PHILOSOPHY

Description

Philosophy is the critical study of the fundamental concepts and assumptions involved in all central areas of human experience, including religion, morality, science, and art. The department offers an introduction to philosophy course designed for the general student, as well as introductory courses in logic and current issues.

The basic philosophy curriculum includes courses in the *history of philosophy* covering the period which begins with the development of rational inquiry by the philosophers of ancient Greece and which concludes with the construction of the modern philosophical systems of the Enlightenment as well as courses in each of the major fields of philosophical study: *ethics*, which is concerned with the basis of morality; *metaphysics*, which explores different views about what fundamentally exists; *epistemology*, which examines the nature and limits of human knowledge; and *logic*, which studies general methods of reasoned argument and analysis.

A number of courses reflect the role of philosophy in investigating the fundamental concepts and assumptions of other disciplines, including courses in medical ethics, the philosophy of law, the philosophy of science, and the philosophy of mathematics.

Other courses focus on the role of philosophy in the critical analysis of basic evaluative conceptions and assumptions. Courses in political philosophy critically examine the evaluative concepts and assumptions involved in our beliefs about government, individual liberty, and social and economic justice. Courses in the philosophy of religion do the same for beliefs about the nature and existence of God and about the relations between faith and knowledge.

The department also offers courses in *aesthetics*, the philosophical study of art, music, and literature understood as fundamental forms of human culture and significant expressions of the human spirit.

The interdisciplinary character of philosophy, together with its focus on evaluative issues and its unique emphasis on general methods of reasoned argument and analysis, leads to an unusually broad and intellectually sound major for students preparing themselves for such professions as law, medicine, social work, government service, and the ministry. The philosophy major is indispensable for those who wish to prepare for a career as a philosopher within a college or university setting.

College Requirements

College Admission

College Admission

The entrance requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences are the same as the University of Nebraska–Lincoln General Admission Requirements. Students who are admitted through the Admission by Review process may have certain conditions attached to their enrollment at Nebraska. These conditions are explained under “Removal of Deficiencies.”

In addition to these requirements, the College of Arts and Sciences strongly recommends a third and fourth year of one foreign language. Four years of high school course work in the same language will fulfill the College of Arts and Sciences’ language requirement. It will also allow students to continue language study at a more advanced level at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, and provide more opportunity to study abroad.

Transfer Students

To be considered for admission as a transfer student, Nebraska resident or nonresident, students must have an accumulated average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum C average in the last semester of attendance at another college. Transfer students who graduated from high school January 1997 and after must also meet the University of Nebraska–Lincoln General Admission Requirements. Those transfer students who graduated before January 1997 must have completed in high school, 3 years of English, 2 years of the same foreign language, 2 years of algebra, and 1 year of geometry. Transfer students who have completed less than 12 credit hours of college study must also submit either their ACT or SAT scores.

Ordinarily, hours earned at a similarly accredited college or university are applicable to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln degree. The College, however, will evaluate all hours submitted on an application for transfer, and reserves the right to accept or reject any of them, based upon its exclusion and restriction policies. Sixty (60) is the maximum number of hours the University will accept on transfer from a two-year college or international institution. Transfer credit in the major or minor must be approved by the departmental advisor on a Request for Substitution Form to meet specific course requirements, group requirements, or course level requirements in the major or minor. At least half of the hours in the major field must be completed at the University regardless of the number of hours transferred.

The College of Arts and Sciences will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other schools. The C- and D grades cannot be applied toward requirements for a major or minor. This policy does not apply to the transfer of grades from UNO or UNK to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. All D grades may be transferred from UNO or UNK, but they are not applicable to a major or minor.

Readmitted Students

University of Nebraska–Lincoln students who choose not to take courses for more than two consecutive terms, must reapply to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Students readmitted to the College of Arts and Sciences will follow the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year of readmission and re-enrollment as a degree-seeking student in Arts and Sciences. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at Nebraska in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991, the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Admission Deficiencies/Removal of Deficiencies

Students must remove entrance deficiencies in geometry and foreign language as soon as possible, and before graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences. For questions and more information, students should consult a college advisor in the Academic and Career Advising Center in 107 Oldfather Hall.

Removing Foreign Language Deficiencies

Students must complete the second semester of a first year language sequence to clear the deficiency and the second semester of the second year language sequence to complete the college graduation requirement in language.
Removing Geometry Deficiencies
A deficiency of one year of geometry can be removed by taking high school geometry courses through an approved independent study program, or by completing a geometry course from an accredited community college or a four-year institution. Neither of these options will count for college credit.

College Degree Requirements

College Distribution Requirements

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (16 hours + Language)
The College of Arts and Sciences distribution requirements are designed to further the purposes of liberal education by encouraging study in several different areas within the College. All requirements are in addition to University ACE requirements. A student may not use a single course to satisfy more than one of the following five distribution requirements. A student cannot use a single course to satisfy both an ACE outcome and a College distribution requirement. A student cannot use a course from their primary major to satisfy the Breadth Requirement (F), but may apply an ancillary requirement of the primary major or a course from their second major toward this requirement. Independent study or reading courses and internships cannot be used to satisfy distribution requirements. To see a complete list of excluded courses, run a degree audit through MyRED.

Courses from interdisciplinary programs will count in the same area as courses from the home/cross-listed department(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDR A</td>
<td>Written Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select from courses approved for ACE outcome 1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR B</td>
<td>Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences with Lab</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, geology, meteorology, mathematics, physics and statistics. Must include one lab in the natural or physical sciences. Lab courses may be selected from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, geology, meteorology and physics. Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR C</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select from classics, English, history, modern languages and literatures, philosophy, and religious studies.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR D</td>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select from: anthropology, communication studies, geography, political science, psychology, or sociology.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR E</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>0-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fulfilled by the completion of the 6-credit-hour second-year sequence in a single foreign language in one of the following departments: Classics and religious studies, modern languages and literatures, or anthropology. Instruction is currently available in Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Omaha, Russian, and Spanish. A student who has completed the fourth-year level of one foreign language in high school is exempt from the languages requirement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR F</td>
<td>Additional Breadth</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select from: natural, physical and mathematical sciences (Area B), humanities (Area C), or social sciences (Area D). Cannot be a course from the primary major.

Credit Hours Subtotal: 16-32

1. See degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for approved geography and anthropology courses that apply as natural science.
2. Language courses numbered 210 or below apply only for the foreign language requirement.
3. See degree audit or College of Arts and Sciences advisor for list of natural/physical science courses in anthropology, geography, and psychology that do not apply as social science.

Scientific Base

Bachelor of Science Only (60 hours)
The bachelor of science degree requires students to complete 60 hours in mathematical, physical and natural sciences. Approved courses for scientific base credit come from the following College of Arts and Sciences disciplines: actuarial science, anthropology (selected courses), astronomy, biochemistry (excluding BIOL 101), biological sciences (excluding BIOS 203), chemistry (excluding CHEM 101), computer science (excluding CSCE 10), geography (selected courses), geology, life sciences, mathematics (excluding courses below MATH 104), meteorology, microbiology, physics and statistics.

See your degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for a complete list including individual classes that fall outside of the disciplines listed above. Up to 12 hours of scientific and technical courses offered by other colleges may be accepted toward this requirement with approval of a college advisor.

Foreign Languages/Language Requirement

Languages Exemption Policy
The University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the College of Arts and Sciences will exempt or waive students from the Nebraska entrance requirement of two years of the same foreign language or from the College’s language distribution requirement based on documentation only. The following are the options and procedures for documentation:

High School Transcripts
For the University entrance requirement, students must show an official high school transcript with two or more years of the same foreign language.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, students must show an official high school transcript with four or more years of the same foreign language in high school, or show evidence of graduation from a non-English-speaking foreign high school. Students whose native language is not English must show English as a Second Language study on an official high school transcript. Four years of ESL at the high school level (9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades) will be the basis for a waiver of the CDR E Language requirement.

Proficiency Examination at UNL
For the University entrance requirement, students who do not have transcript documentation can request to take a proficiency exam in the language. (This is not the same test as the Modern Languages Placement Exam.) However, the University will provide testing only in the languages it teaches. Currently, these languages are: Arabic, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Czech, Japanese, Chinese.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, the Department of Modern Languages will oversee the test
at the 202 level. If the student passes the test, the department will sign the College Request for Waiver form and indicate the level of proficiency. The form is then forwarded to the Arts and Sciences Advising Center for approval.

The Department of Modern Languages will oversee the test and provide written documentation to the Arts and Sciences Advising Center the level of proficiency passed.

**Distance Education**

For the University entrance requirement, students without transcript documentation who claim proficiency in a language not taught at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, have the option of seeking out a distance education program in languages. If the student completes the equivalent of 102 from an approved distance education program, the student will meet the University's entrance requirement. The student must have the course work approved before he/she takes/completes the course as equivalent to 102 by a College advisor. The student then completes the course and has the distance education program send the transcript to the Admissions Office.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, the student can seek out a distance education program and complete the equivalent of the 202-level course. The student must submit the request on the College Request for Substitution form and have the course work approved by a College advisor. The student then completes the course and has the distance education program send the transcript to the Admissions Office.

**Third Language Option**

If a student demonstrates knowledge of two foreign languages at the 102 level, the College of Arts and Sciences may consider waiving two semesters of the four semester College Distribution Requirement E-Languages requirement. If this waiver were granted, the student would then be required to complete 101 and 102 in another, 3rd foreign language at Nebraska.

**Minimum Hours Required for Graduation**

A minimum of 120 semester hours of credit is required for graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences. A total grade point average of at least 2.0 is required.

**Grade Rules**

Restrictions on C- and D Grades

The College will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other schools except for UNO and UNK. No transfer C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. No University of Nebraska–Lincoln C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor.

**Pass/No Pass Privilege**

University regulations for the Pass/No Pass (P/N) privilege state:

- The Pass/No Pass option is designed for your use by seeking to expand your intellectual horizons by taking courses in areas where you may have had minimal preparation.
- Neither the P nor the N grade contribute to your GPA.
- P is interpreted to mean C or above.
- A change to or from a Pass/No Pass may be made until mid-term (see academic calendar for specific dates per term).
- The Pass/No Pass or grade registration cannot conflict with the policy of the professor, department, college, or University governing the grading option.
- Changing to or from Pass/No Pass requires using the MyRED system to change the grading option or filing a Drop/Add form with the Office of the University Registrar, 107 Canfield Administration Building. After mid-term of the course, a student registered for Pass/No Pass cannot change to a grade registration unless the Pass/No Pass registration is in conflict with the policy of the professor, department, college, or University governing Pass/No Pass.
- The Pass/No Pass grading option cannot be used for the removal of C- or D grades.

**Pass/No Pass privileges in the College of Arts and Sciences are extended to students according to the following additional regulations:**

- Pass/No Pass hours can count toward fulfillment of University ACE requirements and college distribution requirements up to the 24-hour maximum.
- Most Arts and Sciences departments and programs do not allow courses graded Pass/No Pass to apply to the major or minor. Students should refer to the department's or program's section of the catalog for clarification. By college rule, departments can allow up to 6 hours of Pass/No Pass in the major or minor.
- Departments may specify that certain courses of theirs can be taken only on a P/N basis.
- The college will permit no more than a total of 24 semester hours of P/N grades to be applied toward degree requirements. This total includes all Pass grades earned at the University and other U.S. schools. **NOTE:** This 24-hour limit is more restrictive than the University regulation.

**Grading Appeals**

A student who feels that he/she has been unfairly graded must ordinarily take the following sequential steps in a timely manner, usually by initiating the appeal in the semester following the awarding of the grade:

1. Talk with the instructor concerned. Most problems are resolved at this point.
2. Talk to the instructor’s department chairperson.
3. Take the case to the Grading Appeal Committee of the department concerned. The Committee should be contacted through the department chairperson.
4. Take the case to the College Grading Appeals Committee by contacting the Dean's Office, 1223 Oldfather Hall.

**Course Level Requirements**

**Courses Numbered above 299**

Thirty of the 120 semester hours of credit must be in courses numbered above 299. Of the 30 hours above 299, 15 hours (1/2) must be completed in residence at UNL.

**Graduate Courses**

Seniors in the University who have obtained in advance the approval of the dean for Graduate Studies may receive up to 12 hours credit for graduate courses taken in addition to the courses necessary to complete their undergraduate work, provided that such credits are earned within the calendar year prior to receipt of the baccalaureate. For procedures, inquire at the Office of Graduate Studies.
Course work taken prior to receipt of the baccalaureate may not always be accepted for transfer to other institutions as graduate work.

Residency

Residency Requirement and Open Enrollment and Summer
Independent Study Courses

Students must complete at least 30 of the 120 total hours for their degree at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Students must complete at least 1/2 of their major course work including 6 hours above 299 in their major, and 15 of the 30 hours required above 299 in residence. Credit earned during education abroad may be used toward the residency requirement if students register through the University and participate in prior-approved education abroad programs. The University of Nebraska–Lincoln open enrollment and summer independent study courses count toward residence.

ACE Requirements

Consistent with the mission and values of the University, ACE is based on a shared set of four institutional objectives and ten student learning outcomes. The ACE program was approved by faculty in all eight undergraduate colleges and endorsed by the Faculty Senate, the student government, and the Academic Planning Committee in January 2008 for implementation in the fall 2009. ACE aligns with current national initiatives in general education.

Key characteristics of ACE demonstrate the benefits of the program to students:

• Students receive a broad education with exposure to multiple disciplines, critical life skills and important reasoning, inquiry, and civic capacities.
• ACE is simple and transparent for students, faculty and advisors. Students complete the equivalent of 3 credit hours for each of the ten student learning outcomes.
• Students connect and integrate their ACE experiences with their selected major.
• Students can transfer all ACE certified courses across colleges within the institution to meet the ACE requirement and any course from outside the institution that is directly equivalent to a University of Nebraska–Lincoln ACE-certified course. Courses from outside institutions without direct equivalents may be considered with appropriate documentation for ACE credit (see academic advisor).

ACE allows faculty to assess and improve their effectiveness and facilitate students’ learning.

ACE Institutional Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

To meet the ACE Program requirement, a student will complete a minimum of 3 credit hours for each of the ten ACE Student Learning Outcomes (a total of 30 ACE credit hours). See the ACE website at: http://ace.unl.edu for the most current information and the most recently certified courses.

Catalog Rule

Students must fulfill the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year in which they are first admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a subsequent catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at Nebraska in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991 the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Learning Outcomes

Majors in philosophy will be able to:

1. Write clear and persuasive argumentative essays.
2. Interpret complex philosophical texts.
3. Critically explain major issues and positions in the history of philosophy, value theory, and metaphysics/epistemology.
4. Analyze arguments using formal logic.
5. Reason philosophically.

Major Requirements

Thirty (30) hours of philosophy, with at least 24 hours in courses numbered 200 or above, and at least 12 hours in courses numbered 300 or above.

Specific Major Requirements

Logic

Select at least one of the following: 3

| PHIL 110 | Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking |
| PHIL 211 | Introduction to Modern Logic |

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

History of Philosophy

Select at least one of the following: 3

| PHIL 231 | History of Philosophy (Ancient) |
| PHIL 232 | History of Philosophy (Modern) |
| PHIL 336 | Ethics: Ancient and Medieval |
| PHIL 337 | Knowledge: Ancient and Medieval |
| PHIL 338 | Metaphysics: Ancient and Medieval |

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

Value Theory

Select at least one of the following: 3

| PHIL 320 | Ethical Theory |
| PHIL 323 | Topics in Applied Ethics |
| PHIL 325 | Advanced Social Political Philosophy |

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Select at least one of the following: 3

| PHIL 301 | Theory of Knowledge |
| PHIL 302 | Introduction to Metaphysics |
| PHIL 305 | Introduction to Philosophy of Language |
| PHIL 314 | Problems in the Philosophy of Mind |
| PHIL 317 | Philosophy of Science |

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

Additional Philosophy Courses

Select 15 hours

Credit Hours Subtotal: 15

Undergraduate Seminar

PHIL 400 | Undergraduate Seminar in Philosophy | 3

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

Total Credit Hours 30
Recommended Courses for Pre-Law Students
Logic: PHIL 110, PHIL 211
Philosophy of Law: PHIL 230
Ethics and Political Philosophy: PHIL 221, PHIL 320, PHIL 325
Theory of Knowledge: PHIL 301

Additional Major Requirements

Grade Rules
C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the major and minor.

Pass/No Pass
Up to 6 hours of courses taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the major.

Prerequisite Requirements/Rules
The prerequisite for 300-level courses is typically 3 hours of philosophy or permission. The prerequisite for 400-level courses is typically 9 hours of philosophy or permission.

Requirements for Minor Offered by Department
Fifteen (15) hours in philosophy courses including:

- At least 12 hours at the 200 level or above and at least 6 hours at the 300 level or above;
- At least one course in each of two areas: Logic, History of Philosophy, Value Theory, or Metaphysics and Epistemology. See course choices in the major section.

Grade Rules
C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the major and minor.

Pass/No Pass
Up to 3 hours of courses taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the minor.

PHIL 101 Introduction to Philosophy
Description: Historical-cultural introduction to philosophy. Considers a broad range of philosophical problems in relation to the major historical and cultural conditions which have influenced their formulations and proposed solutions. Topics: the principles of rational inquiry; the nature of knowledge; the metaphysics of mind, world, and God; and the sources and authority of morality.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 3 Math/Stat/Reasoning

PHIL 105 The Philosophy of Food
Description: A wide-ranging examination of the philosophical, political, social, and economic aspects of food, its production and consumption. Topics include the ethical treatment of animals, factory farming, food justice, the relation of food to social and religious identity, and climate change.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 106 Philosophy and Current Issues
Description: Critical survey of current issues and the role of philosophy in attempts to resolve them. Recent topics: sexual morality, pornography and the law, capital punishment, sexism and racism, extraordinary treatment for the terminally ill, abortion, church and state, and nuclear war and disarmament.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship ACE 9 Global/Diversity

PHIL 110 Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking
Description: Introduction to the principles of correct reasoning and their application. Emphasis on improving skills of thinking and reading critically, analyzing and evaluating arguments objectively, and constructing sound arguments based on relevant evidence.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 3 Math/Stat/Reasoning

PHIL 116 Philosophy and Religious Belief
Description: Introduction to philosophical issues about the nature and justification of religious belief. Issues include the conception of God in Judaism and Christianity; the role of faith, reason, and religious experience in religious belief; the traditional arguments for the existence of God; the problem of evil; the idea of immortality; the relations between religion and science and religion and morality.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 189H University Honors Seminar
Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program or by invitation.
Description: Topic varies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship ACE 5 Humanities
PHIL 211 Introduction to Modern Logic
Description: Introduction to symbolic logic. The semantics and syntax of sentential and predicate logic. Translating into and from formal languages, determining the validity or invalidity of arguments, and constructing proofs within formal systems.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 3 Math/Stat/Reasoning

PHIL 213 Medical Ethics
Description: Philosophical study of moral problems in modern medicine, exploring such issues as the allocation of scarce medical resources, patients' rights, research on human subjects, abortion, the care of seriously impaired newborns, and socialized medicine and the right to health care.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 216 Introduction to Psychology and Philosophy
Description: Exploration of a number of topics to which both psychological research and philosophical reflection are relevant. Includes two kinds of cases: where psychological findings bear on the resolution of some traditional philosophical issues and where philosophical analysis and criticism can be helpful in understanding or assessing a psychological theory or finding.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 218 Philosophy of Feminism
Crosslisted with: WMNS 218
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 220 Elements of Ethics
Description: Wide range of basic issues in ethical theory, typically including: the nature of justice; the objectivity of moral values; the source of moral obligation; and the conditions of the good life. Each issue approached through historically important texts such as Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics, Kant's Groundwork, and Mill's Utilitarianism.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 221 Political Philosophy
Description: Basic concepts and problems of political theory. Freedom, equality, democracy, justice, and the relation of the individual to the state.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 221H Honors: Political Philosophy
Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program or by invitation.
Description: Basic concepts and problems of political theory. Freedom, equality, democracy, justice, and the relation of the individual to the state.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 223 Introduction to the Philosophy of History
Description: Nature and grounds of historical knowledge; objectivity vs. subjectivity in the writing of history; historical explanation; and patterns in human history. Primary sources include Hegel, Marx, and Toynbee.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 225 Environmental Ethics
Description: Ethical dimensions in human relations to the environment. What is the nature of moral value generally, and what are the range of things that are morally valuable? Are there things that are fundamentally morally valuable beyond humans or human happiness (i.e., sentient creatures, ecosystems, and species)? What is the right thing to do given various answers to such value questions?
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship ACE 9 Global/Diversity

PHIL 230 Philosophy of Law
Description: Philosophical problems of the law and of legal systems. Includes legal reasoning, judicial interpretation, legal language and definition, legal obligation, law and morality, and legal paternalism. Concepts of law, constitutionality, legislative intent, fair trial, criminal responsibility, punishment, fault, and strict liability. Applications to social issues of individual freedom, human rights, privacy, discrimination, and justice.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

PHIL 231 History of Philosophy (Ancient)
Description: Beginnings of Greek philosophy: the pre-Socratics and the systems of Plato and Aristotle with emphasis on historical connections and the critical interpretation of texts.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities
PHIL 232 History of Philosophy (Modern)
Description: Survey of the more important systems in Western philosophy in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries with emphasis on historical connections and the critical interpretation of texts.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 265 Philosophy of Religion
Description: Introduction to the philosophical understanding of religion. Includes a number of views on the nature of God, on the possibility of knowledge of God's existence through either argumentation or religious experience, and on the relation between religion and morality.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities ACE 9 Global/Diversity

PHIL 299 Independent Study in Philosophy
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-3
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: IND

PHIL 301 Theory of Knowledge
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Introduction to some major problems of epistemology, with emphasis on the understanding and evaluation of the problems, rather than on learning what various philosophers have said about them. Treats such questions as the nature and scope of knowledge; the sources of knowledge in perception, memory, and reasoning; the nature of evidence and its relation to knowledge; the possibility of knowledge of the mental lives of others; the nature and justification of inductive reasoning; and the concept of causality and its relation to explanation.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 302 Introduction to Metaphysics
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Introduction to some main problems, and some central concepts, of metaphysics. Focuses on the nature of being and existence, and on various questions concerning the relations between different kinds of entities: minds and bodies, causes and effects, universals and particulars, etc.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 305 Introduction to Philosophy of Language
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Major themes and classic texts in philosophy of language. The notion of meaning, the relationships between meaning and reference, meaning and truth, and the meaning and use of expressions.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 314 Problems in the Philosophy of Mind
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Major problems in the philosophy of mind: the relation between the mental and the physical; the role of mental concepts in explaining human actions; the possibility of life after death; the concept of a person; the structure of character and personality; and the analysis of various important mental concepts, such as thought, belief, desire, emotion, sensation, and pleasure.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 317 Philosophy of Science
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Critical analysis of the philosophical foundations of the sciences. Nature of theories, observation in science, the interpretation of theories, the scientific method, explanation, interfield relations, patterns of scientific development, and the role of philosophy in science studies in general.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 320 Ethical Theory
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Morality, considering the major views in normative ethics as well as a broad range of questions in theoretical ethics centering on the nature of morality and its place in human life.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

PHIL 323 Topics in Applied Ethics
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Application of systematic moral theories to specific moral issues. Issues of social justice and environmental, journalistic and medical ethics.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship
PHIL 325 Advanced Social Political Philosophy
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Various competing contemporary philosophical approaches to issues of social justice, with special attention to issues of individual rights, political liberty, and distributive justice.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

PHIL 327 Aesthetics
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Critical exposition of the main classical and contemporary theories of art: Expressionist, Formalist, and Representationalist. Theories considered in definition of art, of aesthetic judgment, of art criticism, and of aesthetic value. Examples drawn from painting, literature, music, and movies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 7 Arts ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 332 Spinoza
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Philosophy of Spinoza, focusing on his principal work, the Ethics. Various metaphysical and epistemological aspects of Spinoza's thought, including his ideas on the nature and existence of God, the relation between mind and body, and relations between language, truth and reason.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 333 History of Philosophy (19th Century)
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: An examination of the more important philosophical systems and dominant intellectual trends of the nineteenth century. Representative works of philosophers such as Fichte, Schelling, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard, Marx, Nietzsche, and Mill will be studied.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 336 Ethics: Ancient and Medieval
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Ancient and medieval theories of morality. Connection between self-interest and morality, what morality is, and pleasure.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 337 Knowledge: Ancient and Medieval
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Ancient and medieval knowledge, focusing on perception, faith, and thought.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 338 Metaphysics: Ancient and Medieval
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Ancient and medieval metaphysical theories, focusing on persons, gods, and properties.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 340 Contemporary Analytical Philosophy
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Development of 20th century philosophy in the English speaking world. Realism, skepticism, reference, and representation. Figures include Frege, Moore, Russell, Wittgenstein, Lewis, and Ryle. Developments in each of the major fields of philosophy, including ethics.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 341 Contemporary Continental Philosophy
Prerequisites: 3 hours PHIL.
Description: Recent developments in continental philosophy, in particular of different forms of social criticism which it has generated. Includes discussion of Marxists, Foucault and other philosophers influenced by Nietzsche, Wittgenstein, the existentialists, and Derrida. The language of social science; the controversy between problems of the issue the ethics of and the relation.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 342 American Philosophy
Prerequisites: 3 hrs philosophy or permission.
Description: Development of American Pragmatism from 1870's to the present. Essential writings of C. S. Peirce, William James, and John Dewey; other currents in American thought such as Critical Realism and Idealism; and contemporary philosophic views that continue the spirit of pragmatism.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
PHIL 345 Modern European Jewish Philosophy
Crosslisted with: JUDS 345
Prerequisites: 3 hrs PHIL.
Description: Survey of Jewish philosophy from the eighteenth century to the present. Works of Moses Mendelssohn, Hermann Cohen, Martin Buber, Emanuel Levinas, and others in relation to broad European intellectual movements such as existentialism and phenomenology.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

PHIL 398 Special Topics in Philosophy
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-4
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: LEC

PHIL 399 Independent Study in Philosophy
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-24
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 24
Max credits per degree: 24
Format: IND

PHIL 399H Honors Course
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-4
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: IND

PHIL 400 Undergraduate Seminar in Philosophy
Prerequisites: Philosophy major.
Description: Central philosophical problems or the work of some significant philosopher. Reading of primary sources, the interpretation of philosophical texts, and the writing of research papers.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product

PHIL 405 Philosophy of Language
Crosslisted with: PHIL 805
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Introduction to some of the basic concepts and problems in the philosophy of language. Topics to be discussed include reference, definite descriptions, names, demonstratives, truth, meaning, speech acts, and the logic of expressions involving so-called "propositional attitudes." Authors studied include Frege, Russell, Tarski, Austin, Grice, Strawson, Quine, Kripke, Kaplan and Davidson.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 409 Theory of Knowledge
Crosslisted with: PHIL 809
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Intensive study of basic problems in the Theory of Knowledge: the nature of knowledge, the analysis of perception and memory, the justification of induction, the problem of how one knows other minds, and the analysis of a prior knowledge. Readings from recent work.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 411 Formal Logic
Crosslisted with: PHIL 811
Prerequisites: PHIL 211 or MATH 310 or MATH 325 or CSCE 235.
Description: An advanced course in symbolic logic, covering metatheoretical results about selected systems of logic. Topics may include: the soundness and completeness of classical propositional logic, and of some propositional modal logics; non-classical propositional logics; and extensions of and alternatives to classical first-order predicate logic.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 412 Modal Logic
Crosslisted with: PHIL 812
Prerequisites: PHIL 211; 6 additional hours in PHIL.
Description: Syntax and model theory of quantified modal logic with applications to e.g., deontic logic, epistemic logic, and the philosophy of logic.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 414 Philosophy of Mind
Crosslisted with: PHIL 814
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Main problems in the philosophy of mind, including dualism and materialism, instrumentalism and eliminativism, wide and narrow content, qualia, and mental causation.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 418 Metaphysics
Crosslisted with: PHIL 818
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Intensive study of main problems in metaphysics, especially universals and particulars, the relation of mind and matter, the categories of the real, criteria of identity, and existential propositions. Readings from recent philosophers.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
PHIL 420 Philosophy of Social Science
Crosslisted with: PHIL 820
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: The epistemological character of the social sciences. Character and explanatory role of social scientific generalizations, various explanatory strategies for social matters, the continuity or discontinuity of the social sciences with the special sciences, the importance of interpretation, and the place of rationality.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 423 Advanced Ethics
Crosslisted with: PHIL 823
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Critical study of leading theories in ethics, with close attention to major works, chiefly modern and contemporary. Includes naturalism, intuitionism, emotivism, utilitarianism, Neo-Kantian ethics, and various current positions.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 425 Political and Social Philosophy
Crosslisted with: PHIL 825
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Critical study of main problems and leading theories in social and political philosophy. Origin and justification of political obligation, with emphasis on social contact theories; the nature and foundation of individual rights and the strength of these rights when they conflict with each other and with concern for the common good; the principles of social justice and the obligation to protect the welfare of others; and the concepts of personal autonomy, liberty, equality, and freedom. Readings from a combination of historical and recent work, and emphasis on relating the various issues to current problems in society.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 450 Ancient Philosophy
Crosslisted with: PHIL 850
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Advanced survey of ancient philosophy from the pre-Socratics through Aristotle, concentrating on central epistemological and metaphysical issues.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 460 History of Modern Philosophy
Crosslisted with: PHIL 860
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Advanced survey of early European philosophy from the late renaissance through the Enlightenment, concentrating on central epistemological and metaphysical issues.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 471 Kant
Crosslisted with: PHIL 871
Prerequisites: 9 hours PHIL.
Description: Kant's philosophy, and of problems in the interpretation of his writings. The primary text will be the First Critique.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

PHIL 496 Philosophical Themes
Crosslisted with: PHIL 896
Prerequisites: Permission.
Description: Library work and conferences.
Credit Hours: 1-24
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 24
Max credits per degree: 24
Format: IND
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product

PLEASE NOTE
This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with this major. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with your college or department academic advisor. Advisors also can help you plan other experiences to enrich your undergraduate education such as internships, education abroad, undergraduate research, learning communities, and service learning and community-based learning.

Philosophy (B.A.)

14 HR TERM 1

Philosophy Courses

complete Any Philosophy Course

ACE 1 Written Texts

complete 1 from ACE1

ACE 4 Sciences

complete 1 from ACE4

CDR E: Language

recommend 1 or more courses
If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

**15 HR TERM 2**

**Logic**
complete either PHIL 110H or PHIL 211

**ACE 2 Communication Skill**
complete 1 from ACE2

**CDR A: Writing**
complete 1 from ACE1

**CDR B: Lab**
complete 1 from ASCLAB1

Complete an approved course from a Math or Science discipline with a lab: ASTR, BIOL, BIOS, CHEM, CSCE, GEOL, LIFE, MATH, METR, PHYS, STAT (select ANTH or GEOG allowed).

**CDR E: Language**
recommend 1 or more courses

If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

**16 HR TERM 4**

**History of Philosophy**
complete PHIL 232

**Value Theory**
complete 1 from PHIL 320, PHIL 323, PHIL 325

This course will fulfill the ACE 8 requirement.

**ACE 6 Social Sciences**
complete 1 from ACE6

Completion of 6 hours towards the major becomes critical to your success in the major if not completed by the fifth term of enrollment.
recommend 1 or more courses

If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

Electives
complete Any Course

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 5

Metaphysics/Epistemology
complete 1 from PHIL 301, PHIL 302, PHIL 305, PHIL 314, PHIL 317

CDR D: Social Sciences
complete 1 from Any Anthropology Course, Any Communications Course, Any Geography Course, Any National Securities Studies Course, Any Political Science Course, Any Psychology Course, Any Sociology Course

Complete an approved course from a Social Science discipline: ANTH, COMM, GEOG, NSST, POLS, PSYC, SOCI.

Electives
complete Any Course

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 6

Philosophy 300/400 Level
complete either Any Philosophy Course at the 300 Level or Any Philosophy Course at the 400 Level

ACE 9 Global/Human Divers
complete 1 from ACE9

Electives

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 7

Philosophy Core
complete PHIL 400

PHIL 400 will fulfill the ACE 10 requirement.

CDR F: Additional Breadth
recommend 1 or more courses

Complete an approved additional courses from CDR B, CDR C, or CDR D that is outside of the discipline of your primary major.

Electives
complete Any Course

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 8

Philosophy 300/400 Level
complete either Any Philosophy Course at the 300 Level or Any Philosophy Course at the 400 Level

ACE 7 Arts
complete 1 from ACE7

Electives

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

Graduation Requirements
1. A minimum 2.00 GPA required for graduation.
2. ***Total Credits Applying Toward 120 Total Hours***
3. Complete 30 hours in residence at UNL.

**Career Information**

*The following represents a sample of the internships, jobs and graduate school programs that current students and recent graduates have reported.*

**Transferable Skills**

- Communicate clearly using different forms of writing to and for a variety of different audiences
- Analyze and interpret difficult texts
- Defend and discuss complex issues from multiple angles
- Understand and utilize a variety of research methodologies
- Form developed world views and global perspectives
- Evaluate the interrelatedness of events and ideas
- Contextualize political, social, and historical events
- Develop a strong awareness of self and others
- Provide a creative, inquisitive approach to conflict resolution
- Express ideas creatively

**Jobs of Recent Graduates**

- Strategic Analyst, BrabenderCox - Washington DC
- Assistant Account Manager, FACTS Management - Lincoln NE
- Library Service Associate, City of Lincoln - Library Department - Lincoln NE
- Crop Consultant, Malmstrom Agronomics - Cotesfield NE
- Personal Banker, Union Bank & Trust - Lincoln NE
- Volunteer Teacher, Alum Service Corps - Denver CO
- Data Scientist, Contemporary Analysis - Omaha NE
- Commercial Customer Service Representative, Daktronics - Brookings SD
- Administrative Assistant, Nebraska Legislature - Lincoln NE
- Direct Support Professional, Developmental Services of Nebraska - Lincoln NE

**Internships**

- Community Development Intern, Nebraska Dept of Economic Development - Lincoln NE
- Child Welfare Intern, Nebraska Appleseed - Lincoln NE
- Marketing Intern, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital - Lincoln NE

**Grad Schools**

- Law, University of Nebraska Law School - Lincoln NE
- Juris Doctorate, University of Chicago - Chicago IL
- Ph.D. in Economics, University of California-Irvine - Irvine CA
- J.D., Baylor University - Waco TX
- Masters in Cinema and Media Studies, University of California-Los Angeles - Los Angeles CA
- Independent Research, Humboldt University of Berlin - Berlin ZZ
- Master of Social Science, University of Manchester - Manchester, United Kingdom
- Pharmacology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
- JD, University of Colorado at Boulder - Boulder CO