

Axiologists At Ohio State

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Axiologists At Ohio State

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

The purpose of Axiologists at Ohio State is to create a forum for dialogue among advanced undergraduate and graduate students on topics relevant to philosophical ethics and value theory. These topics include, but are not limited to, metaethics, normative ethics, aesthetics, and applied ethics. Axiologists at Ohio State aims to allow and encourage members of the Ohio State community to engage with questions about how to live from a philosophical perspective. It is our belief that having a space to collaborate with our colleagues and peers will generate opportunities for discussion and projects which will advance our understanding of, and help us offer better questions to, these questions. In addition, Axiologists at Ohio State will strive to increase awareness and communication across disciplines, so that students can approach questions about how to live from a nuanced and well-informed perspective.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Axiologists At Ohio State agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

Axiologists At Ohio State agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

Section C. Bylaws

Axiologists At Ohio State retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

A person who falls under any of the following subparagraphs is eligible for membership of this organization. However, only regular members shall have the right to vote on organizational matters.

1. Regular member: a person who is a currently enrolled student at The Ohio State University.
2. Honorary member: a person who is a faculty member, staff member, alumnus or alumna, or professional with relevant expertise and interest.

Section B. Member Selection

Any person who satisfies the qualifications stated in Section A can apply for membership by express his or her will orally or in writing to any officer of this organization (This would be typically done by responding to a membership invitation email sent at the beginning of each fall semester, by it may be done otherwise too.) This organization may, through a decision by the President and in consideration of the purposes stated in Article II, admit the applicant either as a regular member or as an honorary member in accordance with his or her eligibility as stated in Section A. While the applicant's will shall be respected as much as possible, the President may require the applicant to attend an interview before the decision.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Applications for membership are received on a rolling basis. That is, the application process stated in Section B may be initiated and completed at anytime during each academic year.

Section D. Member Removal

If any member conducts themselves in such a manner that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization stated in Article II, violates The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct, floats this organization's constitution or by-laws, or otherwise violates university policy, federal, state, or local law, then the member may be removed through a simple majority vote of the officers in consultation with the Advisor.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The Advisor shall have the responsibility for providing guidance and advice on important matters related to the operation of this organization. The Advisor is also expected to work closely with the officers to help coordinate events, discussions, and other programs, while ensuring that the organization remains student-led. In addition, the Advisor will provide organizational continuity by offering historical context, mentoring student leaders, and assisting with the interpretation of university policies and procedures.

Section B. Advisor Term

The term of the Advisor shall correspond to the academic year of The Ohio State University at the time of their appointment. However, the term is considered renewed each academic year unless this organization dismisses the Advisor, or the Advisor resigns or becomes disqualified.

Section C. Advisor Selection

At the beginning of each Fall semester, this organization shall identify and confirm a potential Advisor from among full-time members of the faculty or administrative and professional staff in the department of philosophy at The Ohio State University. This selection shall be made through a nomination by a regular member and a resolution by a two-thirds majority vote of the officers. Upon this decision, unless the potential Advisor is the same person who served in the previous academic year and whose term is therefore expected to be renewed, the President should contact the potential Advisor and offer the position.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

In the event that the Advisor intends to resign, he or she shall provide written notice to the President at least one month prior to departure to ensure a smooth transition. If the Advisor resigns or is removed, the President shall appoint an interim Advisor to serve until a new Advisor is selected. The process of selecting a new Advisor shall follow the standard eligibility and selection requirements outlined in this constitution. A replacement Advisor must be nominated by a regular member, and approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the officers. An Advisor may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the officers if he or she fails to fulfill the responsibilities or to comply with university requirements.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

This organization will have three officers with the titles of President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

1. President: The President shall call and preside over meetings of officers and general meetings. The President shall facilitate meetings, serve as the official representative of this organization in interactions with faculty, and propose the program, conferences, workshops, and other events. The President shall develop the organization's annual program for the academic year, communicate with and report to the Advisor, represent this organization to other organizations and departments. The President shall appoint the chairpersons of standing committees when as needed and shall work with the Treasurer to oversee financial management.

2. Vice President: The Vice President shall assist the President in all matters pertaining to the official business of this organization. In the event of the President's absence, incapacity, or vacancy, the Vice President shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the President. The Vice President shall also assist in the planning and coordination of programs, conferences, workshops and other events.

3. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for and shall oversee all financial matters regarding this organization, including, but not limited to fundraising, event expenses, management of the organization's accounts, payments of bills, and reporting on the budget to the general meeting. The Treasurer shall also act on behalf of the President and Vice President in the event that both are unable to perform their duties.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

1. President: The President shall be a graduate student or an undergraduate student in his or her third year or above in the department of philosophy at The Ohio State University.

2. Vice President: The Vice President shall be a graduate student or an undergraduate student in his or her third year or above in the department of philosophy at The Ohio State University.

3. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be a graduate student or an undergraduate student in his or her third year or above in the department of philosophy at The Ohio State University.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

The President, the Vice President, and the Treasurer for an academic year shall be elected through a nomination by a regular member and a simple majority vote of the regular members at the first general meeting of an academic year, which shall be called by the President at the beginning of a Fall semester (no later than October). All regular members shall be eligible for voting. The election may be conducted through asynchronous communication when necessary. Although the term of office is one academic year, the officers of the previous academic year remain their positions until the next officers are elected. The details of nomination and voting process are as follows:

1. Nomination Process

Every regular member of this organization may nominate another regular member or themselves for the positions of the President, the Vice President, and the Treasurer for the academic year, by

communicating the nomination to the President who called the general meeting to elect those officers, before or during the general meeting.

2. Voting Process

Nominees who have accepted their nominations may briefly state their interest and qualifications at the general meeting before the voting takes place. A simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. In the case of a tie, there will be a second round of voting shall be conducted following the same procedures.

Section D. Officer Removal

a) Any officer may be removed for sufficient cause. Sufficient cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of this organization's constitution or by-laws, failure to perform assigned duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purposes of this organization stated in Article II, including violations of The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct, university policies, or federal, state, or local laws.

b) Any regular member may initiate the removal process by submitting a written complaint (with relevant evidence) that describes the cause for removal of an officer as stated in the paragraph (a). The complaint shall be submitted to the President, or, the President is the subject of complaint, to the Vice President.

c) The President (or Vice President, as applicable) who received the written complaint shall, without delay, notify the complained-of officer and call a general meeting to vote on the matter of removal. The President shall consult the advisor about that matter and hold a formal hearing—at which the officer in question shall be given adequate opportunity to defend himself or herself following due process—before the general meeting. The President shall report the results of the consultation with the Advisor and the formal hearing at the general meeting.

d) The removal of an officer requires a simple majority vote of the regular members. The voting shall be conducted in an anonymous way. And the complained-of officer should have the chance to defend himself or herself during the general meeting.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

A motion for the dissolution of this organization shall be proposed by a two-thirds majority vote of the officers. Following a valid proposal, the dissolution shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the regular members at a general meeting and shall be approved by the Advisor. The vote may be conducted through asynchronous communication when necessary.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event of dissolution, the distribution of any remaining assets shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the officers in accordance with the following principles:

1. All outstanding debts and liabilities of the organization shall be settled first.
2. As a general principle, all assets remaining after the settlement of debts shall be donated to another student organization, a public interest group, or a charity.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

A motion for an amendment to this constitution shall be proposed by a simple majority vote of the officers. Following a valid proposal, the amendment shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the regular members at a general meeting. The vote may be conducted through asynchronous communication when necessary.