

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy addresses the most fundamental problems that arise when reflecting on the nature of the world and our place in it. Philosophers ask questions such as: What can we know? What are the general features of reality? What is the relation between mind and body? How should one live?

About this Program

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences (<http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/>)
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college, and major requirements.

Department Information

The Department of Philosophy addresses foundation questions. These are questions the answers to which inform our basic understanding of one or another domain of inquiry, or some fundamental aspect of the world or ourselves or our relation to the world.

Website (<http://phil.ufl.edu/>)

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Map (<http://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index/0010>)

Curriculum

- Combination Degrees
- Philosophy
- Philosophy Minor

Philosophical problem examination is primarily conceptual rather than empirical, in that philosophers seek to develop conceptual accounts adequate to the phenomena they want to understand. The study of philosophy equips one to address difficult issues with critical thinking and sound reasoning, skills essential to effective thought and communication.

This major is excellent preparation for professional schools in law, business, medicine and journalism, and for careers in the private and public sector. More Info (<https://phil.ufl.edu/what-is-philosophy/>)

Coursework for the Major

The major requires 33 credits of coursework in philosophy with minimum grades of C.

Required Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
PHH 3100	Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
PHH 3400	Modern Philosophy	3
PHI 3130	Symbolic Logic	3
PHI 3300 or PHI 3500	Theory of Knowledge Metaphysics	3
PHI 3650	Moral Philosophy	3
Philosophy electives		18
Total Credits		33

- At least six credits must be at the 4000 level or above, excluding the following:

Code	Title	Credits
PHH 4911	Undergraduate Research in History of Philosophy	3
PHI 4905	Individual Work	1-3
PHI 4911	Undergraduate Research in Philosophy	3
PHI 4912	Honors Project	3

(To enroll in a 4000-level course, a student must complete a 3000-level philosophy course or receive instructor permission.)

- At least 27 of the 33 credits must be at the 3000 level or above.

No more than 15 credits of transfer credit can count toward the degree and no more than three credits of individual work (PHH 4911, PHI 4905 or PHI 4911) can count toward the required minimum. Prior to advance registration each semester, the department makes available on its website customized descriptions of its undergraduate courses offered in the upcoming semester.

Course Details

- More Info (<https://phil.ufl.edu/classes/>)

Research

It is possible to write an honors thesis, which involves independent research under the supervision of a faculty director. This is usually a two-semester process in the final year.

More Info (<https://phil.ufl.edu/honors-thesis/>)

Critical Tracking

Critical Tracking records each student's progress in courses that are required for progress toward each major. Please note the critical-tracking requirements below on a per-semester basis.

For degree requirements outside of the major, refer to CLAS Degree Requirements: Structure of a CLAS Degree.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites (<https://cpm.flvc.org/advance-search/>) may be used by transfer students.

Semester 1

- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 2

- Complete 1 philosophy course
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 3

- Meet Semester 2 Critical Tracking Requirements
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 4

- Complete 1 additional philosophy course with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 5

- Complete 1 additional philosophy course (1 of the 3 courses must be at the 3000 level) with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
- 2.0 UF GPA required

SEMESTER 6

- Complete 1 additional philosophy course (1 of the 4 courses must be taken from PHH 3100, PHH 3400, PHI 3130, PHI 3650, and either PHI 3300 or PHI 3500)

SEMESTER 7

- Complete 3 additional upper division philosophy courses (2 of the 7 courses must be taken from PHH 3100, PHH 3400, PHI 3130, PHI 3650, and either PHI 3300 or PHI 3500)

SEMESTER 8

- Complete 2 additional upper division philosophy courses (4 of the 9 courses must be taken from PHH 3100, PHH 3400, PHI 3130, PHI 3650, and either PHI 3300 or PHI 3500)

Model Semester Plan

Students are expected to complete the Writing Requirement while in the process of taking the courses below. Students are also expected to complete the General Education International (GE-N) and Diversity (GE-D) requirements concurrently with another General Education requirement (typically, GE-

C, H, or S). Generally, it is a good idea to take the area requirement courses as early as possible; in particular, PHI 3130 is best taken earlier rather than later.

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold. These courses must be completed by the terms as listed above in the Critical Tracking criteria.

This semester plan represents an example progression through the major. Actual courses and course order may be different depending on the student's academic record and scheduling availability of courses. Prerequisites still apply.

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
Quest 1 (Gen Ed Humanities)		3
State Core Gen Ed Composition (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext); Writing Requirement		3
Foreign language		4-5
Electives		4
	Credits	14-15
Semester Two		
State Core Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Gen Ed Composition; Writing Requirement		3
Philosophy elective (Critical Tracking ; 2000 level; Gen Ed Humanities)		3
Foreign language		3-5
	Credits	15-17
Semester Three		
State Core Gen Ed Mathematics, pure math (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences (area not taken in semester two) ¹		3
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences ¹		3
Required philosophy course (Critical Tracking)		3
Elective, or foreign language, if 4-3-3 option		3
	Credits	15
Semester Four		
Required philosophy course (Critical Tracking)		3
Gen Ed Biological Sciences		3
Select one:		3
Elective		
State Core Gen Ed Humanities (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext) ²		
Philosophy elective (3000 level; Gen Ed Humanities)		3
Gen Ed Physical Sciences		3
	Credits	15
Semester Five		
Electives		6
Required philosophy courses		6
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
Science laboratory (Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences)		1
	Credits	16
Semester Six		
Required philosophy course (Critical Tracking)		3
Philosophy elective (3000 level)		3
Electives		9
	Credits	15
Semester Seven		
Philosophy elective (3000 level)		3
Philosophy elective (4000 level; Critical Tracking)		3
Elective credits (3000 level or above, not in major)		9
	Credits	15
Semester Eight		
Philosophy elective (4000 level; Critical Tracking)		3
Electives (3000 level or above, not in major)		9

Elective		3
	Credits	15
	Total Credits	120

¹ One General Education option (from any of Biological, Physical, or Social and Behavioral) should be a Quest 2 course. A Quest 2 course must be completed by Semester Four at the latest.

² If PHI 2010 not taken in semester two.

Required Philosophy Courses

Code	Title	Credits
PHH 3100	Ancient Greek Philosophy (Gen Ed Humanities)	3
PHH 3400	Modern Philosophy (Gen Ed Humanities)	3
PHI 3130	Symbolic Logic (Gen Ed Mathematics)	3
PHI 3300 or PHI 3500	Theory of Knowledge (Gen Ed Humanities) Metaphysics	3
PHI 3650	Moral Philosophy (Gen Ed Humanities)	3

Academic Learning Compact

The major in Philosophy provides a thorough knowledge of philosophical problems and arguments as well as critical thinking skills applicable to a wide variety of intellectual areas. Students will become familiar with key positions in the history of Western philosophy, learn how to navigate the contemporary philosophical terrain and acquire a working knowledge of formal logic. They will learn how to represent complex arguments in a clear and fair fashion, to evaluate them for cogency and to construct arguments of their own. Finally, students will become practiced in writing about abstract and elusive topics in a critical and compelling manner.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Earn minimum grades of C in all courses satisfying the major's distribution requirements, thereby demonstrating achievement of SLOs 1-3.
- Complete a model paper in a 4000-level philosophy course with a minimum grade of B, thereby demonstrating achievement of SLOs 4-7.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes | SLOs

Content

1. Identify, describe and explain the major questions addressed, the range of answers offered and the methods employed in the history of Western philosophy.
2. Identify, describe, and explain the major arguments and options in core areas of contemporary philosophy, such as ethics, epistemology, and metaphysics.
3. Employ the fundamental tools of formal logic, including the propositional and predicate calculus.

Critical Thinking

4. Discern the structure of arguments to represent them fairly and clearly and to evaluate them for cogency.
5. Formulate original arguments, anticipating objections and responding in a conscientious fashion.

Communication

6. Read and discuss complex philosophical texts from both historical sources and contemporary works.
7. Speak and write clearly and persuasively about abstract and conceptually elusive matters.

Curriculum Map

I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

Courses	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3	SLO 4	SLO 5	SLO 6	SLO 7
PHH 3100	I, R, A			I, R	I, R	I, R	I, R
PHH 3400	I, R, A			I, R	I, R	I, R	I, R
PHI 3130			I, A	I, R			

PHI 3300 or PHI 3500		I, R, A		I, R		I, R		I, R		I, R
PHI 3650		I, R, A		I, R		I, R		I, R		I, R
4000-level Seminars (two or more)				A		A		A		A
Exit Survey	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A

Assessment Types

- Papers
 - Exams
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