

PHILOSOPHY, B.A.

Program Description

Philosophy is the art and science of examining unexamined assumptions that we bring to any field or activity: science, politics, religion, or simply our own daily lives. As such, philosophy is the most fundamental discipline, bringing to awareness the fundamental assumptions we have about reality and subjecting them to scrutiny. Philosophy therefore is both an art and a science: it examines our beliefs with the logical rigor of the sciences, but since it looks into our own most cherished beliefs and biases, it cultivates a self-awareness that we associate most commonly with the arts and humanities.

Besides being an exciting adventure in itself, the study of philosophy leads to intellectual habits that are extremely useful and prized in professional life. The law profession is a natural practical application of philosophical reasoning, as are the professions of teaching, journalism, and government service. Our graduates have also gone on to excel in medicine, business, and politics.

Degree Earned

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Required for Graduation

Courses

- Major: 12

Credits

- Major: 36
- Total: 120

GPA

- Major: 2.0
- Cumulative: 2.0

Student Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge of the views of some historically important philosophers (e.g., Plato, Aristotle, Kant, Nietzsche, Dewey)
- Present clearly and rigorously in writing an extended argument on a topic of philosophic importance.
- Reflect on one's intellectual and intuitive responses to issues concerning ethical values.
- Comprehend and interpret philosophically significant texts.

Progress Chart

Level One - Core Courses

12 courses and 2 modules required.

Code	Title	Credits
Level One - Core Courses		
<i>Universal Required Courses</i>		
Students must complete the following 4 courses.		
ILO 8.1: Written Communication (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ENG 110	College Writing I: Persuasion	3

ILO 5.1: Information Literacy (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ENG 210	College Writing II: Research	3
FYS 130	First-Year Academic Seminar	3
ILO 2.1: Reflective Thinking and Valuing (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
REL 100	Religion Matters	3
<i>Elective Core Courses</i>		
Students must complete 1 course in each of the following 4 ILOs.		
ILO 3.1a: Scientific Reasoning (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ILO 3.1b: Quantitative Reasoning (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ILO 6.1: Technological Competency (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ILO 8.1a/12.1: Oral Communication/Collaborative Engagement (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
<i>Distinct Discipline Core Courses</i>		
Students must complete 1 course in each of the following 4 ILOs. Each course must be from a different discipline. (A "discipline" is represented by the 3- or 4-letter prefix attached to each course.)		
ILO 4.1: Critical Analysis and Reasoning (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ILO 9.1: Creative and Artistic Expression (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ILO 10.1: Ethical Understanding and Reasoning (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
ILO 11.1: Cultural and Global Awareness and Sensitivity (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Choose course within ILO (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
<i>Universal Required Modules</i>		
Students must complete the following 2 non-credit modules.		
ILO 7.1a (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Health Literacy Module		
ILO 7.1b (https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/)		
Financial Literacy Module		
Major Requirements		
<i>Level Two</i>		
Students must complete 1 course/learning experience in each of the 4 commitments.		

ILO 2.2: Broader Identity (Capstone Course/Experience) (<https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/>)

PHL 480	Seminar	3
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Select one ILO from 3.2a, 3.2b, 4.2, 5.2, 6.2, 7.2a, or 7.2b: Expanded Literacies (<https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/>)

PHL 264	Critical Thinking	3
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ILO 8.2b: Effective Expression (Writing-Intensive Course) (<https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/>)

PHL 329	Contemporary Philosophy	3
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Select one ILO from 10.2, 11.2, or 12.2: Active Responsibility (<https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/>)

PHL 326	The Dawn of Reason: Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
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All Other Required Courses

****Note:** All Philosophy majors will take PHL 326 and either PHL 151, PHL 152, PHL 153, or PHL 154. Because of the distinct discipline requirement, a student may only apply one of these four PHL 15x courses toward the core. Majors may therefore choose one of the following four options:

Option A (an option for those taking PHL 151)

ILO 4: PHL 151

ILO 9: Choose Course within ILO

ILO 10: Choose course within ILO (may not take PHL 152)

ILO 11: Choose course within ILO (to be taken in addition to PHL 326)

Option B (another option for those taking PHL 151):

ILO 4: Choose course within ILO (to be taken in addition to PHL 151)
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ILO 9: Choose course within ILO

ILO 10: Choose course within ILO (may not take PHL 152)

ILO 11: PHL 326

Option C (an option for those taking PHL 152):

ILO 4: Choose course within ILO (may not take PHL 151)
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ILO 9: Chose course within ILO

ILO 10: PHL 152

ILO 11: Choose course within ILO (to be taken in addition to PHL 326)

Option D (another option for those taking PHL 152):

ILO 4: Choose course within ILO (may not take PHL 152)
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ILO 9: Choose course within ILO

ILO 10: Choose course within ILO (to be taken in addition to PHL 152)

ILO 11: PHL 326

PHL 151	The Examined Life	3
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PHL 152	Ethics & The Good Life	3
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PHL 153	Beauty and the Soul	3
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PHL 154	God: Beliefs, Proofs, & Doubts	3
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PHL 325	Symbolic Logic	3
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PHL 311	Problems of Knowledge	3
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or

PHL 313	Metaphysics	3
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or

PHL 323	Philosophy of Science	3
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PHL 326	The Dawn of Reason: Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
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PHL 327	Angels & Demons: The Romance of Medieval Philosophy	3
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PHL 328	(Early) Modern Philosophy	3
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PHL 329	Contemporary Philosophy	3
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PHL 480	Seminar	3
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Four Philosophy Electives (may not include PHL 151, 152, 153, or 154)

Free Electives

In addition to the requirements listed above, students must take enough courses to the fulfill graduation credit requirements for their School and major.

Recommended Course Sequence

Code	Title	Credits
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The following courses are required for the major:

PHL 151	The Examined Life (OR)
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PHL 152	Ethics & The Good Life (OR)
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PHL 153	Beauty and the Soul (OR)
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PHL 154	God: Beliefs, Proofs, & Doubts
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AND

PHL 326	The Dawn of Reason: Ancient Greek Philosophy
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History Sequence:

PHL 327	Angels & Demons: The Romance of Medieval Philosophy
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PHL 328	(Early) Modern Philosophy
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PHL 329	Contemporary Philosophy
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Further Requirements:

PHL 264	Critical Thinking
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AND

PHL 311	Problems of Knowledge
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*3 Elective Courses**

*PHL 480 will be taken by a major in his or her senior year in conjunction with any 300 level PHL course. In that course the student is expected to produce a substantive research paper or reflective essay beyond the standard requirements for the course.

Dual Major Requirements

The requirements for the double major are the same for those of the single major. Nevertheless, the department is flexible and is willing to count, where possible, courses in the student's other major toward the total credits necessary for the philosophy major. Only 11 credits in Philosophy are required for a dual major with another discipline.

Requirements

6 PHL courses are required for the minor.

Code	Title	Credits
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Select one of the following:

PHL 151	The Examined Life
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PHL 152	Ethics & The Good Life
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PHL 153	Beauty and the Soul
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PHL 154	God: Beliefs, Proofs, & Doubts
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Five 200-400 level courses	15
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Total Credits	18
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Choices for Philosophy

Code	Title	Credits
PHL 206	Social and Political Philosophy	3
PHL 212	Current Ethical Issues	3
PHL 213	Phil Of Sports	3
PHL 222	Love and Human Sexuality	3
PHL 223	Perspectives on Death	3
PHL 260	Philosophy Explores Photography	3
PHL 261	Reason & Reality	3
PHL 264	Critical Thinking	3
PHL 265	What Is Art?	3
PHL 266	Philosophy Looks at Film	3
PHL 267	Philosophical Approaches to God	3
PHL 268	Topics in Eastern Philosophy	3
PHL 269	Work & Culture	3
PHL 270	Special Topics	3
PHL 271	Special Topics	3
PHL 272	Special Topics	3
PHL 273	Special Topics	3
PHL 274	Special Topics	3
PHL 275	Special Topics	3
PHL 276	Special Topics	3
PHL 303	American Philosophy	3
PHL 306	Environmental Philosophy	3
PHL 308	The Philosophy of History	3
PHL 309	God, Reality, Heaven & Hell: Thomas Aquinas	3
PHL 310	Existentialism	3
PHL 311	Problems of Knowledge	3
PHL 313	Metaphysics	3
PHL 323	Philosophy of Science	3
PHL 325	Symbolic Logic	3
PHL 326	The Dawn of Reason: Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
PHL 327	Angels & Demons: The Romance of Medieval Philosophy	3
PHL 328	(Early) Modern Philosophy	3
PHL 329	Contemporary Philosophy	3
PHL 330	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 331	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 332	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 333	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 334	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 335	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 336	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 339	Gender, Body, And Culture	3
PHL 341	Minds, Brains, And Zombies	3
PHL 350	Business Ethics	3
PHL 370	Special Topics	3
PHL 371	Special Topics	3
PHL 372	Special Topics	3
PHL 373	Special Topics	3
PHL 374	Special Topics	3
PHL 375	Special Topics	3

PHL 377	Special Topics	3
PHL 379	Special Topics	3-4
PHL 444	Research in PHL I	1-3
PHL 445	Research in PHL II	1-3
PHL 470	Special Topics	3
PHL 480	Seminar	3

Course Descriptions

Philosophy

Code	Title	Credits
PHL 151	The Examined Life	3
PHL 152	Ethics & The Good Life	3
PHL 155	The Quest for Meaning: An Inside-Out Course	3
PHL 206	Social and Political Philosophy	3
PHL 212	Current Ethical Issues	3
PHL 222	Love and Human Sexuality	3
PHL 223	Perspectives on Death	3
PHL 260	Philosophy Explores Photography	3
PHL 264	Critical Thinking	3
PHL 265	What Is Art?	3
PHL 266	Philosophy Looks at Film	3
PHL 267	Philosophical Approaches to God	3
PHL 268	Topics in Eastern Philosophy	3
PHL 270	Special Topics	3
PHL 303	American Philosophy	3
PHL 306	Environmental Philosophy	3
PHL 308	The Philosophy of History	3
PHL 309	God, Reality, Heaven & Hell: Thomas Aquinas	3
PHL 310	Existentialism	3
PHL 311	Problems of Knowledge	3
PHL 313	Metaphysics	3
PHL 323	Philosophy of Science	3
PHL 326	The Dawn of Reason: Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
PHL 327	Angels & Demons: The Romance of Medieval Philosophy	3
PHL 328	(Early) Modern Philosophy	3
PHL 329	Contemporary Philosophy	3
PHL 330	The Great Philosophers	3
PHL 339	Gender, Body, And Culture	3
PHL 341	Minds, Brains, And Zombies	3
PHL 350	Business Ethics	3
PHL 370	Special Topics	3
PHL 480	Seminar	3

Program Contact Information

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