

Department of Philosophy

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Field Description

Philosophy involves an ongoing attempt to analyze, interpret, and rationally explain what people believe, value, and do. Philosophy courses acquaint students with the great ideas of Eastern and Western civilization and assist them in developing philosophical orientations of their own. Courses in philosophy serve both philosophy majors and those who wish to study philosophy as part of the common heritage of educated men and women.

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The Major

The major requires 24 credits in philosophy, including three courses in the history of philosophy (chosen from [PHI 3000](#), [PHI 3120](#), [PHI 3130](#), [PHI 3140](#), [PHI 3145](#), [PHI 3150](#), [PHI 3155](#), [PHI 3165](#), and [PHI 3170](#)), one course in logic ([PHI 1600](#) or [PHI 3010](#)), and a capstone course, chosen from among the special topics courses ([PHI 4900](#) and [PHI 4905](#)), the senior seminar ([PHI 5010](#)), or one honors course ([PHI 6001H-6003H](#)).

A student who uses [PHI 1500](#), [PHI 1600](#), or [PHI 1700](#) to satisfy the philosophy requirement of the base curriculum may not also use that course toward the 24 credits required for the major.

A student who uses [PHI 1600](#) toward the base curriculum has fulfilled the logic requirement of the major but must complete the 24 credits required for the major in addition to [PHI 1600](#).

All courses in the Department of Philosophy listed below are 3 credits except [PHI 5000-5004](#) and [PHI 6001H](#), which have variable credits.

Program Learning Goals

Upon completion of a major in Philosophy, students will be able to:

Logical Reasoning

1. Understand the notions of 'truth', 'soundness', and 'validity.'
2. Identify and understand various forms of logical fallacy.
3. Identify, understand, and construct logically well-formed arguments.

Philosophical Argumentation

1. Understand what constitutes a philosophical (e.g., metaphysical, epistemic, ethical) position or argument.
2. Distinguishes pre-philosophical from philosophical positions or arguments.
3. Describe and evaluate, orally and in writing, philosophical positions and arguments.
4. Express and develop, orally and in writing, philosophical positions and arguments.
5. Exhibit dialectical complexity in their reasoning in support of or in countering philosophical positions or arguments.

Key Philosophers and Key Positions

1. Identify, understand, and express, orally and in writing, key philosophical positions in a variety of philosophical genres and traditions.

2. Identify, attribute, understand, and express, orally and in writing, salient arguments of key philosophers (such as: Aquinas, Aristotle, Avicenna, Confucius, Darwin, Hume, Hypatia, Kant, Lao Tzu, Marx, Mill, Plato, Sartre, Socrates, Taylor-Mill, Wollstonecraft).
3. Reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as their own and others' personal, racial, gender, ethnic, and cultural identity.
4. Reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as their own and others' moral, political, and epistemic agency.

Critical Thinking

1. Reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as their own and others' personal, racial, gender, ethnic, and cultural identity.
2. Reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as their own and others' moral, political, and epistemic agency.

Major Course Requirements

Base Curriculum Courses:		
PHI 1500	Major Issues in Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 1600	Logic and Moral Reasoning	3 credits
PHI 1700	Global Ethics	3 credits
Program Prerequisite:		
PHI 1100	Ethics and Critical Thinking	3 credits
Required Courses:		
<i>History of Philosophy</i> (choose three)		
PHI 3000	Existentialism in Philosophy and Literature	3 credits
PHI 3120	Ancient Greek Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 3130	Christian, Islamic, and Jewish Philosophy in the Middle Ages	3 credits
PHI 3140	Modern European Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 3145	Nineteenth Century Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 3150	Philosophy in the Twentieth-Century	3 credits
PHI 3155	Philosophies from India (AAS 3155), (REL 3155) (formerly <i>PHI 2155</i>)	3 credits
PHI 3165	Classical Buddhism (AAS 3165), (HIS 3165), (REL 3165) (formerly <i>PHI 2165</i>)	3 credits
PHI 3170	Classical Chinese Philosophy (AAS 3170), (HIS 3170) (formerly <i>PHI 2170</i>)	3 credits
PHI 3180	Philosophies from Japan (AAS 3180)	3 credits
<i>Logic</i> (choose one)		
PHI 1600	Logic and Moral Reason	3 credits

PHI 3010	Symbolic Logic	3 credits
Capstone (choose one)		
PHI 4900	Special Topics in Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 4905	Special Topics in Metaphysics and Epistemology	3 credits
PHI 5010	Senior Seminar	3 credits
PHI 6001H-6003H	Philosophy Honors I-III	3 credits
Electives:		
<i>Social and Cultural Philosophy</i>		
PHI 1700	Global Ethics	3 credits
PHI 3020	Philosophy of Law	3 credits
PHI 3025	The Philosophy of Rights and Property	3 credits
PHI 3035	Philosophy of Psychology (PSY 3035)	3 credits
PHI 3060	Philosophy of Film and Photography	3 credits
PHI 3065	Science Fiction and Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 3210	Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics	3 credits
PHI 3230	Political Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 3240	Philosophy of Art	3 credits
PHI 3260	Crime and Punishment	3 credits
<i>Philosophy of Knowledge and Reality</i>		
PHI 1500	Major Issues in Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 3000	Existentialism in Philosophy and Literature	3 credits
PHI 3010	Symbolic Logic	3 credits
PHI 3030	Thought and Reality (PSY 3030)	3 credits
PHI 3035	Philosophy of Psychology (PSY 3035)	3 credits
PHI 3040	Minds and Computers	3 credits
PHI 3250	Philosophy of Science	3 credits

<i>Applied and Professional Ethics</i>		
PHI 3050	Ethics, Economics, and the Business System	3 credits
PHI 3051	Moral Problems of Life and Death	3 credits
PHI 3055	Art and Public Policy	3 credits
PHI 3200	Environmental Ethics	3 credits
PHI 3270	Computer Ethics	3 credits
<i>Variable or Independent</i>		
PHI 3990-3999	Special Studies in Philosophy	3 credits
PHI 5000-5004	Independent Study	variable
PHI 5010	Senior Seminar	3 credits
PHI 6001H-6003H	Philosophy Honors I-III	variable

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The Minor

The philosophy minor requires the completion of two philosophy courses numbered 3000 or higher and one capstone course ([PHI 4900](#) Special Topics in Philosophy or [PHI 4905](#) Special Topics in Metaphysics and Epistemology.)

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Courses

Courses in Philosophy (PHI)

PHI 1100	Ethics and Critical Thinking	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 1500	Major Issues in Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 1600	Logic and Moral Reasoning	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 1700	Global Ethics	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 2160	American Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 2800	Great Works of Philosophy I	4 hours; 3 credits
PHI 2850	Great Works of Philosophy II	4 hours; 3 credits

PHI 3000	Existentialism in Philosophy and Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3010	Symbolic Logic	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3020	Philosophy of Law	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3025	The Philosophy of Rights and Property	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3030	Thought and Reality (PSY 3030)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3035	Philosophy and Psychology (PSY 3035)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3040	Mind and Computers	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3045	Communication Law and Free Speech (COM 3045)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3050	Ethics, Economics, and the Business System	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3051	Moral Problems of Life and Death	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3055	Art and Public Policy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3060	Philosophy of Film and Photography	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3062	Philosophy and Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3065	Science Fiction and Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3120	Ancient Greek Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3130	Christian, Islamic, and Jewish Philosophy in the Middle Ages	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3140	Modern European Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3145	Nineteenth Century Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3150	Philosophy in the Twentieth-Century	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3155	Philosophies from India (AAS 3155), (REL 3155) (formerly <i>PHI 2155</i>)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3165	Classical Buddhism (AAS 3165), (HIS 3165), (REL 3165) (formerly <i>PHI 2165</i>)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3170	Classical Chinese Philosophy (AAS 3170), (HIS 3170) (formerly <i>PHI 2170</i>)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3180	Philosophies from Japan (AAS 3180)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3200	Environmental Ethics	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3210	Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3220	Experimental Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3230	Political Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3240	Philosophy of Art	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3250	Philosophy of Science	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3260	Crime and Punishment	3 hours; 3 credits

PHI 3270	Computer Ethics (CIS 3270)	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 3990	Special Studies in Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 4900	Special Topics in Philosophy	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 4905	Special Topics in Metaphysics and Epistemology	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 5000	Independent Study I	Hours and credits to be arranged
PHI 5001	Independent Study II	Hours and credits to be arranged
PHI 5002	Independent Study III	Hours and credits to be arranged
PHI 5010	Senior Seminar	3 hours; 3 credits
PHI 6001H	Honors Philosophy I	3 hours; 3 credits per semester
PHI 6002H	Honors Philosophy II	3 hours; 3 credits per semester
PHI 6003H	Honors Philosophy III	3 hours; 3 credits per semester

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