

PHILOSOPHY, B.A.

Philosophy is an excellent foundation for work in law, business, teaching, communications, religious studies, public affairs, and more. In fact, philosophy majors have been shown to excel at standardized testing and thrive in the workplace. Hedge fund managers, CEOs, and tech start-up founders are among an impressive list of highly successful philosophy majors. Why is this?

- The study of philosophy is intellectually rigorous, which sharpens students' minds and teaches them to engage systematically with problems large and small.
- Philosophy students learn the art of constructive debate, discussion and persuasion, in written and verbal forms. These skills serve them well in job interviews and competitive work environments.
- A solid foundation in ethics produces philosophy graduates who make careful decisions with concern for others.

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
PHIL 102	Critical Thinking	3
PHIL 234	Ancient Philosophy	3
PHIL 239	On Evil: Early Modern Philosophy	3
Restricted Electives		
History (take 1 course from the following):		
HIST 205	Ancient Civilizations	3
HIST 255	The Emergence of Modern Europe	3
HIST 309	History of Modern France	3
HIST 311	History of Modern Germany	3
HIST 312	Political Dissent in Modern America	3
HIST 363	Medieval Heritage	3
PHIL 208	Great Philosophers: Voices of Wisdom	3
PHIL 217	Eastern Philosophy and Religion	3
PHIL 232	African(a) Philosophy	3
PHIL 303	Existentialism and Phenomenology	3
PHIL 314	Great Philosophical Texts	3
Theoretical (take 1 course from the following):		
PHIL 205	Metaphysics: Appearance and Reality	3
PHIL 206	Epistemology: Theory of Knowledge	3
PHIL 227	Symbolic Logic	3
PHIL 236	Philosophy of Mind	3
Practical (take 1 course from the following):		
POLI 105	History of Political Thought	3
PHIL 207	Ethics	3
PHIL 244	Political and Social Philosophy	3
PHIL 245	The Philosophy of Social Justice in the United States	3
Electives		
Select a minimum of 18 credits. Students may petition to take up to six credits from cognate disciplines. ²		18
PHIL 105	Issues in Religion	3
PHIL 110	Mythology	3
PHIL 109	Bioethics (Medical Ethics) ¹	3
PHIL 113	Environmental Ethics ¹	3

PHIL 125	Ethics in Everyday Life ¹	3
PHIL 135	World Religions ¹	3
PHIL 140	The Examined Life ¹	3
PHIL 203	Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 215	On Love	3
PHIL 216	Aesthetics: Creativity & Imagination	3
PHIL 226	Religion in the City: When Faith Encounters Urban Life	3
PHIL 235	Perspectives on Death	3
PHIL 240	Philosophy and Film	3
PHIL 246	Food, Philosophy, and Global Health ¹	3
PHIL 260	Philosophy of Education ¹	3
PHIL 290	Myth, Magic, and Mysticism	3
PHIL 302	Philosophy of Technology	3
PHIL 313	Time: Interdisciplinary Perspectives	3
PHIL 317	Philosophy and Literature	3
PHIL 320	Philosophy of Psychology	3
PHIL 324	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	3
PHIL 390	Pandemic Ethics	3
PHIL 397	Animals and Philosophy	3
PHIL 401	Philosophy of Science	3
PHIL 405	Advanced Seminar in Philosophy	3
PHIL 408	Independent Study in Philosophy	3
PHIL 424	Independent Study in Religion	3
Total Credits		36

¹ Take no more than 9 credits at the 100 level, and take at least 9 credits at the 300 level or above.

² Courses with PHIL designation not taken for restricted electives can be taken for unrestricted electives.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Philosophy BA program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the major ideas, questions, methods and arguments in the core areas of philosophy in the context of philosophy's major historical periods.
2. Engage in the close, critical but charitable-reading and interpretation of philosophical texts, and express ideas and arguments clearly in written and/or oral communication.
3. Demonstrate strong critical thinking and problem solving skills by applying the tools of informal and formal logic to identify, construct, analyze, evaluate and respond to arguments.
4. Discuss questions of value rationally, clearly, humbly, and with an open mind.