

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

The Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy is a liberal arts program designed to expose students to the fundamentals of Western philosophy. This is accomplished through courses designed to explore the history of philosophy from Ancient through Postmodern periods, both Continental and Analytic traditions as well as Logic and Ethics.

Students are taught, through the use of logic and argumentation, to think critically and objectively, to write clearly and effectively, and to navigate complex intellectual, social, and legal issues. This online bachelor's degree helps to prepare you for professions requiring a high level of analytical thought such as jobs in academia, intelligence, finance and business, healthcare, STEM, and the legal profession.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Examine the historical development and evolution of philosophy from its origins through contemporary times.
- Evaluate the various schools of philosophical and moral thought as well as the historical context and the rationale behind their respective development.
- Recognize and apply logic: what makes a deductive argument valid or an inductive argument strong.
- Evaluate various criteria for justifying claims of knowledge and morality
- Originate philosophical positions in written compositions and critically analyze philosophical questions.
- Apply philosophical inquiry to contemporary events.

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	General Education Requirements	30
	Major Required	36
	Select one of the following concentrations:	15
	Ethics (p. 3)	
	Healthcare (p. 3)	
	Legal Theory (p. 4)	
	STEM (p. 4)	
	Final Program Requirements	3

Elective Requirements	36
Total Semester Hours	120

Degree Program Requirements

General Education Requirements (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Arts and Humanities (6 semester hours)¹		
Select 2 courses from the following:		6
ARAB100	Arabic I	
ARAB101	Arabic II	
ARTH200	Art Appreciation	
ARTH240	Survey of Photography	
ARTH241	Film and Literature	
DSIN141	Image Enhancement using Adobe Photoshop	
FREN100	French I	
FREN101	French II	
GERM100	German I	
GERM101	German II	
JAPN100	Introduction to Japanese	
LITR215	Literature of American Encounters, Revolution, and Rebellion	
LITR218	From Abolition to #MeToo: Literature of the American Civil Rights Movement	
LITR222	Pivotal Figures in Early British Literature	
LITR225	British Literature from Wordsworth through the Wasteland	
LITR231	Leadership in World Literature: Antiquity to the Early Modern Period	
LITR233	Literature of the Newly Globalized World: The Individual's Struggle to Adapt	
MUSI200	Music Appreciation	
MUSI212	Jazz and Rock	
MUSI250	World Music and Cultures	
PHIL110	Critical Thinking	
PHIL202	Philosophy of Science	
PORT100	Introduction to Brazilian Portuguese	
RELS101	Introduction to the Study of Religion	
RELS201	Introduction to World Religions	
RUSS100	Russian I	
SPAN100	Spanish I	
SPAN101	Spanish II	
STEM270	Thinking and Acting Ethically	

Civics, Political and Social Sciences (6 semester hours) ¹

Select 2 courses from the following: 6

ANTH100	Introduction to Anthropology
ANTH202	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
CHFD220	Human Sexuality
COMM211	Social Media and Society
COMM240	Intercultural Communication
ECON101	Microeconomics
ECON102	Macroeconomics
EDUC200	Humane Education: A Global Interdisciplinary Perspective
GEOG101	Introduction to Geography
HOSP110	Practical Food Safety and Awareness
IRLS210	International Relations I
LITR212	Forgotten America--Under Represented Cultures in American Literature
LITR235	Four Points of the Compass: Culture and Society Around the World
POLS101	Introduction to Political Science
POLS210	American Government I
PSYC101	Introduction to Psychology
RELS250	Death and Dying
RELS260	Race & Religion
RELS270	Hope and Resilience
SOCI111	Introduction to Sociology
SOCI212	Social Problems
SOCI220	American Popular Culture
STEM280	Exploring Society and Cultures via Science Fiction

Communication: Writing, Oral, and Multimedia (9 semester hours)

COMM120	Information and Digital Literacy	3
ENGL110	Making Writing Relevant	3
Select 1 course from the following:		3
COMM200	Public Speaking	
ENGL101	Proficiency in Writing	
ENGL115	Argumentation and Rhetoric	
ENGL210	Introduction to Literature	
ENGL220	Technical Writing	
ENGL221	Scientific Writing	
ENGL226	Effective Business Communication	
HRMT101	Human Relations Communication	
IRLS200	Information Literacy and Global Citizenship	
ITCC231	Introduction to Information Technology Writing	
MGMT100	Human Relations	

History (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following: 3

HIST101	American History to 1877
HIST102	American History since 1877
HIST111	World Civilization before 1650
HIST112	World Civilization since 1650
HIST121	Western Civilization before The Thirty Years War
HIST122	Western Civilization since The Thirty Years War
HIST221	African-American History before 1877
HIST222	African-American History since 1877
HIST223	History of the American Indian
HIST270	History of Science
STEM185	The History and Context of STEM

Mathematics and Applied Reasoning (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following: 3

ACCT105	Accounting for Non Accounting Majors
ENTD200	Fundamentals of Programming
MATH110	College Algebra
MATH111	College Trigonometry
MATH112	Pre-Calculus
MATH120	Introduction to Statistics
MATH125	Math for Liberal Arts Majors
MATH225	Calculus

Natural Sciences (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following: 3

BIOL180	Introduction to Biology
BIOL181	Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology
CHEM180	Introduction to Chemistry
ERSC180	Introduction to Meteorology
ERSC181	Introduction to Geology
EVSP180	Introduction to Environmental Science
PHYS180	Introduction to Physics
SPST180	Introduction to Astronomy
STEM100	Introduction to STEM Disciplines

Total Semester Hours 30

¹ All literature courses require successful completion of ENGL101 - Proficiency in Writing or ENGL110 - Making Writing Relevant.

Major Required (36 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PHIL101	Introduction to Philosophy (Prerequisite for all Major Courses)	3
PHIL200	Introduction to Ethics	3
COLL300	Research, Analysis, and Writing	3

PHIL300	Logic	3
Select 8 courses from the following:		24
PHIL110	Critical Thinking	
PHIL202	Philosophy of Science	
PHIL302	Ancient Western Philosophy	
PHIL303	Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL400	Contemporary Issues in Philosophy	
PHIL401	Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant	
PHIL403	Continental and Post-Modern Philosophy	
PHIL405	Metaphysics and Epistemology	
PHIL410	God and World	
RELS411	Religious Existentialism	
PHIL417	Analytical Philosophy	
Total Semester Hours		36

Students must choose a concentration for this degree program and may select from a Concentration in Ethics, Concentration in Healthcare, Concentration in Legal Theory, or a Concentration in STEM.

Concentration in Ethics (15 semester hours)

Ethics is becoming an increasingly important concern in different fields of endeavor from Wall Street to Main Street and from the playground to the battleground. What constitutes right action? Are we doing the right things? What should we be doing to ensure a good life for us, our families, our nation, and our world?

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Engage the philosophical theories underpinning ethical theories and judgment.
- Assess the importance of individual moral behavior and communal ethical standards and the relationship between the two.
- Explore the influences of religion, politics and psychology on ethical theories and choices.
- Assess standard models of ethics for their strengths and weaknesses.
- Apply ethical theories to particular situations in leadership, military, business, health care, government, and environmental contexts.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PBHE215	Healthcare: Moral Issues	3
CMRJ308	Ethics in Criminal Justice	3

COMM280	Ethics in Communication	3
MGMT314	Management Ethics	3
PHIL320	Environmental Ethics	3
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Healthcare (15 semester hours)

The Healthcare Concentration allows philosophy students who are going into healthcare as a career to have a strong foundation in healthcare ideas, concepts, and issues by taking healthcare courses.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of healthcare needs and practices.
- Apply philosophical reasoning, logic, and ethics to healthcare topics.
- Examine career opportunities in healthcare that intersect with philosophy.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PHIL340	Bioethics	3
Select 4 courses from the following:		12
PBHE111	Introduction to Health Care Administration	
PBHE112	Health Services Organization	
PBHE209	Wellness: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	
PBHE211	Public Health in America	
PBHE215	Healthcare: Moral Issues	
HCAD300	Legal and Ethical Principles in Healthcare	
HCAD301	Healthcare Principles and Policies	
HIMA100	Medical Terminology	
HIMA110	Introduction to Health Information Management	
HIMA250	Healthcare Delivery Systems and Documentation	
HIMA310	Electronics Health Records Fundamentals	
HIMA360	Health Informatics Project and Enterprise Management	
HIMA410	Informatics and Analytics	
HIMA460	Healthcare Data Management and Governance	
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in Legal Theory (15 semester hours)

The Legal Theory Concentration allows philosophy students who are going into law as a career to have a strong foundation in legal ideas, concepts, theories, and practices by taking law courses.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of legal thoughts and practices.
- Apply philosophical reasoning, logic, and ethics to legal topics.
- Examine career opportunities in law that intersect with philosophy.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PHIL330	Philosophy of Law	3
Select 4 courses from the following:		12
ITMG281	Law, Privacy, and Digital Data	
LSTD204	Introduction to the Courts	
LSTD207	Civil Practice and Procedure	
LSTD210	Legal Ethics	
CMRJ308	Ethics in Criminal Justice	
BUSN311	Law and Ethics in the Business Environment	
LSTD300	Administrative Law and Policy	
LSTD301	Constitutional Law	
LSTD302	Criminal Law	
LSTD303	Family Law	
LSTD304	Military Law	
ISSC331	Legal Issues in Information Security	
LSTD402	Immigration Law and Policy	
SOCI422	Sociology of the Law	
Total Semester Hours		15

Concentration in STEM (15 semester hours)

The purpose of the STEM Concentration is to allow students who are pursuing careers aligned with STEM to supplement the Philosophy core with specific courses to aid in that endeavor.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Develop an understanding of thoughts and practices associated with STEM fields.
- Apply philosophical reasoning, logic, and ethics to STEM topics.
- Examine career opportunities in STEM that intersect with philosophy.

Concentration Requirements (15 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 5 courses from the following:		15
GEOG103	Physical Geography	
MATH111	College Trigonometry	
MATH200	Analytic Geometry	
EVSP201	Environmental Economics	
MATH210	Discrete Mathematics	
MATH220	Linear Algebra	
ITCC121	Introduction to Computer Science	
WEBD121	Web Development Fundamentals	
MATH225	Calculus	
PHIL320	Environmental Ethics	
ISSC331	Legal Issues in Information Security	
INFO331	Management Information Systems	
EVSP411	Environmental Policy, Regulation, and Law	
Total Semester Hours		15

Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
PHRL498	Religion and Philosophy Capstone (to be taken as the last course before graduation) ¹	3
Total Semester Hours		3

¹ Prerequisite: Senior Standing and completion of all major courses prior to enrollment.

Elective Requirements (36 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select any courses not already taken to fulfill the requirements listed above. Credits applied toward a minor or certificate in an unrelated field may be used to fulfill elective credit for the major.		36
Total Semester Hours		36