

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 227	Symbolic Logic	3
PHIL 234	Ancient Philosophy	3
PHIL 239	On Evil	3
Restricted Electives		
History (take 1 course from the following):		
PHIL 208	Great Philosophers: Voices of Wisdom	3
PHIL 303	Existentialism and Phenomenology	3
PHIL 314	Great Philosophical Texts I	3
Theoretical (take 1 course from the following):		
PHIL 205	Metaphysics: Appearance and Reality	3
PHIL 206	Epistemology: Theory of Knowledge	3
Practical (take 1 course from the following):		
PHIL 244	Political and Social Philosophy	3
PHIL 207	Ethics	3
Electives		
Select a minimum of 15 credits from the following courses, at least 9 credits of which must be selected from courses numbered 300 or higher. ²		15
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 Today 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 217	Eastern Philosophy and Religion	3
PHIL 226	Religion in the City: When Faith Encounters Urban Life	3
PHIL 232	African(a) Philosophy	3
PHIL 235	Perspectives on Death	3

PHIL 236	Self: I as Mind ¹	3
PHIL 240	Philosophy and Film	3
PHIL 245	The Philosophy of Social Justice in the United States ¹	3
PHIL 246	Food, Philosophy, and Global Health ¹	3
PHIL 260	Practice, Policy and Philosophy of Education ¹	3
PHIL 290	Myth, Magic, and Mysticism	3
PHIL 302	Philosophy of Technology	3
PHIL 313	Time	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	Re-Thinking Animals: A Paradigm Shift	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 General Education Program elective courses do not count toward General Education Program requirements unless all major program requirements are otherwise fulfilled.

² Take no more than 9 credits at the 100 level

Freshman

Semester 1		Credits
ENGL 101 or ESL 101	English Composition I or English Composition I for English as a Second Language Students	4-6
MATH 114 or MATH 140	Contemporary Mathematics or Statistics I	3
PHIL 102	Critical Thinking	3
General Education Tier I		3
INTD 101	Orientation to College ^{*first time freshmen only}	1
Credits		14-16

Semester 2

ENGL 102 or ESL 102	English Composition II or	4-6
PHIL 207 or PHIL 244	Ethics or Political and Social Philosophy	3
General Education Tier I		3
General Education Tier I		3
Elective/Minor		3
Credits		16-18

Sophomore

Semester 1		
PHIL 234 or PHIL 239	Ancient Philosophy or On Evil	3
General Education Tier I		3
General Education Tier II		3
General Education Tier II		3

Elective/Minor		3
Credits		15
Semester 2		
PHIL 227	Symbolic Logic	3
General Education Tier II		3
General Education Tier II		3
General Education Tier II		3
Elective/Minor		3
Credits		15
Junior		
Semester 1		
PHIL 239	On Evil	3
or PHIL 234	or Ancient Philosophy	
PHIL 205	Metaphysics: Appearance and Reality	3
PHIL 206	Epistemology: Theory of Knowledge	3
General Education Tier II		3
Elective//Minor		3
Elective/Minor		3
Credits		18
Semester 2		
PHIL 208	Great Philosophers: Voices of Wisdom	3
or PHIL 303	or Existentialism and Phenomenology	
or PHIL 314	or Great Philosophical Texts I	
General Education Tier III Capstone		3
Philosophy Elective 200/300-Level		3
Elective/Minor		3
Elective/Minor		3
Credits		15
Senior		
Semester 1		
PHIL Elective		3
PHIL Elective		3
Elective/Minor		3
Elective/Minor		3
Elective/Minor		3
Credits		15
Semester 2		
PHIL Elective		3
PHIL Elective		3
Elective/Minor		3
Elective/Minor		3
Elective/Minor		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		123-127

- 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.
- 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.
- Discuss questions of value rationally, clearly, humbly, and with an open mind.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- 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.