PHILOSOPHY MAJOR (B.A.)

https://cola.unh.edu/philosophy/program/ba/philosophy-major

Description

UNH philosophy majors acquire the ability to think systematically and imaginatively about fundamental and enduring issues such as morality, justice, happiness, beauty, gender, race, nature, artificial intelligence, space, time, and the meaning of life and death. Our internationally-renowned professors emphasize discussion, debate and writing in our courses. Wresting with the “big questions” from diverse and global perspectives will prepare you exceptionally well for a variety of fulfilling careers. A lively and nurturing community personally invested in the success of our high achieving students, we take pride in watching our graduates excel in top law and graduate schools, innovative social justice programs, and various positions from Wall Street to Silicon Valley and beyond (https://cola.unh.edu/spotlight/philosophy) that seek hard workers who can think rigorously and communicate clearly.

Requirements

Majors must take a minimum of ten (10) philosophy courses, for a total of 40 credits. A single course can satisfy multiple requirements for the major. The required minimum overall GPA in major coursework is 2.00. Candidates for a degree must satisfy additional University requirements for graduation, such as:

1. University “Writing Intensive” Requirements,
2. Liberal Arts Foreign Language Requirement (B.A. candidates only),
3. minimum number of credits (128 credits for B.A. degree), and
4. University Discovery Requirements.

Consult with your adviser early and often to plan the optimal path for fulfilling major and University requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 412</td>
<td>Beginning Logic</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 500</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 530</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 570</td>
<td>Ancient Philosophy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 580</td>
<td>Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant</td>
<td>2</td>
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Select one of the following additional courses in the history of philosophy:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 525</td>
<td>Existentialism</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 610</td>
<td>Topics in History of Philosophy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 620</td>
<td>20th Century European Philosophy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
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an approved seminar

Discovery Capstone Requirement

Select two 700-level seminars of the student’s choice, at least one of these should be taken in the senior year

Electives

Any two additional philosophy courses

Total Credits

40

As with all courses counting for the major, a grade of C- or better is required.

PHIL 495 Tutorial Reading and PHIL 795 Independent Study normally do not count toward fulfilling major requirement credits; exceptions may be granted by special permission.

Note that it is in the nature of 700-level seminars to presuppose by default that students have completed the main 400-level and 500-level core requirements (PHIL 412 Beginning Logic, PHIL 500 Workshop, PHIL 530 Ethics, PHIL 570 Ancient Philosophy, PHIL 580 Modern Philosophy from Descartes to Kant) and so free reference is made to materials, views, techniques, etc. covered in those lower-level core requirements.

Discovery Requirements

For students majoring in only philosophy: philosophy majors may "double count" any two courses toward the major and also to satisfy Discovery requirements. For example, a philosophy major can count (1) PHIL 412 Beginning Logic toward the major requirement as well as using this course to satisfy the Quantitative Reasoning Discovery Category and (2) they can also count PHIL 421 Philosophy and the Arts toward both the major and the Fine and Performing Arts Discovery Category. Because PHIL 412 Beginning Logic and PHIL 570 Ancient Philosophy are required for the major and also satisfy Quantitative Reasoning and Humanities Categories, respectively, all majors could simply count these two courses toward their Discovery requirements. In various circumstances—for instance if a student already satisfied those Discovery requirements before becoming a philosophy major—one might prefer to count other philosophy courses toward different Discovery Categories, and they are free to do so.

For students double majoring with philosophy: The Department sets no limits on how many courses students may "double count" toward both the philosophy major and Discovery categories if philosophy is your second major. A double major with philosophy as the second major could in principle count any of the following courses toward the major while satisfying five Discovery Categories:

1. Quantitative Reasoning (QR) Discovery Category could be satisfied by PHIL 412 Beginning Logic.
2. Fine and Performing Arts (FPA) Discovery Category could be satisfied by PHIL 421 Philosophy and the Arts.
4. World Cultures (WC) Discovery Category could be satisfied by PHIL 440C Honors/The Copernican Lens: Finding a Place for Humanity or PHIL 520 Introduction to Eastern Philosophy.

University of New Hampshire