

PHILOSOPHY (PHI) 454

412 Stevenson Hall, (309) 438-7665

Fax: (309) 438-8028

<https://Philosophy.IllinoisState.edu>Email: Philosophy@IllinoisState.edu

Chairperson: Chris Horvath

General Department Information

The Major in Philosophy is designed to provide a liberal arts core around which a student may build a program of courses to suit a wide variety of career opportunities or other goals. The Department encourages its students to work with a departmental advisor in selecting a minor, a second major, or a set of connected courses in various fields which will best combine with philosophical study to produce a program meeting their needs. Majors are encouraged to pursue undergraduate research and internship opportunities.

Interdisciplinary Minors

The Department of Philosophy participates in a number of interdisciplinary minors at the University. Coursework offered by the Department contributes to the following minors: Civic Engagement and Responsibility, Classical Studies (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures), Cognitive Science, East Asian Studies (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures), Environmental Studies (Geography, Geology, and the Environment), European Studies, International Studies, Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies, Religious Studies (Philosophy), Women's and Gender Studies. For further information, please consult the Department advisor as well as the section entitled Interdisciplinary Studies Programs in this Undergraduate Catalog. Note that some minors listed above appear under departments rather than Interdisciplinary Studies Programs; when that is the case, the home Department is noted in parentheses.

Philosophy Programs

Degrees Offered: B.A.

Major in Philosophy

- A 2.00 cumulative GPA is required for retention in this major
- Majors are strongly discouraged from enrolling in more than two 300-level courses in one semester.

Concentrations: Philosophy majors may elect to take courses in one or more of the following areas of concentration, depending on individual interests.

(NOTE: A concentration is not required and will not appear on the student's transcript or diploma.)

- **Pre-law:** PHI 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 246, 340
- **Ethics:** PHI 233, 234, 236, 330
- **Metaphysics and Epistemology:** PHI 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 222, 224, 250, 251, 253, 263, 310, 315, 363
- **History of Philosophy:** PHI 207, 208, 254, 255, 305, 350

Minor in Philosophy

- 18 hours in Philosophy required
- Required Philosophy courses by area: Logic: PHI 112; History of Philosophy: PHI 254 and 255; at least 9 additional hours in Philosophy
- Not more than two 100-level courses may count toward the minor

Minor in Religious Studies

- 21 hours required, distributed as follows:
 - 6 hours from Group A
 - 9 hours chosen from exactly 3 of the Groups B, C, D, and E. Courses listed as Related Courses may not be used to satisfy this requirement
 - 6 additional hours from any of the Groups used to satisfy the above requirements. At most, 3 of these hours may be chosen from the courses listed as Related Courses for those Groups

Students are advised to complete several courses from Groups B through E prior to enrolling in the courses of Group A, (other than HIS 270). Courses listed as Related Courses in the following Groups may be of interest to students even though at most one of these may be used to complete the requirements for the minor. Also note that no more than 9 hours from a student's major field of study may be used to satisfy the requirements of a minor.

- **Group A:** HIS 270; IDS 254 (with advisor approval*); PHI 224; SOC 268
- **Group B:** ENG 250, 251; PHI 222. Related Courses: ART 367, 369, 377; HIS 223, 225, 351
- **Group C:** HIS 271, 378
Related Courses: HIS 104A04; IDS 121A02
- **Group D:** HIS 269; PHI 207, 208
Related Courses: HIS 104A02, 275, 276
- **Group E:** ART 275 (with advisor approval*); IDS 121A14; LAN 106

Additional courses for various groups: Specific offerings of the following courses may sometimes be placed into one of the above Groups by the Religious Studies Advisor depending on topic: ENG 352; IDS 121; 203; HIS 307.

*Topics in ART 275 and IDS 254 may vary. See the Religious Studies advisor to verify how a specific offering of these courses will count in the Minor.

Philosophy Courses

Freshmen wishing to select a Philosophy course normally should enroll in a 100-level course.

Philosophy Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/phi/>

All Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/>

MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY (B.A.)

General Education (39 credit hours)

Refer to the General Education section of the Undergraduate Catalog for a complete list of General Education requirements and courses.

Communication and Composition (2 courses required)

- _____ 3 COM 110 Communication as Critical Inquiry
- _____ 3 ENG 101 or ENG 101A10 Composition as Critical Inquiry

Mathematics (1 course required)

Natural Science/Natural Science Alternatives (2 courses required)

Students must complete 1 course from 2 different sciences.

United States Traditions (1 course required)

Individuals & Civic Life (1 course required)

Fine Arts (1 course/3 credit hours required)***

Humanities (1 course required)***

Exempt for Philosophy majors

Language in the Humanities (1 course required)***

Quantitative Reasoning for B.S. or LAN 115 for B.A. (1 course required)

- _____ 4 LAN 115 Second-Year Language Part I

Science, Math, & Technology (1 course required)

Social Sciences (1 course required)***

Additional Graduation Requirements

_____/120 minimum total credit hours

_____/42 minimum senior college hours

_____ College of Arts & Sciences language requirement

AMALI requirement

***certain courses in General Education fulfill the AMALI requirement
See the AMALI Requirement section of the catalog or the Course Finder website for a list of courses.

B.A. LAN 115 (1 course required)

- _____ 4 LAN 115 Second-Year Language Part I

Major (33 credit hours)

- _____ 3 PHI 112 Language, Logic & Mathematics
- _____ 3 PHI 201 Introduction to Metaphysics & Epistemology
- _____ 3 PHI 232 Introduction to Ethics
- _____ 3 PHI 254 Ancient Philosophy
- _____ 3 PHI 255 Modern Philosophy

Take six (18 credit hours) additional Philosophy major electives:

At least one 3 credit hour elective course must come from two of the three following groups: A, B, and C.

Group A: History of Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy, Human Nature:

- _____ 3 PHI 202 Sex, Values & Human Nature (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 207 Indian Philosophy
- _____ 3 PHI 208 Buddhist Philosophy
- _____ 3 PHI 222 Philosophy & Christian Theology
- _____ 3 PHI 224 Meaning & Religious Belief (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 246 Feminist Philosophies
- _____ 3 PHI 270 Existentialism (P: COM 110, ENG 101)

Group B: Mind, Science, Metaphysics, Epistemology:

- _____ 3 PHI 204 Philosophy of Mind
- _____ 3 PHI 205 Philosophy of Language
- _____ 3 PHI 206 Metaphysics
- _____ 3 PHI 250 Philosophy of Science
- _____ 3 PHI 251 Visions of the Self: A Study of Minds & Persons (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 253 Philosophy & the Behavioral Sciences
- _____ 3 PHI 263 Theory of Knowledge

Group C: Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy:

- _____ 3 PHI 233 Contemporary Western Moral Theories
- _____ 3 PHI 234 Business Ethics
- _____ 3 PHI 236 Values & the Environment
- _____ 3 PHI 238 Rights & Wrongs (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 240 Political Philosophy

At least two additional (6 credit hours) of elective courses at the 300-level from the following: PHI 305, 310, 315, 330, 340, 350, 363:

At least two additional (6 hours) of elective courses in with no more than one (3 hours) course at the 100-level (PHI 101, 104, 150):

Majors are strongly discouraged from enrolling in more than two 300-level courses in one semester.

Philosophy Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/phi/>

All Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/>

MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY (B.A.)

Transfer Students

Illinois Articulation Initiative (min. 37 credit hours)

To be eligible for IAI, at least one transfer course must have been articulated to an IAI core requirement. Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for a complete list of IAI courses and policies.

Communication and Composition (3 courses required)

A grade of C or better required in ENG 101 and 145 or equivalents

- _____ 3 C2 900 COM 110 Communication as Critical Inquiry
- _____ 3 C1 900 ENG 101 or ENG 101A10 Composition as Critical Inquiry
- _____ 3 C1 901 ENG 145 Writing in the Academic Disciplines

Mathematics (1 course required)

Please see major requirements for mathematics options

Physical & Life Sciences (2 courses/7-8 hours required)

Students must complete 1 life science and 1 physical science course; at least 1 course must have a lab.

Humanities & Fine Arts (3 courses required)

At least 1 humanities and 1 fine arts course required

- _____ 3 H4 900 PHI 101 Basic Issues in Philosophy
- _____
- _____

Social & Behavioral Sciences (3 courses required)

Two different disciplines must be represented

Additional Graduation Requirements

_____/120 minimum total credit hours

_____/42 minimum senior college hours

_____ College of Arts & Sciences language requirement

AMALI requirement

See the AMALI Requirement section of the catalog or the Course Finder website for a list of courses.

- _____ 3 PHI 207 Indian Philosophy OR
- _____ 3 PHI 208 Buddhist Philosophy

B.A. LAN 115 (1 course required)

- _____ 4 LAN 115 Second-Year Language Part I

Major (33 credit hours)

- _____ 3 PHI 112 Language, Logic & Mathematics
- _____ 3 PHI 201 Introduction to Metaphysics & Epistemology
- _____ 3 PHI 232 Introduction to Ethics
- _____ 3 PHI 254 Ancient Philosophy
- _____ 3 PHI 255 Modern Philosophy

Take six (18 credit hours) additional Philosophy major electives:

At least one 3 credit hour elective course must come from two of the three following groups: A, B, and C.

Group A: History of Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy, Human Nature:

- _____ 3 PHI 202 Sex, Values & Human Nature (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 207 Indian Philosophy
- _____ 3 PHI 208 Buddhist Philosophy
- _____ 3 PHI 222 Philosophy & Christian Theology
- _____ 3 PHI 224 Meaning & Religious Belief (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 246 Feminist Philosophies
- _____ 3 PHI 270 Existentialism (P: COM 110, ENG 101)

Group B: Mind, Science, Metaphysics, Epistemology:

- _____ 3 PHI 204 Philosophy of Mind
- _____ 3 PHI 205 Philosophy of Language
- _____ 3 PHI 206 Metaphysics
- _____ 3 PHI 250 Philosophy of Science
- _____ 3 PHI 251 Visions of the Self: A Study of Minds & Persons (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 253 Philosophy & the Behavioral Sciences
- _____ 3 PHI 263 Theory of Knowledge

Group C: Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy:

- _____ 3 PHI 233 Contemporary Western Moral Theories
- _____ 3 PHI 234 Business Ethics
- _____ 3 PHI 236 Values & the Environment
- _____ 3 PHI 238 Rights & Wrongs (P: COM 110, ENG 101)
- _____ 3 PHI 240 Political Philosophy

At least two additional (6 credit hours) of elective courses at the 300-level from the following: PHI 305, 310, 315, 330, 340, 350, 363:

At least two additional (6 hours) of elective courses in with no more than one (3 hours) course at the 100-level (PHI 101, 104, 150):

Majors are strongly discouraged from enrolling in more than two 300-level courses in one semester.

Philosophy Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/phi/>

All Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/>