MAPH-502	Epistemology and Theory of Knowledge	6	Analysis of modern and contemporary theories of knowledge and truth.	Theoretical	None
	MAPH-503	Research Methodology in Philosophy I	3	Introduction to philosophical research design and analytical methods.	Research	None
<b>Total Credits:</b>			<b>15</b>			
<b>2</b>	MAPH-504	Modern and Contemporary Philosophy	6	Critical study of rationalism, empiricism, idealism, and postmodern thought.	Historical	MAPH-501
	MAPH-505	Ethics and Political Philosophy	6	Philosophical analysis of moral reasoning, justice, and social order.	Ethical	MAPH-502



	MAPH-506	Research Methodology in Philosophy II	3	Advanced study of philosophical argumentation and literature review.	Research	MAPH-503
<b>Total Credits:</b>			<b>15</b>			
<b>3</b>	MAPH-601	Philosophy of Science and Technology	6	Exploration of epistemological and ethical implications of science and AI.	Interdisciplinary	MAPH-505
	MAPH-602	Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art	3	Reflection on beauty, creativity, and symbolic meaning in human experience.	Aesthetic	None
	MAPH-603	Interdisciplinary Elective I	6	Graduate seminar in Hermeneutics, Phenomenology, or Logic and Language.	Interdisciplinary	MAPH-506
<b>Total Credits:</b>			<b>15</b>			
<b>4</b>	MAPH-604	Interdisciplinary Elective II	3	Graduate seminar in Ethics of Technology, Environmental Philosophy, or Philosophy of Education.	Interdisciplinary	None
	MAPH-605	Thesis Seminar / Final Capstone Project	12	Supervised development and public defense of an original philosophical thesis or applied research project.	Capstone	MAPH-603
<b>Total Credits:</b>			<b>15</b>			



## Methodology and Evaluation

- **Project-Based and Blended Methodology:**  
Synchronous classes, analytical seminars, writing workshops, and individualized thesis mentoring.
- **Emphasis on Applied Research:**  
The program culminates in a Final Graduate Project (12 credits), which may take one of two forms:
  - An original research thesis (a contribution to philosophical knowledge), or
  - A Professional Project (application of philosophical reasoning to an ethical, cultural, or educational problem).
- **Continuous Evaluation:**  
Based on analytical essays, philosophical discussions, research proposals, and the public defense of the thesis or capstone project.

## Institutional Observations and Compliance

Admission requires a Bachelor's degree in philosophy, humanities, social sciences, or a related discipline, and demonstrable capacity for abstract reasoning and critical reflection.

UNICA will adapt admission processes and documentation according to State of Texas regulations and accreditation standards applicable to graduate-level programs.