



Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture

General Program Description

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture at the Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) is the institution's most advanced philosophical formation program, designed for thinkers, researchers, and academics who seek to generate original and rigorous contributions to contemporary philosophical knowledge.

This doctorate is positioned at the intersection of Fundamental Philosophy, Epistemology, and Transdisciplinary Research, with the purpose of training researchers capable of diagnosing, analyzing, and solving complex conceptual, ethical, and socio-humanistic problems through the production of solid, critical, and original knowledge.

The curriculum, rigorously structured over four years (8 semesters) and 120 credits, dedicates 60% (72 credits) to the philosophical research component, ensuring a progressive integration of theoretical formation, academic writing, participation in intellectual networks, and the production of published works.

The process culminates in the Doctoral Dissertation, which constitutes a significant contribution to contemporary philosophical thought and to the critical understanding of the modern world.

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture at UNICA prepares the intellectual architects of critical thought, endowed with strong theoretical competence, profound hermeneutical capacity, and an ethical commitment to truth and the dignity of the human person.

Justification

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture is justified by the urgent need to renew critical reflection in the face of the epistemological, technological, and cultural transformations of the 21st century. In a context dominated by immediacy, artificial intelligence, and the instrumentalization of knowledge, philosophy emerges as an essential discipline to think about rationality, ethics, meaning, and the human condition.

Contemporary societies require philosophical researchers capable of articulating knowledge, critically evaluating the foundations of the sciences, and proposing horizons of meaning in response to the challenges of technology, power, and globalization.



This doctorate is grounded on three fundamental reasons:

1. Reclaiming critical thought:
To overcome the utilitarian paradigm of education and recover the capacity to think about what is real, just, and true from an integrative rationality.
2. Production of original philosophical knowledge:
To promote the creation of new conceptual and methodological categories that strengthen ethical, political, aesthetic, and ontological reflection.
3. Articulation between philosophy and society:
To ensure that philosophical research has a real impact on contemporary debates regarding social justice, sustainability, education, freedom, and human rights.

Institutional Identity

The Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) situates its Doctorate in Philosophy within the Christian humanist tradition, which upholds reason, truth, and human dignity as the foundational pillars of knowledge.

Mission

To form Doctors in Philosophy with critical thinking, solid epistemological grounding, and advanced research capacity, oriented toward the generation of relevant, interdisciplinary, and humanizing philosophical knowledge.

Vision

To become an international benchmark in advanced philosophical studies, recognized for the academic excellence of its research, the quality of its publications, and the intellectual impact of its contributions in the dialogue between science, culture, and humanity.

Values

Intellectual rigor, freedom of thought, pursuit of truth, ethics of knowledge, and commitment to human dignity.



Ficha Técnica del Programa

Campo	Descripción
Nombre del Programa	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture
Nivel Académico	Posgrado / Doctorado Profesional e Investigativo
Duración Total	4 años (8 semestres)
Total de Créditos	120 créditos
Componente de Investigación	72 créditos (60%)
Componente de Fundamentos	29 créditos (24%)
Componente Electivo Libre	19 créditos (16%)
Énfasis	Investigación Filosófica, Pensamiento Crítico y Transdisciplinariedad
Modalidad	Virtual, Híbrida y Seminarios de Investigación Avanzada
Título Otorgado	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture — Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA)

Graduate Profile

A graduate of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the Magisterium of the Church on Culture at UNICA will be a thinker and researcher capable of:

- Generating original philosophical knowledge through rigorous research that contributes to the critical understanding of being, knowledge, language, science, and society.
- Mastering philosophical and hermeneutical methodologies, applying comparative, phenomenological, analytical, and dialectical approaches with strong argumentative rigor.
- Integrating philosophy with the sciences and the humanities, actively participating in inter- and transdisciplinary academic networks.
- Publish and disseminate their findings, consolidating an original academic voice in indexed journals and international forums.



- Exercise intellectual and ethical leadership, guiding social and educational thought toward justice, truth, and the common good.

Plan de Estudios por Semestre (4 años — 120 créditos)

Semestre	Código	Asignatura	Créditos	Componente	Requisitos / Articulación
1	DPH-701	Epistemología y Fundamentos del Pensamiento Filosófico	6	Fundamento	Ninguno
	DPH-702	Seminario Doctoral I: Problematicación Filosófica	6	Investigación	Ninguno
	DPH-703	Historia de la Filosofía Antigua y Medieval	3	Fundamento	Ninguno
Total			15		
2	DPH-704	Filosofía Moderna y Contemporánea	6	Fundamento	DPH-703
	DPH-705	Seminario Doctoral II: Revisión del Estado del Arte	6	Investigación	DPH-702
	DPH-706	Metodología de la Investigación Filosófica	3	Fundamento	Ninguno
Total			15		
3	DPH-801	Ética, Política y Filosofía del Derecho	6	Fundamento	DPH-704
	DPH-802	Seminario Doctoral III: Diseño y Protocolo de Tesis	6	Investigación	DPH-705
	DPH-803	Estudio Emergente I: Filosofía de la Ciencia	3	Electiva Libre	Nivel Doctoral
Total			15		



4	DPH-804	Ontología, Metafísica y Filosofía de la Mente	5	Fundamento	DPH-801
	DPH-805	Seminario Doctoral IV: Instrumentos, Ética y Validación	6	Investigación	DPH-802
	DPH-806	Estudio Emergente II: Filosofía del Lenguaje	4	Electiva Libre	Nivel Doctoral
Total			15		
5	DPH-901	Seminario Doctoral V: Trabajo de Campo y Análisis Conceptual	6	Investigación	DPH-805
	DPH-902	Estudio Emergente III: Hermenéutica y Fenomenología	5	Electiva Libre	Nivel Doctoral
	DPH-903	Pasantía Investigativa Avanzada (Nacional/Internacional)	4	Investigación	70% de Fundamentos
Total			15		
6	DPH-904	Seminario Doctoral VI: Redes y Difusión del Conocimiento	6	Investigación	DPH-901
	DPH-905	Producción y Publicación de Conocimiento Filosófico	6	Investigación	Artículo Aceptado
	DPH-906	Estudio Emergente IV: Filosofía y Cultura Contemporánea	3	Electiva Libre	Nivel Doctoral
Total			15		
7	DPH-907	Seminario Doctoral VII: Escritura Científica y Redacción de Tesis	6	Investigación	DPH-904



	DPH-908	Estudio Emergente V: Transdisciplinariedad y Pensamiento Complejo	4	Electiva Libre	Nivel Doctoral
	DPH-909	Proyecto Doctoral I: Redacción Final	5	Investigación	Borrador Aprobado
Total			15		
8	DPH-910	Proyecto Doctoral II: Revisión Final y Defensa Pública	15	Investigación	Aprobación Director
Total			15		

Distribución de Créditos por Componente

Componente	Créditos (C)	Porcentaje (%)
Investigación	72 C	60%
Fundamentos	29 C	24%
Electivas Libres (Estudios Emergentes)	19 C	16%
Total	120 C	100%

Research Component Articulation (60% — 72 credits)

The research component ensures the philosophical, systematic, and original character of the program:

- **Sequential Seminars (42 credits):**

From philosophical problematization (DPH-702) to scientific writing (DPH-907), the student develops competencies in analysis, argumentation, critical source review, and academic writing.

- **Research Internship and Academic Networks (4 + 6 credits):**

The Advanced Research Internship (DPH-903) is carried out in recognized philosophical or intellectual research centers.

Courses DPH-904 and DPH-905 promote participation in academic networks and require the publication of at least one indexed article as a graduation requirement.



- Proyecto Doctoral (20 créditos):
DPH-909 y DPH-910 están dedicados a la elaboración, revisión y defensa pública de la tesis doctoral, que debe demostrar originalidad, rigurosidad y aporte significativo al pensamiento filosófico contemporáneo.

Componente Electivo Libre (16% — 19 créditos)

El componente de Estudios Emergentes amplía la visión transdisciplinar del filósofo investigador, permitiéndole integrar debates contemporáneos como:

- Filosofía de la Tecnología y la Inteligencia Artificial
- Bioética y Filosofía del Cuerpo
- Filosofía del Arte y la Estética
- Filosofía Política Global
- Hermenéutica Intercultural y Filosofía Latinoamericana