

Philosophy Club Constitution

Organization

Name

The name of this organization shall be Philosophy Club at Iowa State University.

Purpose

This is a discussion based club with weekly meetings. These meetings consist of open conversation about various philosophical topics as well as occasional presentations by members and guest speakers. There is a club discord server where discussion can continue outside of meetings and socials held throughout each semester with the aim of building community. The goal of Philosophy Club is to provide a comfortable space for those interested in philosophy to discuss and debate a large variety of topics.

Officer Roles and Responsibilities

Role Duties

* President:

Sends weekly announcements to members during each semester, organizes special events (e.g. socials, guest speakers, club fests, etc.), and makes sure discussions in meetings and on the Discord are cordial and inclusive. They also must help minimize potential risks for club activities, recommend risk management policies or procedures, to submit documentation to ISU's Risk Management Office and to ensure that proper waivers and background checks are on file with Risk Management for events (if applicable).

* Treasurer:

Holds the P-card used for making club purchases, saves receipts, completes transaction forms when purchases are made, and periodically checks on the club's finances.

* Vice President:

Takes over presidential duties when the president is unable to. They will be considered interim president until they or another member completes Iowa State Student Organization President Training. This interim period should be at a minimum.

Social Chairs:

Consists of: Event Coordinator, Media Specialist, and Photographer. Each assists the president by working together in running the club's Instagram account, Discord, and any other official Philosophy Club social media account. This includes but is not limited to making advertisements for meetings and/or club events. They will also assist in any design changes related to the club (fliers, posters, student organization page, social media accounts, etc). Separately, the Event Coordinator assists the president in planning club events. This includes but is not limited to creating schedules and itineraries, organizing activities, and completing location approval forms. They will also assist the treasurer in completing any financial forms, estimating event costs, and making purchases for events.

Academic Outreach Coordinator:

Assists the president in communicating with other clubs and guest speakers.

Fundraising Coordinator:

Assists the president in organizing fundraising events and assists the treasurer in collecting funds and completing necessary financial forms.

Member Insights Analyst:

Assists the president in making surveys and analyzing member feedback to make informed changes to the club.

Conflict Resolution and Security Officer:

Assists the president in observing club meetings and discords to help identify and resolve violations of our codes of conduct.

Rules and Regulations Officer:

Assists the president in making decisions in line with the constitution and helps in amending the constitution judiciously.

Scribe and Historian:

Assists the president in observing club meetings and other club events to analyze conditions including but not limited to how many people are in attendance, how many people actively participate in the discussion, how many groups had stalled conversations, which topics were discussed, and if discussion stayed on topic, etc. The aim of collecting this information is to inform the president and suggest changes to be made regarding discussing topics – such as how to break off into groups more productively – and if some topics are more “discussable” than others and why. As a club historian, this officer’s job is to research the club's history and analyze patterns (causes and effects) of positive and adverse circumstances. Likely, this position will deal with the back-end of researching the club’s history, such as looking in archives and reading testaments.

Surveyor and Historian:

Assists the president in creating surveys to accurately assess club participants regarding a need. For example, making a comprehensive end-of-semester survey to help collect and analyze data on successes and failures throughout the semester to maintain a constructive environment for discussion. Similarly, the surveyor will create surveys for events when needed. As a club historian, this position will also gather information regarding the club’s history, which will be used to foster a greater understanding of what allows for good discussions. Likely, this position will work the front end of history, utilizing professors and previous club members alike to collect data.

Council Member:

Helps to make certain club decisions and gives suggestions to leadership more directly.

All officers will have input in making decisions about meetings, events, and the club in general.

* These positions must be filled at all times.

Elections and Replacement

Any new position can be created and filled at any time by the president. However, filling and/or creating these positions requires a simple majority vote of all existing officers (while the vice president takes up the

duties of the president in their absence, they cannot fill the position of president until they are approved or elected).

There will be an election for all positions at the end of the spring semester (the last Thursday before dead week). Rank choice voting will be used if there are more than two candidates, otherwise it will be decided by a simple majority vote. Terms may last for as long as an officer is a registered student at Iowa State University. The Vice President will become the Treasurer or President if either position is suddenly open. If the Vice President position is open, the acting President and Treasurer will jointly choose a replacement. Transitional periods should be as brief as possible. This also applies to Advisers. Positions other than the President, Treasurer, Vice President, and Adviser do not need to be replaced.

If the President cannot complete their duties, the Vice President will step in and act as the President. However, the Treasurer will lead the club if both the President and the Vice President cannot fulfill the role.

Impeachment

Breach of any of the codes of conduct listed below are grounds for impeachment. Officers can be impeached with a two thirds majority vote by all other officers including the Adviser (unless the Adviser is the offending officer). The officer in question must be given the opportunity to formally defend themselves before the vote proceeds. They cannot be present during the vote. Replacement procedures for elections and impeachment are the same.

Codes of Conduct

Purpose

Philosophy is a very broad subject that encapsulates some sensitive and deeply held beliefs. As a discussion based club, these beliefs can and will be challenged during our meetings and in the Discord. This has sometimes resulted in mean spirited remarks that are both unproductive to the conversation and needlessly disrespectful. While it is natural to express these beliefs in a passionate manner, it becomes unacceptable if this expression manifests in rude and callous ways. Hopefully the following codes of conduct will give clear guidelines of what is and is not acceptable rhetoric.

Codes

1. There will be no tolerance for personal insults towards fellow members. This includes negative implications about members based on their beliefs as well as provoking hostility by using rude, unwarranted barbs.
2. Refrain from responding to negative rhetoric in kind if provoked.
3. If you feel that the argument cannot be defused on your own, contact an officer for help.
4. Discrimination of any kind towards members based on genetic information, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, race, ethnicity, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a U.S Veteran is prohibited. Additionally, rhetoric supporting genocide will not be tolerated. This does not apply to the sharing of personal background and experiences which may contribute constructively to conversations.
5. While we encourage members to share any beliefs and ideas they may have, all members should be

prepared to have those ideas challenged.

6. That being said, the scrutinization of all ideas should be handled with respect and civility.
7. Members may not post promotional content (ie. selling something or advertising for a non-philosophy club/organizations) to Discord unless explicitly permitted by the president and treasurer.

Nonadherence Consequences

The disregard of the club's codes of conduct may lead to warnings by club officers, being kicked from the club Discord, having discord messages deleted, and/or being banned from club meetings and socials. If officers are flagrantly violating these codes of conduct, members can contact other officers or the club adviser. By participating in the club Discord and/or club meetings and socials, you are agreeing to these codes of conduct.

Statement of Compliance

Philosophy Club abides by and supports established Iowa State University policies, State and Federal Laws and follows local ordinances and regulations. Philosophy Club agrees to annually complete President's and Treasurer's Training.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Iowa State University and Philosophy Club does not discriminate on the basis of genetic information, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, race, ethnicity, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status as a U.S. Veteran.

Membership Requirements

Officers

The officers of this organization must meet the following requirements:

- (a) Be in good standing with the university and enrolled: at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office, and at least half time (four or more credits), if a graduate level student (unless fewer credits are required in the final stages of their degree as defined by the Continuous Registration Requirement) during their term of office.
- (b) Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) as stated below and meet that minimum GPA in the semester immediately prior to the election/appointment, the semester of election/appointment and semesters during the term of office. For undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, the minimum GPA is 2.00. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration. International students do not have GPAs and are thus exempt from this rule.
- (c) Be ineligible to hold an office should the student fail to maintain the requirements as prescribed in (a) and (b).

All Other Members

Membership is open to all registered students in good standing at Iowa State University.

Adviser

The Adviser of this organization shall attend executive meetings, maintain communication with university administration, and assist with the leadership development of the organization's officers. Advisers will be chosen and replaced by the Iowa State University Philosophy Department when necessary. The Adviser of this organization shall serve an indefinite term length at their leisure. Impeachment proceedings for the Adviser shall follow the same format as Officer impeachment proceedings.

Finances

Organization Funds Agreement

All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization at the Campus Organizations Accounting Office and/or approved institution/office (must receive authorization via Campus Organizations Accounting Office). All funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection. The Adviser to this organization must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.

Treasury Procedures and Responsibilities

No dues will exist. The Treasurer will and President may hold P-cards for club purchases. A spreadsheet with funds and expenses will be updated for every monetary transaction and will be periodically checked for accuracy. All funds collected during fundraising activities will go into the club account. If the organization dissolves, all remaining funds should be given to the Iowa State University Philosophy Department.

Amendments and Ratifications

Amendment proposals can be made by any member in the club and will be ratified with a two thirds majority vote by all student Officers and approval from the club Adviser. The new amendment will be submitted within 10 days of its ratification to the Student Engagement Office.