

Philosophy Major

Chair: John Carvalho, Ph.D.

Office Location: 108 Saint Augustine Center

Telephone: 610-519-4690

[Website](#)

About

The Philosophy department offers interesting courses that help students better understand the world and their place in it. Philosophy courses teach students to analyze difficult texts, to write clearly and precisely, to defend their views with cogent arguments and to take pleasure in the struggle with complex ideas and questions.

Program: [Philosophy](#)

Type: Bachelor of Arts

PRIMARY MAJOR (122 credits)

Required Major Courses (30 credits)

The philosophy major consists of 10 courses and 30 credits.

Double Majors

Because of the interdisciplinary nature of philosophy, the department welcomes and encourages double majors. With the permission of the chair, philosophy majors may count up to two related courses from the second major toward fulfillment of the philosophy major requirements.

Course	Title	Credits
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
	Ancient Philosophy Requirement	3
	Medieval Philosophy Requirement	3
	Modern Philosophy Requirement	3
	PHI Research Requirement	3
	Advanced Seminar for Philosophy Majors (Capstone)	3
	PHI Electives for B.A.	12

Core Curriculum Requirements (41 credits)

Philosophy Majors meet the following core requirements in the major and therefore are omitted from the summary below:

- Core Philosophy - PHI 1000 (3 cr)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement (Proficiency)	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (51 credits)

Students with a Philosophy primary major have fifty-one (51) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 30 credits
- **Core Credits:** 41 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 51 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Philosophy as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.

Category Descriptions

Ancient Philosophy Requirement

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following Ancient Philosophy courses or an approved Topics course.

Course	Title	Credits
PHI 3020	History of Ancient Philosophy	3

Medieval Philosophy Requirement

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following medieval philosophy courses, or an approved Topics course.

Course	Title	Credits
PHI 3030	History of Medieval Philosophy	3
PHI 3100	Augustine & Antiquity	3
PHI 3160	History of Islamic Phil	3

Modern Philosophy Requirement

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following Modern Philosophy courses or an approved Topics course.

Course	Title	Credits
PHI 3040	Hist of Early Mod Philosophy	3
PHI 3050	Kant & 19th Cent Philosophy	3
PHI 3720	Marx & Marxism	3

PHI Research Requirement

Credits: 3

All students must take either PHI 3000, 5000, or 6000 to fulfill the research requirement.

Advanced Seminar for Philosophy Majors (Capstone)

Credits: 3

Course	Title	Credits
PHI 5000	Adv Sem for Phil Majors	3
PHI 6000	Senior Thesis	3
HON 4300	Philosophy	3

PHI Electives for B.A.

Credits: 12

Choose 4 Philosophy courses worth 3 credits each from PHI 1000 or above for a total 12 credits

Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)

Credits: 3

Students must take one course in either Mathematics or Statistics. Any course offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics fulfills the Core Curriculum requirement. Certain courses offered by other departments (e.g., Computer Science and Philosophy) also fulfill the requirement. These courses are designated by the Mathematics A & S Core attribute.

Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)

Credits: 8

Non-science majors meet the Core Curriculum Natural Science requirement by taking two semesters of Mendel Science Experience (MSE), thematically-based lecture/laboratory courses designed for non-science majors; or two semesters of lecture/laboratory courses designed for science majors.

Science (AST, BIO, BIOC, CHM, CBN, CSC, ENV, MAT, PHY - B.S. only, PSY - B.S. only) majors meet the science requirement through the regular program of study in their major.