Philosophy (PHIL)

Courses

PHIL 101. Philosophical Problems. 4 Credits.
Introduction to philosophy based on classical and modern texts from Plato through the 21st century. Sample topics include free will, the mind-body problem, the existence of an external world.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 102. Ethics. 4 Credits.
Study of moral theories and issues central to moral theory (such as justification of moral judgments and concepts of duty, goodness, and virtue) as well as theoretical engagement with pressing contemporary moral debates.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: US: Difference, Inequality, Agency

PHIL 103. Critical Reasoning. 4 Credits.
Introduction to thinking and reasoning critically. How to recognize, analyze, criticize, and construct arguments.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 104. History of Western Philosophy. 4 Credits.
The course is an introduction to some currents, seminal thinkers, and texts of the Western philosophical tradition from the Ancient Greeks to Medieval, Modern, and 19th and 20th Century Philosophy. The course includes both classical text and readings traditionally excluded from the canon.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 110. Human Nature. 4 Credits.
Consideration of various physiological, cultural, psychological, and personal forces that characterize human beings, taking into account issues of class, gender, race, and sexual orientation.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 120. Ethics of Enterprise and Exchange. 4 Credits.
Moral examination of business by considering the nature of enterprise and exchange. Topics include corporate and consumer responsibility, meaningful work, and leadership.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 123. Internet, Society, and Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Introduction to philosophical problems of the Internet. Primary focus on social, political, and ethical issues with discussion of epistemological and metaphysical topics.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area

PHIL 130. Philosophy and Popular Culture. 4 Credits.
Engages in critical philosophical reflection about and through popular culture, including movies, music, graphic novels, and sports.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 135. Ethics in the Life Sciences. 4 Credits.
Focused on complex ethical issues in the life sciences, ranging from debates over human enhancement, the use of human cells in research, non-human animals in research, synthetic biology, genetically-modified organisms, and recent research in microbial biology.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 170. Love and Sex. 4 Credits.
Philosophical study of love, relationships, marriage, sex, sexuality, sexual identity, and sexual representation.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 199. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 199L. Special Studies: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 211. Existentialism. 4 Credits.
Basic ideas of the Christian and atheistic divisions of the existentialist movement; some attention to the philosophical situation that generated the existentialist rebellion.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 216. Philosophy and Cultural Diversity. 4 Credits.
Philosophical investigation of the implications of cultural diversity for identity, knowledge, and community, from the perspectives of several American cultures.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: US: Difference, Inequality, Agency

PHIL 219. Sports Ethics. 4 Credits.
Introduction to the nature of sport within the framework of the philosophical study of ethics and its implication for the athlete and spectator.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 220. Food Ethics. 4 Credits.
Examination of a variety of issues relating to food production and consumption in light of virtue, utilitarian, deontological, pragmatist, and care ethics.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 223. Data Ethics. 4 Credits.
This course explores central ethical challenges in data science and related fields of computational analysis. Offers both an overview of the major theoretical commitments of data ethics as well as engagement with applied contexts such as computer engineering, behavioral sciences, marketing, and surveillance.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area

PHIL 225. Introduction to Formal Logic. 4 Credits.
Introduces formal logic, including both propositional (sentence) and predicate logic, including the use of truth trees.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 299. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 299L. Special Studies: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 307. Social and Political Philosophy I. 4 Credits.
Survey of major political theorists (historical or contemporary) as well as central concepts of political philosophy such as justice, rights, liberalism, democracy, and equality.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area

PHIL 308. Social and Political Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Focused study of particular theorists and contemporary debates central to the fields of social and political philosophy.
Repeatable 1 time for a maximum of 8 credits when topic changes

PHIL 309. Global Justice. 4 Credits.
Introduction to philosophical problems of globalization and justice related to global poverty, citizenship, human rights, and issues of identity, multiculturalism, war,terrorism, environmentalism and health care.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 310. History of Ancient Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Focuses primarily on Plato and Aristotle. Examines their roots in pre-Socratic philosophy and considers their relation to the Greek political and poetic traditions.
Requisites: Prereq: one lower-division philosophy course.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 311. History of Philosophy: Modern. 4 Credits.
Survey of European philosophy through Hume, including the work of Descartes, Locke, and Spinoza.
Requisites: Prereq: one course from Philosophy.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 312. History of Philosophy: 19th Century. 4 Credits.
Traces Kant's influence on such philosophers as Hegel, Nietzsche, and Marx.
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 315. Introduction to Feminist Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Introduces basic questions of philosophy through topics central to feminism.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: US: Difference, Inequality, Agency

PHIL 320. Philosophy of Religion. 4 Credits.
Philosophical investigation of the nature of "religion" (e.g., the nature of the sacred, spirituality, and transcendence).
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course.

PHIL 322. Philosophy of the Arts. 4 Credits.
Survey of classical and contemporary theories of art and aesthetic experience, with examples from various arts.
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 323. Moral Theory. 4 Credits.
Study of the most important traditional ethical theories; modern philosophical analysis of moral terms and statements.
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course.

PHIL 331. Philosophy in Literature. 4 Credits.
Selective study of major philosophical ideas and attitudes expressed in the literature of Europe and America.
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course.

PHIL 332. Philosophy of Film. 4 Credits.
Explores questions about the aesthetic dimensions of film, its relation to the other arts, and the treatment of philosophical questions in films.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 335. Medical Ethics. 4 Credits.
Introduces theoretical tools and concrete case studies for formulating, analyzing, and evaluating ethical judgments raised by contemporary biomedical practice.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 339. Introduction to Philosophy of Science. 4 Credits.
Examines theories of scientific practice, rationality, objectivity, values in science, and the role of science in society.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area

PHIL 340. Environmental Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Considers the nature and morality of human relationships with the environment (e.g., the nature of value, the moral standing of nonhuman life).
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 341. African Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Survey of contemporary African philosophy with a focus on current debates (for example, critique of ethnophilosophy; relation between orality and writing; decolonization of knowledge).
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 342. Introduction to Latin American Philosophy. 4 Credits.
History of Latin American philosophy through the study of ideas, issues, problems, and forms of thinking in the work of key periods, movements, and authors.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 343. Critical Theory. 4 Credits.
Examines the methodological, epistemological, moral, and political dimensions of critical theory. Prereq: one philosophy course. Offered alternate years.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area
Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives

PHIL 344. Introduction to Philosophy of Law. 4 Credits.
Introduces central problems in the law; examines the nature of legal reasoning.
Additional Information:
Social Science Area

PHIL 345. Place in the Cosmos. 4 Credits.
Explores the relation between humans and the cosmos as a matter of place by comparing seminal texts in the history of philosophy. Offered alternate years.
Additional Information:
Arts Letters Area

PHIL 350. Metaphysics. 4 Credits.
Traditional issues in metaphysics selected from among such topics as substance, existence, time, causation, God, the nature of individuals, and the meaningfulness of metaphysics.
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course.

PHIL 399. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 401. Research: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
Disciplined inquiry of a topic with varying techniques and assignments suited to the nature and conditions of the problem being investigated. Often pursued in relation to a dissertation or thesis.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 403. Thesis. 1-12 Credits.
A written document resulting from study or research and submitted as a major requirement for a degree.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 405. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-21 Credits.
A particular selection of material read by a student and discussed in conference with a faculty member.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 407. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Recent topics include Eastern Philosophy, Feminist Theory, Nonviolence.

Requisites: Prereq: one 300-level philosophy course.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 410. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 415. Continental Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Survey of significant areas in the Continental tradition, e.g. phenomenology, critical social theory, deconstruction, feminism, and hermeneutics.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 420. American Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Survey of significant areas of the American tradition, e.g. 19th-, 20th-, and 21st-century thought, African and Native American thought, feminism, recent pragmatism, the self, and pluralism.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 421. Ancient Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher, typically Plato or Aristotle.
Requisites: Prereq: PHIL 310.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 423. Technology Ethics: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Advanced inquiry in ethics with a focus on technology. Addresses moral, political, and cultural issues raised by socio-technical systems for everyday living and democratic citizenship.
Repeatable 1 time for a maximum of 8 credits when topic changes

PHIL 425. Philosophy of Language. 4 Credits.
Philosophical theories of language and meaning, with special attention to the nature of concepts and reasoning.

PHIL 426. Advanced Logic. 4 Credits.
This course covers classical and non-classical logics. A review of propositional and predicate logic will be followed by a consideration of “non-normal” logics of strict implication, conditional logics, many-valued logics, and first degree entailment. The course will consider philosophical issues raised by these diverse logics.
Requisites: Prereq: PHIL 225.

PHIL 433. 17th- and 18th-Century Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher, typically Descartes, Locke, Hume, Leibniz, Berkeley, or Kant.
Requisites: Prereq: PHIL 310, PHIL 311.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 443. Feminist Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Examines contemporary feminist contributions to philosophy.
Requisites: Prereq: one 300-level PHIL course
Repeatable 1 time for a maximum of 8 credits

PHIL 451. Native American Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Survey of Native American philosophy focusing on philosophical perspectives in historical traditions and contemporary Native American philosophy. Offered alternate years.

PHIL 452. Philosophy and Race. 4 Credits.
Surveys the philosophical contribution to studies of race including intellectual history, philosophy of science, racism and its remedies, media studies, and cultural criticism with a focus on the US.
Requisites: Prereq: one philosophy course at the 300 level.
Additional Information:
Cultural Literacy: US: Difference, Inequality, Agency

PHIL 453. 19th-Century Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher, typically Hegel, Nietzsche, Marx, or Kierkegaard.
Requisites: Prereq: PHIL 312.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 463. 20th-Century Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher (e.g., Wittgenstein, Dewey, Quine, Merleau-Ponty, C.I. Lewis, or Foucault).
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 471. Advanced Introduction to American Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in American Philosophy.
Requisites: Prereq: one from PHIL 401, PHIL 403, PHIL 405, PHIL 407, PHIL 410, PHIL 415, PHIL 420, PHIL 421, PHIL 423, PHIL 425, PHIL 426, PHIL 433, PHIL 443, PHIL 451, PHIL 452, PHIL 453, PHIL 463.

PHIL 472. Advanced Introduction to Analytic Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in Analytic philosophy.
Requisites: Prereq: One 400 level philosophy course.

PHIL 473. Advanced Introduction to Continental Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in Continental Philosophy.
Requisites: Prereq: One 400 level philosophy course.

PHIL 474. Advanced Introduction to Feminist Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in Feminist Philosophy.
Requisites: Prereq: One 400 level philosophy course.

PHIL 503. Thesis. 1-16 Credits.
A written document resulting from study or research and submitted as a major requirement for a degree.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 507. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Recent topics include Eastern Philosophy, Feminist Theory, Nonviolence, Philosophy and Race, Philosophy and Tragedy, Philosophy of Education, Philosophy of Nature.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 510. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 521. Ancient Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher, typically Plato or Aristotle.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 526. Advanced Logic. 4 Credits.
This course covers classical and non-classical logics. A review of propositional and predicate logic will be followed by a consideration of “non-normal” logics of strict implication, conditional logics, many-valued logics, and first degree entailment. The course will consider philosophical issues raised by these diverse logics.

PHIL 533. 17th- and 18th-Century Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher, typically Descartes, Locke, Hume, Leibniz, Berkeley, or Kant.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 551. Native American Philosophy. 4 Credits.
Survey of Native American philosophy focusing on philosophical perspectives in historical traditions and contemporary Native American philosophy. Offered alternate years.

PHIL 553. 19th-Century Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher, typically Hegel, Nietzsche, Marx, or Kierkegaard.
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 563. 20th-Century Philosophers: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Concentrates on the work of a single philosopher (e.g., Wittgenstein, Dewey, Quine, Merleau-Ponty, C.I. Lewis, or Foucault).
Repeatable 99 times when topic changes

PHIL 571. Advanced Introduction to American Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in American Philosophy.

PHIL 572. Advanced Introduction to Analytic Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in Analytic philosophy.

PHIL 573. Advanced Introduction to Continental Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in Continental Philosophy.

PHIL 574. Advanced Introduction to Feminist Philosophy. 4 Credits.
An advanced introduction to central debates, topics, figures, and trajectories in Feminist Philosophy.

PHIL 601. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Disciplined inquiry of a topic with varying techniques and assignments suited to the nature and conditions of the problem being investigated. Often pursued in relation to a dissertation or thesis.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 603. Dissertation. 1-16 Credits.
A written document resulting from study or research and submitted as a major requirement for a degree.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 605. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
A particular selection of material read by a student and discussed in conference with a faculty member.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 607. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Recent topics include Emerson, Philosophy of Race, Recent Moral Theory, Schelling.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 610. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Experimental course - topic varies.
Repeatable 99 times

PHIL 614. Issues in Ethics. 4 Credits.
Examination of ethical theory.

PHIL 615. Continental Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Explores philosophical problems and traditions in contemporary European philosophy.
Repeatable 3 times for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes

PHIL 620. American Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Treats issues in classical and contemporary American philosophy.
Repeatable 3 times for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes

PHIL 623. Data Ethics. 4 Credits.
This course offers an advanced exploration of central ethical challenges in data science and related fields of computational analysis.

PHIL 641. Social and Political Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Examination of classical and current problems in social and political philosophy including the nature of justice, legitimacy of the state, conditions of war and peace.
Repeatable 3 times for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes

PHIL 643. Feminist Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Explores contemporary feminist philosophy.
Repeatable 3 times for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes

PHIL 645. Environmental Philosophy: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Pursues advanced questions in environmental philosophy regarding a particular tradition or problem area.
Repeatable 3 times for a maximum of 16 credits when topic changes

PHIL 657. Philosophy and Race: Contemporary Issues. 4 Credits.
Examination of contemporary discussions regarding race including biology and race, race in medicine, reparations, perspectives on race in Continental and American philosophy.

PHIL 670. Issues in Metaphysics. 4 Credits.
Discussion of current controversies in metaphysics (e.g., essentialism, identity, future contingency).