# WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A SPT DEGREE?



Change society for the better! SPT graduates combine their degree with other fields and interests

to build critical and creative capacities that enable sharp analysis, research and knowledge, and imaginative responses to real life issues and problems affecting society, both locally and globally. Forbes magazine reports that the economy of the future will need adaptable minds capable of imagining new possibilities. SPT builds critical and adaptive capacities of mind ready to think through and respond to society's needs. It does so by giving students the best of both theory and practice.

Examples of what you can do with a SPT degree:

#### Strategy and Policy Planning Education

- Work with various governmental agencies and ministries
- Urban planner
- Hospital Administration
- Local Government
- Community worker & builder
- Culture and citizenship organizations

#### Technology

- Ethics Consultant
- Software developer
- Research & Development

#### Media Relations

- Communications Officer
- Iournalist

- Teaching (high school and university)
- Curriculum development
- Law
- Lawyer
- Diplomat
- Mediator

### **Health Care**

- Bio-Ethics Consultant
- MedicinePublic Heath
- Researcher
- Patient Advocate

#### **Social Services**

- Social worker
- Lobbyist and activist
- Government Agencies

# A PLACE TO BECOME

SPT prepares students to undertake a variety of studies and occupations, especially when it is done in conjunction with other disciplines. Our studen<u>ts have</u> gone onto:

#### **GRAD SCHOOL**

- University of Toronto
- McGill University
- Cambridge University
- University of Louvain
- New School for Social Research
- Queen's University

#### EMPLOYMENT

- Criminal, Property, Corporate, Copyright, and International Lawyers
- Policy Planning, Federal Government and Government of Ontario
- International Finance, Bank of Montreal
- Teaching, High School and University
- Corporate Leadership, TD Bank
- Urban Planner, City of New York
- Actuary, London Life
- Researcher, Various levels of
- Business Owner, Hamilton, London, and Toronto
- Strategy and Planning, IBM Canada

#### **INTERNSHIPS**

 Our students have interned in various government, cultural, and community agencies, including the City of London, the Government of Ontario, and the Government of Canada.

# LEARN MORE ABOUT

THE SPT PROGRAM kings.uwo.ca/spt

# WELLNESS RESOURCES

STUDENT AFFAIRS kings.uwo.ca/wellness

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- A strong interdisciplinary foundation in contemporary ideas and structures that shape our current world
- and the cultivation of the life and power of the mind
- Encourages and teaches creative thinking and innovation while helping to build a student's own voice
- political problems
- Strong faculty-student engagement
- Foreign exchange possibilities at leading universities
- Mentoring for students wishing to pursue graduate studies and other employment possibilities



# A Place to Be, A Place to Become

# ONLINE **RESOURCES**

- King's University College Career Connect kings.uwo.ca/career-connect
- King's University College Job Board www.kingsjobboard.ca/jobs
- King's University College Alumni Services kings.uwo.ca/alumni/benefits-and-services
- Western University Student Success: Find Work success.uwo.ca/careers
- Jobs for Philosophers philjobs.org
- University Affairs Ouniversityaffairs.ca



A community of top-notch learners and researchers that help one another build a strong sense of self, responsibility to and for others,

Allows students to think about possible solutions to real social and



Learn more: kings.uwo.ca/spt philosophy@kings.uwo.ca



@kingsatwestern

# Social Political Thought **Explore Contemporary Issues of Global** Importance



# What is Social Political **Thought (SPT)?**

SPT is an interdisciplinary program that examines deep and often tacit structures that condition society for example, power, privilege, class, and ideological visions of who and what we are and should be. It empowers students by developing a critical capacity of mind and a refined sense of global citizenship that can be deployed to solve contemporary social and political problems in various fields, including strategic policy and planning, health administration, politics, civil service, and diplomacy.

# kings.uwo.ca/spt

# **EXPERIENCE** GUIDE







# THE SPT PROGRAM IS FOR STUDENTS WHO:

- Seek to develop a critical and creative capacity of mind to respond to real social and political problems
- Want to understand the deep and hidden political structures that condition contemporary society
- Want to become aware of the power of ideas and push beyond the boundaries
- Strive for societal-awareness, societal-transformation, and societal-responsibility
- Seek knowledge that goes beyond information and empirical ideas
- Want to be change agents towards a more thoughtful and responsible world

# LEARNING OUTCOMES:

SPT gives you the tools you need to build not only a career path but a life path.

#### **STRATEGIES OF KNOWLEDGE:**

- Become aware of how knowledge is constructed and deployed in social and political structures and ideas
- Learn to see things from a variety of perspectives to help you develop your own perspective, ultimately leading to independent thinking
- Learn about ideas that matter and how they influence the world
- Learn to deal with unanswerable questions, ambiguity and perplexity

#### **COMPETENCIES AND ABILITIES:**

- Communication: critically and precisely communicate your ideas in oral and written form
- **Creative problem solving**: think outside the box and solve problems using a unique approach
- **Decision making**: make good judgements and decisions
- Entrepreneurial thinking: spot opportunity gaps, adapt to new challenges, and achieve planned goals
- Innovative thinking: push the boundaries beyond what is known to be possible
- **Lateral thinking**: solve a problem using an indirect and creative approach
- **Disruptive logic**: identify the logic of your opponent to gain a competitive edge

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

- Experience yourself and activate the latent potentials that lie hidden within you in meaningful ways
- Be part of a thoughtful community seeking to push the boundaries and build a better tomorrow
- Identify your blind spots and overcome them
- Develop self-confidence and rise up to any challenge

# ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Social and Political Thought (SPT) is an interdisciplinary program that explores of global importance from several different and engaged perspectives. Students are invited to examine the deeper, often hidden and obscured, structures that gives shape to our present-day society. We examine how we are conditioned by social, legal, political, economic, military, and pscyhological forces of power. These forces of power not only also are the source of violence, aggression, and conflict. SPT's interdisciplinary focus gives students the unique possibility of understanding how concepts and imagined ends or goals of human power and desire come to shape and form the sense of ourselves, how we view others, and how we organize and build worlds.

# A PLACE TO BE

# **FIRST YEAR**

#### THINK Imagine, Create

DISCOVER

Possibilities

ENGAGE

#### Take Philosphy 1120F/G: Power, Social Politics, and Culture

- Explore a variety of Philosophy courses covering topics of Great Human Questions, Finding Happiness, Business Ethics in a Global Context, and more
- Connect with faculty and academic counsellors about your academic goals and interests

- Ioin King's Philosophy Students Association to discover your own personal philosophy that does not "indulge in the self"
- Attend Philosophy seminars, pub nights, movie nights, debates and discussions, and book studies
- Visit the Career Counsellor at King's to Review potential career opportunities with your degree
- Sign up for intramurals, join a club at King's and check out the Western Mustangs games

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- Attend King's International inter-cultural events
- Consider joining the KUCSC as a first year or program rep
- Attend events organized by the Centre for Advanced Research in European Philosophy (CAREP)

WHY STUDY SPT TODAY? kings.uwo.ca/spt

# WELLNESS RESOURCES STUDENT AFFAIRS

kings.uwo.ca/wellness

In Local and Global Community

# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SPT PROGRAM kings.uwo.ca/spt

## **MIDDLE YEARS**

## **GRADUATING YEAR**

- Check out the wealth of undergraduate research opportunities on campus
- Be a note taker through the King's Accessibility Services
- Attend the STARS Learning Lab Drop in Sessions
- Choose your program module for SPT (i.e., Minor, Major, Specialization, or Honors Specialization)

- Attend Graduate School Education Sessions
- Take advanced topics courses in Social Political Thought

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- Apply for one of six scholarships available to Philosophy students, including Great Philosopher's Award
- Study abroad for one or two terms at Levuen University in Belgium
- Become a Soph or Off-Campus Don to support fellow students at King's
- Meet with your academic counsellor to make key academic decisions
- Think about writing thoughtprovoking articles for the Regis or the Western Gazette
- Review leadership roles offered by King's and Western

- Meet with faculty to talk about graduate school and reference letters
- Meet with career services to review resume and job search tools
- Conduct informational interviews with organizations you would like to work for
- Check out the Life after King's Series to hear about what you can do with your Philosophy degree
- Attend the employer information sessions and Career Fairs

- Apply for residence and participate in the living learning communities
- Partcipate in running the CAREP conferences (Centre for Advanced Research of European Philosophy)
- Explore opportunities such as research assistants and scholarships
- Consider different ways to build engaged learning and international experience into your degree
- Help run the King's Philosophy Students Association
- Contribute to the King's Undergraduate Research Journal
- Meet with alumni for informational interviews

# THE KING'S ANNUAL CHECKLIST

- Meet regularly with the Academic Dean's Office to ensure you are on track towards your degree requirements
  - Check our programs offered by Student Affairs
  - Continually review your financial aid
- Check out opportunities to work on campus or off-campus throughout your degree
- Volunteer and support your community at King's
- Use the library resources offered by the Cardinal Carter Library
- Check out Career Connect on a regular basis
- Meet with Faculty during their office hours

# SOCIAL POLITICAL THOUGHT FACULTY

# DR. STEVE LOFTS

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Dr. Lofts' areas of research include: theories of culture and identity, recent European philosophy, and social and political thought. He is currently working on the relationship between European and Japanese philosophy Dr. Lofts is a fellow of Germany's prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and an accomplished scholar with an international reputation in Cassirer studies.

# DR. ANTONIO CALCAGNO



Dr. Calcagno's areas of research include: recent European philosophy, Renaissance philosophy, and social and political thought. He works on the relationship between various notions of law and their connections to different social and political relations within the framework of Early German phenomenology (1900-1945). He is a member of the Royal Society of Canada, College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. As well as being an acclaimed scholar, Dr. Calcagno is the recipient of the King's University College Award for Excellence in Teaching.