PHILOSOPHY, BACHELOR OF ARTS (745)

Program Coordinator

Michael J. Seidler, michael.seidler@wku.edu

Philosophy, thought Socrates, begins with the recognition that an unexamined life is not worth living. Accordingly, those who study philosophy question how to understand ourselves and our relationships to other persons, to society, to nature, to the universe, and, for some, to God.

Philosophy develops our ability to challenge the obvious, trains us to analyze and synthesize ideas, and shows us both how to defend and how to criticize normative claims about actions, policies, and ways of life. By carefully examining and discussing both traditional and contemporary works, it cultivates habits of honest reflection, careful reasoning, and clear thinking.

Philosophy majors can choose one of two tracks (both require 31 credit hours):

- the *philosophy* track, for a deeper study of foundational questions, everyday and eternal, that we must face in order to live well and succeed in our careers, or
- 2. the *philosophy, politics, and policy* track, for a deeper study of philosophy as it applies to decision-making in politics and social policy.

Concentration(s)

- General (No concentration)
- · Philosophy, Politics, and Policy (PHLP)

Program Requirements (31 hours)

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/ registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/ degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: https://www.wku.edu/ colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php. (https://www.wku.edu/ colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php)

The major in philosophy requires a minimum of 31 semester hours and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. At least 18 hours must be in courses numbered 300 or above. A minor or second major is required.

Philosophy majors can choose one of two tracks (both require 31 credit hours):

- 1. the *philosophy* track, for a deeper study of foundational questions, everyday and eternal, that we must face in order to live well and succeed in our careers, or
- 2. the *philosophy, politics, and policy* track, for a deeper study of philosophy as it applies to decision-making in politics and social policy.

Philosophy Track (31 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
Logic, Epistemology		c
Select two of the fol	5	6
PHIL 214	Logic, Argument, and Practical Reasoning	
PHIL 215	Symbolic Logic	
PHIL 315	Philosophy of Religion	
PHIL 330	Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 332	Philosophy of Mind: Minds and Machines	
PHIL 334	Philosophy of Language	
PHIL 404	Metaphysics and Epistemology	
PHIL 415	Advanced Logic	
History of Philosoph		
Select two of the fol	llowing:	6
PHIL 331	Analytic Philosophy	
PHIL 341	Plato and Aristotle	
PHIL 342	Skeptics, Stoics, and Epicureans	
PHIL 343	Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 344	Early Modern Moral Philosophy	
PHIL 345	Descartes and Hume	
PHIL 346	Kant and Idealism	
PHIL 347	Leibniz and Locke	
PHIL 348	20th Century Philosophy	
PHIL 406	Existentialism	
PHIL 440	Readings in Ancient or Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 450	Readings in Modern or Contemporary Philosophy	
PS 330	Introduction to Political Theory	
Ethics and Values		
Select two of the fol	llowing:	6
PHIL 202	Racial Justice	
PHIL 207	Philosophy and Popular Culture	
PHIL 208	Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & Violence	
PHIL 211	Why Are Bad People Bad?	
PHIL 212	Philosophy and Gender Theory	
PHIL 305	Aesthetics	
PHIL 322	Biomedical Ethics	
PHIL 323	Social Ethics	
PHIL 324	War and Peace	
PHIL 333	Marx and Critical Theory	
PHIL 344	Early Modern Moral Philosophy	
PHIL 350	Ethical Theory	
PHIL 406	Existentialism	
PHIL 426	Philosophy and Old Age	
PHIL 427	Philosophy of Law	
Senior Seminar	Thiosophy of Law	
PHIL 496	Senior Seminar	1
Electives	ochior ochiniar	I
LICCUVES		

31

1	Total Hours		
	RELS 318	Daoism	
	RELS 317	Confucianism	
	RELS 242	The Meaning of Life; Atheism to Zen	
Any philosophy (PHIL) course that is not already counting towards one of the above categories.			
Select four of the following:			12

Philosophy, Politics, and Policy Track (31 hours)

CodeTitleHoursLogic, Epistemology, and Metaphysics6Select two of the following:6PHIL 214Logic, Argument, and Practical Reasoning6PHIL 215Symbolic LogicPHIL 215Symbolic LogicPHIL 315Philosophy of ReligionPHIL 330Philosophy of SciencePHIL 332Philosophy of Mind: Minds and MachinesPHIL 334Philosophy of LanguagePHIL 404Metaphysics and EpistemologyPHIL 415Advanced LogicHII 331Analytic PhilosophyPHIL 341Plato and AristotlePHIL 342Skeptics, Stoics, and EpistemologyPHIL 343Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 344Early Modern Moral PhilosophyPHIL 345Descartes and HumePHIL 346Kant and IdealismPHIL 347Leibniz and LockePHIL 34820th Century PhilosophyPHIL 440Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 450Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 450Readings in Modern or Contemporary PhilosophyPHIL 202Racial JusticePHIL 203Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 204Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 205Aceial JusticePHIL 206Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 207Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 208Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 209Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 201Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 323 <td< th=""><th>ilouio)</th><th></th><th></th></td<>	ilouio)			
Select two of the following:6PHIL 214Logic, Argument, and Practical ReasoningPHIL 215Symbolic LogicPHIL 315Philosophy of ReligionPHIL 330Philosophy of SciencePHIL 332Philosophy of Mind: Minds and MachinesPHIL 334Philosophy of LanguagePHIL 404Metaphysics and EpistemologyPHIL 415Advanced LogicHistory of PhilosophyFalsophySelect two of the following:6PHIL 331Analytic PhilosophyPHIL 342Skeptics, Stoics, and EpicureansPHIL 343Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 344Early Modern Moral PhilosophyPHIL 345Descartes and HumePHIL 345Descartes and HumePHIL 344Early Modern Moral PhilosophyPHIL 406ExistentialismPHIL 408Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 440Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 450Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 450Readings in Modern or Contemporary PhilosophyPHIL 202Racial JusticePHIL 201Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 202Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 203Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 324War and Peace			Hours	
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PHIL 406ExistentialismPHIL 440Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 450Readings in Modern or Contemporary PhilosophyPS 330Introduction to Political TheoryEthics and ValuesSelect two of the following:Select two of the following:6PHIL 202Racial JusticePHIL 207Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 208Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 305AestheticsPHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 347	Leibniz and Locke		
PHIL 440Readings in Ancient or Medieval PhilosophyPHIL 450Readings in Modern or Contemporary PhilosophyPS 330Introduction to Political Theory Ethics and Values Select two of the following:Select two of the following:6PHIL 202Racial JusticePHIL 207Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 208Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 305AestheticsPHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 348	20th Century Philosophy		
PHIL 450 Readings in Modern or Contemporary Philosophy PS 330 Introduction to Political Theory Ethics and Values Ethics and Values Select two of the following Racial Justice PHIL 202 Racial Justice PHIL 207 Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & Violence PHIL 208 Philosophy and Popular Culture PHIL 201 Why Are Bad People Bad? PHIL 212 Philosophy and Gender Theory PHIL 305 Aesthetics PHIL 322 Biomedical Ethics PHIL 323 Social Ethics PHIL 324 War and Peace	PHIL 406	Existentialism		
Contemporary PhilosophyPS 330Introduction to Political TheoryEthics and ValuesSelect two of the following:6PHIL 202Racial JusticePHIL 207Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 208Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 305AestheticsPHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 440	-		
Ethics and ValuesSelect two of the following:6PHIL 202Racial JusticePHIL 207Philosophy and Popular CulturePHIL 208Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 305AestheticsPHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 450	5		
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PHIL 208Philosophy of Public Space; Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 305AestheticsPHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 202	Racial Justice		
Reason, Action & ViolencePHIL 211Why Are Bad People Bad?PHIL 212Philosophy and Gender TheoryPHIL 305AestheticsPHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 207	Philosophy and Popular Culture		
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PHIL 322Biomedical EthicsPHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 212	Philosophy and Gender Theory		
PHIL 323Social EthicsPHIL 324War and Peace	PHIL 305	Aesthetics		
PHIL 324 War and Peace	PHIL 322	Biomedical Ethics		
	PHIL 323	Social Ethics		
PHIL 333 Marx and Critical Theory	PHIL 324	War and Peace		
	PHIL 333	Marx and Critical Theory		

PHIL 344	Early Modern Moral Philosophy		
PHIL 350	Ethical Theory		
PHIL 406	Existentialism		
PHIL 426	Philosophy and Old Age		
PHIL 427	Philosophy of Law		
Senior Seminar			
PHIL 496	Senior Seminar	I	
Electives			
Select at least two philoso political science (PS) cour	ophy (PHIL) courses and at least two 12 rses from the following:	2	
Any philosophy course that is not already counting			
towards one of the above categories			
PS 201	Concepts of Political Science		
PS 311	Public Policy		
PS 316	The Legislative Process		
PS 326	Constitutional Law		
PS 327	Civil Liberties		
PS 328	Criminal Justice Procedures		
PS 330	Introduction to Political Theory		
PS 338	Government and Ethics		
PS 340	Principles of Public Administration		
Any graduate political	science (PS) course		

Total Hours

Honors in the Philosophy Major

An honors option is available for ambitious and high-achieving students seeking additional opportunities for intensive philosophical investigation. This may be pursued through honors-enriched versions of any philosophy course, and by writing a formal honors thesis in addition to the 31-hour program requirement. More details about an honors degree in philosophy can be obtained by contacting the department chair or any philosophy faculty member.

Finish in Four Plan

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
COMM 145 or ENG 100	:	8 ENG 100 or COMM 145	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102	:	3 MATH 109 (or higher)	3
Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences	:	Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences with lab	3-4
Philosophy: Logic, Epistemology, and Metaphysics Course	:	3 Philosophy: Logic, Epistemology, and Metaphysics Course	3
PHIL 101, PHIL 102, or PHIL 103	3	3 Colonnade: Social & Behavioral Science	3
15 15-16			
Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
RELS 200 or ENG 200	5	3 ENG 300	3
Philosophy: Ethics and Values Course	:	3 Colonnade: Connections (Social & Cultural)	3
Philosophy: History of Philosophy Course	3	Philosophy: History of Philosophy Course	3
2nd Major/Minor Course	1	Philosophy: Ethics and Values Course	3

3 Philosophy, Bachelor of Arts (745)

2nd Major/Minor		3 2nd Major/Minor		3
Course		Course		
		15		15
Third Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
Philosophy: Elective Course		3 Philosophy: Elective Course		3
Colonnade: Connections (Systems)		3 2nd Major/Minor Course		3
General Elective		3 Colonnade: Connections (Local to Global)		3
2nd Major/Minor Course		3 General Elective		3
2nd Major/Minor Course		3 PHIL 496		3
		15		15
Fourth Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
Philosophy: Elective Course		3 2nd Major/Minor Course		3
2nd Major/Minor Course		3 General Elective		3
2nd Major/Minor Course		3 General Elective		3
General Elective		3 General Elective		3
General Elective		3 General Elective		3
		15		15

Total Hours 120-121