

PHILOSOPHY MAJOR CHECKLIST

OVERVIEW: The **Philosophy major requires a minimum of 12 units**, balancing work in major philosophical traditions, logic and writing, and advanced studies. The major allows for 2-4 units of electives, depending on what 300-level courses are taken. **Majors with emphases** require 14 units and allow students to gain advanced expertise in one of the subfields or areas of interest in philosophy. *The Department recommends that students declare the major by the end of their sophomore year. Note: No more than 4 courses by the same instructor (excluding the Senior Essay and Senior Seminar) may count toward completion of the major.*

I. Historical and Cultural Perspectives (4 units). These courses engage ancient Greco-Roman thought, modern European or American philosophy, and non-Western or critical Western analyses. In each category, choose from among the following:

One ancient Greco-Roman course:

- 101 – Greek Philosophy (no credit after 116)
- 116 – Greek History and Philosophy (no credit after 101)
- 210 – Ancient to Early Modern Western Philosophy
- 244 – Classical Social and Political Philosophy
- 203 – Topics in Philosophy (if on Greek or Roman philosophy)
- 303 – Advanced Topics in Philosophy (if on Greek or Roman philosophy)
- 314 – Text Seminar (if on Greek or Roman philosophy)

One modern European or American course:

- 160 – Kierkegaard: An Introduction to Existential Philosophy
- 201 – Modern European Philosophy: Birth of “the Modern Mind”
- 202 – Modern European Philosophy: A View From the Margins of Reason
- 203 – Topics in Philosophy (if on modern European or American philosophy)
- 204 – American Philosophy
- 205 – French Philosophy in Context: 1930 to the Present
- 210 – Ancient to Early Modern Western Philosophy
- 245 – Modern Social and Political Philosophy
- 260 – Existential Philosophy
- 302 – Recent Continental Philosophy
- 303 – Advanced Topics (if on modern European or American philosophy)
- 314 – Text Seminar (if on modern European or American philosophy)
- 350 – History-Philosophy Seminar (if on modern European or American)

Two non-Western or critical Western courses:

- 180 – Power and Equity: Philosophical Perspectives
- 203 – Topics in Philosophy (if on non-Western or critical Western philosophy)
- 243 – Philosophy & Politics of Identity
- 248 – Contesting Climate Justice
- 280 – Comparative Philosophies
- 281 – Indian Philosophy
- 282 – Africana Philosophy
- 283 – Latin American Philosophy
- 284 – Feminist Philosophies
- 285 – Philosophy and Race
- 286 – Classical Chinese Philosophy
- 303 – Advanced Topics (if on non-Western or critical Western philosophy)
- 314 – Text Seminar (if on non-Western or critical Western philosophy)
- 350 – History-Philosophy Seminar (if on non-Western or critical Western)
- 380 – Japanese Existentialism

II. Logic and Writing (1 unit). These courses introduce students to logical reasoning, formal argumentation, and/or effective writing. Choose at least one:

- 122 – Philosophical Argument and Writing
- 226 – Formal Logic

III. Capstone Requirement (3 units). These courses are designed to familiarize students with leading voices in contemporary philosophical scholarship, while giving students the opportunity to focus on approaches or problems that strongly interest them.

- 452 – Junior Seminar
- 475 – Senior Essay
- 476 – Senior Seminar

IV. Advanced Studies Requirement (2 units). Philosophy majors must complete at least 2 units at the 300-level. These courses may be double counted for the Historical and Cultural Perspectives or Logic and Writing requirements listed above. At least one 300-level course must be completed before PH475 – Senior Essay.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> PH302: Recent Continental Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> PH341: Contemporary Political Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PH303: Advanced Topics in Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> PH342: Critical Theory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PH314: Text Seminar | <input type="checkbox"/> PH350: History-Philosophy Seminar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PH321: Metaphysics | <input type="checkbox"/> PH360: Philosophy & Psychoanalysis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PH327: Epistemology | <input type="checkbox"/> PH361: Philosophy of Emotions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PH340: Ethics and Contemporary Life | <input type="checkbox"/> PH380: Japanese Existentialism |

V. Electives. Philosophy majors must successfully complete at least 12 units in philosophy. After fulfilling the requirements above, students may choose any additional philosophy courses to complete the 12-unit requirement. Check the schedule of classes to find the current options, including cross-listed courses, topics courses, and text seminars.

VI. Philosophy Major with Emphasis. Students may complete the philosophy major with a special emphasis in one of these areas of philosophy. See the Philosophy Emphases list of courses for more details.

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| History of Philosophy | Philosophical Psychology |
| Comparative Philosophy | Philosophy, Science, and Technology |
| Ethics and Social Justice | Metaphysics and Epistemology |

To obtain the designation of an emphasis, a student must take an additional two units of philosophy in the area chosen (for a total of 14 units in philosophy, rather than 12) and also complete the senior essay in that area. An emphasis must be declared no later than the end of the student’s junior year.

<p><u>COLLEGE-WIDE REQUIREMENTS</u> <i>(for all matriculating in Fall 2020 or after)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> First-Year Program (CC100 & CC120) <input type="checkbox"/> Analysis & Interpretation of Meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Process <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Reasoning & Logic <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Perspectives <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Societies & Human Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Power & Equity (2 blocks) <input type="checkbox"/> College-Level Language (2 blocks) 	<p><u>COLLEGE-WIDE REQUIREMENTS</u> <i>(for all matriculating in Fall 2012-Spring 2020)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Global Cultures course <input type="checkbox"/> Social Inequality course <input type="checkbox"/> Quantitative Reasoning course <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Science course <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Science Lab course <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Language (2 blocks or equiv.) <input type="checkbox"/> FYE Writing Portfolio (or equivalent)
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Additional Notes: Any substitution requires a written petition to the Department and approval by the Philosophy faculty. Students who matriculated prior to the approval of these requirements, in Spring 2021, have the option of satisfying the earlier major requirements.

Updated in April 2024