

Philosophy

Department of Philosophy

College of Arts and Sciences
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Overview

Philosophy studies the foundation of values, examines the nature of justice, knowledge and reality, and sets the mind working with accuracy and imagination.

The student of philosophy learns the fundamental theories and concepts that have framed our intellectual heritage, and also learns the essential tools to investigate and develop the ideas that shape our lives today. Philosophy is especially well equipped to teach skills that are important for success in almost any endeavor: how to think critically, how to construct arguments and examine reasons, and how to formulate and express ideas clearly both verbally and in writing.

A major in philosophy provides a solid foundation for advanced study in almost any field, for entering a profession, or for entering the job market with confidence. Because it trains the student to think clearly and critically, it is excellent preparation for the many professions that require these skills.

About our Degrees

Degrees in philosophy reflect wide-ranging study of the questions "What can we know?", "What ought we do?", "What can we hope?", and the proposed answers to these. The degrees provide competencies in considering issues from a variety of perspectives, seeking the essential questions involved, and developing both the criteria for successful answers to those questions, and the answers themselves--abilities valuable in every post-baccalaureate setting.

About our Courses

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.
One philosophy course with a minimum grade of "C."

Class Instructors

Many introductory courses and almost all advanced courses are taught by faculty.

Degree Requirements

See the [Degrees & Policies](#).

For course descriptions, please see [Courses](#).

About our Faculty

Philosophy faculty have a wide variety of interests and specializations, offering multiple perspectives on philosophical problems and issues. Professor Braun specializes in logical analysis of language, Professor Cho in contemporary European philosophies, Professor Dipert in American philosophies, Professor Gracia in medieval and contemporary metaphysics and Latin American philosophy, Professor Kearns in analytic philosophy, Professor Korsmeyer in aesthetics, Professor Smith in contemporary ontology, Professor Yu in ancient philosophy and Chinese philosophy, Professor Lawler in 19th century philosophy, Professor Hershenov and Professor Shockley in ethics, Professor Beebe in epistemology, and Professor Baumer in professional and business ethics.

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Several faculty have international backgrounds: Kah Kyung Cho from Korea, Jorge J.E. Gracia from Cuba via Canada, Barry Smith from Great Britain via Liechtenstein, and Jiyuan Yu from China (the People's Republic).

Many faculty have earned international reputations for their research and publications, notably: SUNY Distinguished Professor and Samuel P. Capen Chair Jorge J.E. Gracia, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Kah Kyung Cho, C.S. Peirce Professor of American Philosophy Randall Dipert, and Julian Park Professor and SUNY Distinguished Professor Barry Smith.

See a list of our [Undergraduate Faculty](#).

Extracurricular Activities

The Philosophy Club is open to all philosophy majors and minors, providing opportunities for undergraduates to discuss issues and topics of current interest.

See the [UB Student Association](#).

Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

Undergraduate majors in philosophy may pursue independent study of a particular topic or issue with a philosophy faculty member. Majors with very good GPAs in philosophy may pursue honors, independent study, or a graduate seminar for undergraduate credit.

Majors may specialize in selected areas, including professional and medical ethics, philosophy of law, logic, and the history of philosophy.

The Steinberg Award is presented annually to the student who submits the best original work on a philosophical theme. The Mary C. Whitman Scholarship is awarded yearly to an outstanding senior philosophy major.

Career Information and Further Study

Many philosophy majors go on to post-baccalaureate study in law, medicine, or philosophy. Philosophy majors pursue careers in teaching, medicine, law, business, social and natural sciences, arts, journalism and government. Position titles for philosophy B.A.'s include, among others: research analyst, grant coordinator, underwriter, fund raiser, story analyst, employment interviewer, financial aid counselor, credit counselor, claims adjudicator, lobbyist, and recruiter.

Salaries range widely. Philosophy majors can increase employment prospects with part-time or summer job experiences while a student, as well as with an occupationally related minor, e.g., computer science, finance, management, marketing, or technical writing.

Degree Options

Major in Philosophy. The undergraduate major includes study in each of the basic areas of philosophy-ethics, logic, metaphysics and epistemology, and the history of philosophy. There is a selection of electives that expand upon these, or that composes a concentration in a specific period, topic, or philosophical approach. For more information, see the Philosophy-BA chart. Students interested in exploring further a major in philosophy are invited to contact the director of undergraduate studies.

Honors. Philosophy offers an honors program for majors in their senior year of study. This is an opportunity to explore philosophical ideas and problems more deeply.

Concentration in Professional Ethics. This series of courses is available either as a major or as a minor in philosophy. The courses address ethical issues in the health sciences, biomedical research, law, communications, engineering, and architecture, and business. They include careful consideration of various approaches to ethics and their application to professional ethics questions.

Minor in Philosophy. A minor in philosophy can be a significant contribution to studies in many areas of the arts and sciences. Requirements for a minor include study of logic, of ethics, and in some areas of the history of philosophy. A minor also provides ample opportunity for selection of courses addressing issues of special interest to the student. For more information, see the Philosophy-Minors chart.

There are several areas in which the theories and approaches of philosophy are especially useful and in which philosophy offers specialized minors. These include the arts, law, logic, professional ethics, and philosophy of science. Each of these is designed for students majoring or planning postbaccalaureate study in that area. For more information, see the charts for Philosophy of the Arts-Minor; Philosophy of Law-Minor; Logic-Minor; Professional Ethics-Minor; and Philosophy of Science-Minor.

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The minor programs are administered by the director of undergraduate studies.

Degrees Offered

Undergraduate: BA, Minor

Concentrations: (within Minor) General Philosophy, Arts, Law, Logic, Professional Ethics, Science

Graduate: MA, PhD

Links to Further Information About this Program

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Undergraduate Admissions](#)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- [Department of Philosophy](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)

Philosophy - B.A.

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

A minimum grade of C in the prerequisite course.

Advising Notes

No more than two 100-level courses may count toward the total requirement of 36 credit hours.

Students interested in a philosophy major, honors, a specialized program in professional ethics, or a philosophy minor, as well as students interested in selected study of philosophical questions or issues, are invited to contact the director of undergraduate studies, Professor Beebe, at 716.645.0153 or jbeebe2@buffalo.edu to discuss their interests and receive additional information.

Prerequisite Courses

One philosophy course with a minimum grade of C.

Required Courses

Ethics

One of: [PHI 107](#) Ethics, [PHI 238](#) Philosophy of Law, [PHI 335](#) Contemporary Ethical Theory, [PHI 336](#) History of Ethics, [PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine

Logic

One of: [PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic, [PHI 315](#) Symbolic Logic

Metaphysics and Epistemology

One of: [PHI 329](#) Metaphysics, [PHI 333](#) Epistemology, [PHI 320](#) Philosophy of Mind, [PHI 321](#) Philosophy of Science, [PHI 328](#) Philosophy of Language

History of Philosophy

Two of: [PHI 360](#) Ancient Philosophy, [PHI 366](#) Medieval Philosophy, [PHI 370](#) Early Modern Philosophy, [PHI 380](#) Nineteenth-Century Philosophy, Kant to Nietzsche, [PHI 388](#) Twentieth-Century Philosophy

Philosophy electives

Seven additional courses, of which four must be at the 300/400 level

Summary

Total required credit hours for the major: 36

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

FIRST AND SECOND YEARS

Philosophy

Required courses in ethics, logic (two courses in total)

Optional: history of philosophy, metaphysics and epistemology, or elective at 200 level or higher (if general education requirements are also fulfilled)

THIRD YEAR

Required course(s) in the history of philosophy
Two electives, preferably at the 300/400 level

FOURTH YEAR

Remaining electives at the 300/400 level

Philosophy - Minors

Acceptance Criteria for All Minors

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.
A minimum grade of C in the prerequisite course.

Advising Notes

Students interested in a philosophy minor, and students interested in selected study of philosophical questions or issues, are invited to contact the director of undergraduate studies, Professor Beebe, at 716.645.0153 or jbeebe2@buffalo.edu to discuss their interests and receive additional information.

Prerequisite Courses

One philosophy course with a minimum grade of C.

Required Courses

LOGIC-MINOR

[PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic

[PHI 315](#) Symbolic Logic

One of: [PHI 415](#) Logical Theory I, [PHI 416](#) Logical Theory II, [PHI 417](#) Modal Logic, [PHI 418](#) Philosophy of Mathematics, [PHI 419](#) Philosophy of Logic

Three additional courses, including two at the 300/400 level

PHILOSOPHY-MINOR

Logic-One of: [PHI 115](#) Critical Thinking, [PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic

Ethics-One of: [PHI 107](#) Ethics, [PHI 238](#) Philosophy of Law, [PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine

History of Philosophy-One of: [PHI 360](#) Ancient Philosophy, [PHI 366](#) Medieval Philosophy, [PHI 370](#) Early Modern Philosophy, [PHI 380](#)

Nineteenth-Century Philosophy, Kant to Nietzsche, [PHI 388](#) Twentieth-Century Philosophy

Three additional 300/400 level courses. No more than two independent study tutorials may count toward the fulfillment of this requirement.

PHILOSOPHY OF LAW-MINOR

[PHI 115](#) Critical Thinking or [PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic

[PHI 107](#) Ethics or [PHI 162](#) Law, Morality and Authority

[PHI 238](#) Philosophy of Law

One of: [PHI 338](#) Law and Morality, [PHI 340](#) Law and Responsibility, [PHI 443](#), Topics in Philosophy of Law

One of: [PHI 328](#) Philosophy of Language, [PHI 333](#) Epistemology, [PHI 335](#) Contemporary Ethical Theory, [PHI 341](#) Social Philosophy, [PHI 342](#) Political Philosophy

One additional of: [PHI 338](#), [PHI 340](#), [PHI 443](#), [PHI 328](#), [PHI 333](#), [PHI 335](#), [PHI 341](#), [PHI 342](#)

PHILOSOPHY OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS-MINOR

[PHI 115](#) Critical Thinking

[PHI 217](#) Professional Ethics

[PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine or [PHI 238](#) Philosophy of Law

[PHI 335](#) Contemporary Ethical Theory or [PHI 336](#) History of Ethics

Two additional 300/400-level courses

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE-MINOR

[PHI 115](#) Critical Thinking or [PHI 215](#) Introduction to Deductive Logic

[PHI 221](#) Science and Religion

[PHI 315](#) Symbolic Logic

[PHI 321](#) Philosophy of Science

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PHI 370 Early Modern Philosophy

One of: [PHI 320](#) Philosophy of Mind, [PHI 329](#) Metaphysics; [PHI 333](#) Epistemology, [PHI 334](#) Environmental Ethics, [PHI 337](#) Social and Ethical Values in Medicine, [PHI 420](#) Topics in Philosophy of Science

PHILOSOPHY OF THE ARTS-MINOR

PHI 115 Critical Thinking

Three of: [PHI 344](#) Aesthetics Theory and Criticism, [PHI 345](#) Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art, [PHI 346](#) Philosophy in Literature, [PHI 348](#) Philosophy and Popular Culture

[PHI 360](#) Ancient Philosophy or [PHI 354](#) Chinese and Japanese Philosophy

One additional 300/400-level course

Summary

Total required credit hours for the minor: 18

PHI 101: Introduction to Philosophy

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines general topics in various areas of philosophy showing different sides of issues; develops critical thought and philosophical method.

PHI 107: Ethics

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Introduces value theory, good and bad, justification of obligations to others, relationship of free choice and determinism, and contemporary moral problems analyzed by ethical principles.

PHI 110: Philosophy of Human Nature

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Introduces philosophical views of being human and consequences of these for thought, action, and emotion.

PHI 115: Critical Thinking

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines techniques of problem solving, decision making, and evaluating pros and cons of an issue; organizing data; forming strategies and giving reasons; perceptual, cultural, emotional, intellectual, and expressive blocks to thinking; and simple inductive reasoning and statistical fallacies.

PHI 129: Special Topics

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Provides for the study of various philosophical topics not covered in other 100-level courses.

PHI 138: Topics in Ethics

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Studies selected issues of obligations and values: what are the bases of judgments of right, wrong, good and bad, and what are the applications of these?

PHI 154: Asian Wisdom

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at

<http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Explores spirit, thought, and action of Asians culled from the contemporary relevance of classical readings. Texts include Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Zen.

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PHI 162: Law, Morality, Authority

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Enforcement of morals by law, the proper authority of the state or society over the individual.

PHI 121: Introduction to Philosophy of Religion

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Introduces issues and questions in religion, including existence of a deity, religion and science, and functions of religion in personal life.

PHI 213: World Religions

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Surveys major religions, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism.

PHI 215: Introduction to Deductive Logic

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Covers definitions, formal and informal errors of reasoning, and principles of deductive reasoning; also examines the Aristotelian tradition.

PHI 221: Science and Religion

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Explores the relations of science and religion and the extents to which they agree, differ, or are independent and separate realms.

PHI 228: Topics in Philosophy of Language

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Studies selected issues of language's structure, meaning and reference.

PHI 236: Business Ethics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines current ethical positions and their applications to problems in business.

PHI 238: Philosophy of Law

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

An introductory class in jurisprudence and legal theory, covering general issues such as legitimacy, authority, validity, obligation, interpretation, economics, and the relation to morality, and/or specific issues such as criminal responsibility, punishment, promises, privacy, civil rights, accidents, property, etc.

PHI 244: Topics in Aesthetics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Selected issues in aesthetics, appreciation and evaluation of art, literature and drama.

PHI 252: Topics in Eastern Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines selected philosophical views from China, Japan, India, or Southeast Asia; views may include classical or contemporary Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, or Taoism.

PHI 256: Topics in History of Philosophy

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Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Studies a selected position, tradition or issue in the history of philosophy.

PHI 298: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Provides for the study of various philosophical topics not covered in other 200-level courses.

PHI 314: Philosophy of Religion

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Analyzes selected concepts in religious thought.

PHI 315: Symbolic Logic

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Introduces the formal techniques of deductive reasoning.

PHI 320: Philosophy of Mind

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Introduction to the philosophy of mind, emphasizing both historically significant and contemporary discussion of the relationship between mind and the material world.

PHI 321: Philosophy of Science

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines the nature of theories in the sciences and the philosophical issues associated with them, explores causation, explanation, and induction.

PHI 322: Philosophy of Social Sciences

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Considers theories within the social sciences and the issues of how, if at all, they are fundamentally different from the theories of physical sciences.

PHI 329: Metaphysics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Explores theories of reality; freedom and determinism; and the reality of the self, the mind, and the body.

PHI 333: Epistemology

Credits: 3
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Considers epistemology: The nature, sources, kind, scope, and certainty and validity of knowledge.

PHI 334: Environmental Ethics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examination of how humans should interact with the environment, both as individuals and as members of groups or organizations.

PHI 335: Contemporary Ethical Theory

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior

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term.

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines attempts in moral philosophy to find a justification for the basic ethical principles; also considers conception of an ethics based on natural law.

PHI 336: History of Ethics

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Studies the history of ethics from ancient times through the Enlightenment. Also covers ancient Hebrew, Greek, medieval, and modern moral theories.

PHI 337: Social and Ethical Values in Medicine

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines current ethical positions and their application to ethical and social questions in medicine.

PHI 338: Law and Morality

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall

Pre-requisites: Student must have taken one PHI course in a prior term.

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Explores the moral status of legality and the legal status of morality, the status of unjust laws, and the role of moral judgments of lawmakers. Is a good law one that does good?

PHI 340: Law and Responsibility

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Pre-requisites: Student must have taken one PHI course in a prior term.

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Explores the legal notion of liability for actions, events, or states of affairs. On what basis does the law assign blame? Does this notion of blame accord with our moral or scientific notions of responsibility?

PHI 341: Social Philosophy

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines conceptions of the good society and programs for improving contemporary societies; also explores democracy, equality, discrimination, civil disobedience, revolution, liberalism, conservatism, communism, capitalism.

PHI 342: Political Philosophy

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Surveys political theories in a systematic or historical way.

PHI 344: Aesthetic Theory and Criticism

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Surveys theories of art and their evaluation of works of art.

PHI 345: Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Fall

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Considers artistic creativity and expression, beauty and the sublime, the role of art in society.

PHI 346: Philosophy in Literature

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring

Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Studies philosophical issues in literature and literature's presentation of these.

PHI 347: Gender and Philosophy

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Credits: 3
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines the degree to which fundamental concepts that lead philosophical investigation are affected by gender prejudice, and perhaps also by other cultural blinders such as those related to race or nationality.

PHI 348: Philosophy and Popular Culture

Credits: 3
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

Study of philosophical issues, ideas and questions presented or raised by fiction, plays, music and other components of popular culture.

PHI 352: Eastern Philosophy

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines selected views, traditions or issues in Chinese, Japanese, Indian or Southeast Asian philosophies.

PHI 356: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Critically considers a selected philosophical issue.

PHI 359: American Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines early development of American philosophical thought; considers leading movements and thinkers, such as idealism, pragmatism (Peirce, James, Dewey), and realism.

PHI 360: Ancient Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall

Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Reviews the history of Greek philosophy from Pre-Socratic philosophers to the Hellenistics.

PHI 366: Medieval Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Studies the history of philosophy from Plotinus to the end of the Middle Ages.

PHI 370: Early Modern Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Reviews the history of metaphysics and epistemology from the Renaissance to Kant.

PHI 380: Nineteenth-Century Philosophy, Kant to Nietzsche

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Considers philosophy from Kant to the twentieth century; including idealism, post-Hegelian philosophies, positivism, utilitarianism, evolutionism, and intellectual movements at the close of the nineteenth century.

PHI 388: Twentieth-Century Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Pre-requisites: Student must of taken one PHI course in a prior term.
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

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Examines representative movements and issues in present-day philosophy in Europe and America.

PHI 398: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Provides for the study of various philosophical topics not covered in other 300-level courses.

PHI 412: Philosophy of Religion

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Performs advanced critical analysis of selected issues in religious belief.

PHI 415: Logical Theory I

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Reviews modern studies in propositional logic, formal techniques that can be used to analyze inferences, and philosophical topics and problems related to propositional logic. Some acquaintance with logic desirable.

PHI 416: Logical Theory II

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Continuation of [PHI 415](#). Considers predicate logic, generalization, and related philosophical issues.

PHI 417: Modal Logic

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Studies logical systems designed to express concepts of necessity and possibility. Develops semantic accounts employing systems of possible worlds. Examines philosophical topics and problems related to necessity and possibility.

PHI 418: Philosophy of Mathematics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Explores philosophical topics and problems of mathematics and its logical foundations.

PHI 419: Philosophy of Logic

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Reviews philosophical topics and issues of logic, both historical and contemporary.

PHI 420: Topics in Philosophy of Science

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Involves an in-depth critical examination of selected issues in philosophy of the natural or social sciences.

PHI 438: Topics in Ethics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Addresses selected issues in ethics from a historical, contemporary, or thematic perspective.

PHI 442: Contemporary Issues of Social Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

Examines strengths and weaknesses of current social philosophy positions.

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PHI 443: Topics in Legal Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Considers philosophical issues in law, including theories of law, evidence, argument, punishment and penalties.

PHI 444: Aesthetics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Considers in-depth selected theories of art.

PHI 452: Eastern Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Examines selected views, traditions or issues in Chinese, Japanese, Indian, or Southeast Asian philosophies.

PHI 454: Chinese Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Examines selected views, traditions or issues in Chinese philosophy.

PHI 462: Plato

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Involves detailed consideration of central issues in Plato's philosophy.

PHI 463: Aristotle

Credits: 3

Semester(s): Spring
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Involves detailed consideration of central issues in Aristotle's philosophy.

PHI 465: Ancient Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Considers selected issues in ancient philosophy, including comparison of major positions.

PHI 469: Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Examines selected traditions or issues in philosophy from 500 to 1600 AD.

PHI 489: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: SEM

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Provides for the study of various philosophical topics not covered in other 400-level courses.

PHI 490: Introduction to Wittgenstein

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>.

Studies Wittgenstein's philosophical development and positions.

PHI 497: Honors Thesis or Project

Credits: 1-8
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: TUT

Philosophy

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

PHI 498: Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

Credits: 1-8

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: TUT

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

PHI 499: Independent Study

Credits: 1-8

Semester(s): Fall, Spring

Type: TUT

See the Philosophy Department website for details, at <http://www.philosophy.buffalo.edu>

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.