

# PHILOSOPHY

## Course Search

Not all courses are offered every semester. Refer to the schedule of courses for each term's specific offerings.

[More Info](#)

*Courses at the University of Florida, with the exception of specific foreign language courses and courses in the online Master of Arts in Mass Communication program, are taught in English.*

## Courses

### HPS 3003 Perspectives on Science and Mathematics 3 Credits

Explores the different ways that scientists and mathematicians since the 17th century have explained the workings of the natural world. (H) (WR)

**Prereq:** UFTeach Step 1

General Education - Humanities

WR6

### PHH 3100 Ancient Greek Philosophy 3 Credits

Sustained study of Plato and Aristotle with some consideration of pre-Socratic antecedents and Hellenistic successors. (H) (WR)

General Education - Humanities

WR6

### PHH 3111 Ancient Ethical and Political Thought 3 Credits

Examines ancient Greek and Roman political theories and their ethical foundations. (H)

General Education - Humanities

### PHH 3200 Medieval Philosophy 3 Credits

Surveys medieval philosophy. Philosophers to be read may include Augustine, Boethius, Anselm, Maimonides, Aquinas, Duns Scotus and Ockham. Topics include the nature of God, universals, individuation and future contingents.

**Prereq:** one course in philosophy

### PHH 3400 Modern Philosophy 3 Credits

Surveys the work of major philosophers of the 17th and 18th centuries, from Descartes to Kant, in the primary texts. (H)

General Education - Humanities

### PHH 3610 Happiness and Well-Being 3 Credits

Examines major philosophical theories of human happiness and well-being from both historical and contemporary perspectives. Topics may include self-interest, pleasure, subjective vs. objective conceptions of happiness, autonomy and the relation between morality and happiness.

### PHH 4141 Seminar in Ancient Philosophy 3 Credits

Variable topic seminar focusing on a particular topic, period or school in the philosophy of Greco-Roman antiquity.

**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission

### PHH 4420 Seminar in Modern Philosophy 3 Credits

Variable topic seminar focusing on a period, school or topic in 17th or 18th century philosophy.

**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission

### PHH 4644 Continental Philosophy 3 Credits

Studies selected works by 19th and 20th century continental philosophers, with emphasis determined by the instructor. Selections may include such thinkers as Hegel, Nietzsche, Heidegger, and Foucault.

**Prereq:** a 3000-level course with the prefix PHI, PHH, PHM, or PHP

General Education - Humanities

### PHH 4911 Undergraduate Research in History of Philosophy 3 Credits

Provides firsthand, supervised research in History of Philosophy. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in History of Philosophy.

### PHH 4930 Seminar in a Major Philosopher 3 Credits

Variable topic seminar on the work of a major historical or contemporary philosopher such as Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Descartes, Hobbes, Leibniz, Spinoza, Berkeley, Hume, Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Mill, Marx, Nietzsche, Husserl, Heidegger, Russell, Moore, Sartre, Wittgenstein and Quine.

**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission

### PHI 2010 Introduction to Philosophy 3 Credits

Variable topics introduction to philosophy through study of traditional questions about the existence of God, the nature of the mind, the definition of good, freedom of the will, and criteria of truth and knowledge. (H) (WR)

General Education - Humanities

WR6

### PHI 2100 Logic 3 Credits

Introductory-level survey of different methods of formal and informal analysis of the logical structure of propositions and arguments. Topics include syllogistic logic, propositional logic, quantification logic, inductive logic, informal fallacies, and probability. (M)

General Education - Mathematics

MR

### PHI 2630 Contemporary Moral Issues 3 Credits

Introduces moral philosophy through selected contemporary issues such as abortion, euthanasia, genetic engineering, and the treatment of animals. (H) (WR)

General Education - Humanities

WR6

### PHI 3130 Symbolic Logic 3 Credits

Systematic study of forms of deduction. Techniques and topics include truth-functional analysis and quantification. (M)

General Education - Mathematics

MR

### PHI 3300 Theory of Knowledge 3 Credits

Studies the central topics and concepts of the theory of knowledge, including the analysis of the concepts of knowledge, truth, justification and related concepts, the nature of empirical knowledge, the problem of skepticism, the nature of a priori knowledge, and the structure of the justification of our beliefs. (H)

General Education - Humanities

### PHI 3400 Philosophy of Natural Science 3 Credits

Studies central contemporary issues in the philosophy of natural science: the nature of laws, the logic of discovery and the relationships between different sciences. The sciences used for illustration vary with the instructor. (H)

General Education - Humanities

### PHI 3420 Philosophy of the Social Sciences 3 Credits

Studies the possibility of social laws, the nature of social explanation and rationality, and the role of value judgments in social-scientific research. (H)

General Education - Humanities

- PHI 3459 Medicine and Philosophy** **3 Credits**  
Examines areas in which medicine and philosophy overlap, including philosophy of science as applied to medical research, ethical theories as applied to medical cases, and moral reflection on the institution of medicine. Provides information about contemporary medical practice and research as well as tools for their critical assessment.  
**Prereq:** sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010 or PHI 2100 or PHI 2630 or PHM 2204 or philosophy major or minor or instructor permission
- PHI 3500 Metaphysics** **3 Credits**  
Studies the problems of first philosophy: the concepts of existence, essence, object, property and event; universals and particulars; the nature of change, possibility, causation, space and time. Traditional philosophical issues such as free will, the mind/body problem, personal identity and the existence of abstract entities (e.g., numbers) are discussed as are views of realism, idealism, materialism and relativism. (H)  
General Education - Humanities
- PHI 3501 Free Will** **3 Credits**  
Sustained examination of key questions about free will. What exactly does it take for an action to be performed freely? Do scientific results threaten free will? What case can be made for the existence of free will? What are the consequences if free will does not exist?  
**Prereq:** sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010 or PHI 2100 or PHI 2630 or PHM 2204 or philosophy major or minor or instructor permission
- PHI 3551 Thought Experiments** **3 Credits**  
Much philosophical work depends on thought experiments in which we evaluate merely hypothetical situations; examine several such experiments to gain insight about their general character and proper use. Cases may include Descartes' "evil genius," Searle's "Chinese Room" example, and Gettier's examples of true, justified belief without knowledge.  
**Prereq:** sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010 or PHI 2100 or PHI 2630 or PHM 2204 or philosophy major or minor or instructor permission
- PHI 3553 The Self, Reason and Ethics** **3 Credits**  
Examines rationality, morality, and personhood. What does it mean to be the same person over time? How is personal identity related to the rationality of self-interest or the rationality of morality? Topics may include the nature of reasons, self-undermining theories, reductionism about people, population ethics, and more.  
**Prereq:** sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010 or PHI 2100 or PHI 2630 or PHM 2204 or philosophy major or minor or instructor permission
- PHI 3633 Bioethics** **3 Credits**  
The ethical issues that arise in medicine and biotechnology.
- PHI 3641 Conduct, Change and Consequences: Making Ethical Decisions** **3 Credits**  
Grounding in ethical theory and moral reasoning with a focus on changes at both organizational and societal levels, including, for instance, technological innovations, new business practices and legal changes. Examines the rights and responsibilities of those making such changes as well as the conditions that facilitate responsible decision making. (H, E4)  
General Education - Humanities  
WR4
- PHI 3650 Moral Philosophy** **3 Credits**  
Analysis and criticism of various normative ethical theories such as egoism, utilitarianism, Kantianism, deontology and virtue ethics. (H)  
General Education - Humanities
- PHI 3693 Ethics of Communication** **3 Credits**  
Examines ethical issues in communication between individuals and in the media. Topics include truth-telling, misrepresentation, privacy and fairness. (H)  
General Education - Humanities
- PHI 3695 Philosophy and Death** **3 Credits**  
A philosophical investigation of the nature and significance of death. Focuses on critical assessment of arguments regarding such topics as the definition of death, whether death is bad for the deceased, whether immortality is desirable or even conceivable, and the ethics of ending and starting lives. (H)  
**Prereq:** sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010 or PHI 2100 or PHI 2630 or PHM 2204 or philosophy major or minor or instructor permission  
General Education - Humanities
- PHI 3700 Philosophy of Religion** **3 Credits**  
Studies problems in philosophical theology, including the nature of God, arguments for God's existence, the problem of evil and the relation between faith and reason, from both historical and contemporary perspectives. (H) (WR)  
General Education - Humanities  
WR6
- PHI 3930 Special Topics** **3 Credits**  
Check the department office for a course description for the offered term.
- PHI 4220 Philosophy of Language** **3 Credits**  
Variable topics study the major topics and concepts of the philosophy of language, including truth and meaning, speech act theory, reference and descriptions, names and demonstratives, propositional attitudes and indirect discourse, the nature of language and metaphor.  
**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission  
General Education - Humanities
- PHI 4320 Philosophy of Mind** **3 Credits**  
Studies the central problems of the philosophy of mind, including the mind-body problem, the nature of mental states, intentionality and representation, and sensation and consciousness.  
**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission  
General Education - Humanities
- PHI 4330 Philosophy of Action** **3 Credits**  
Studies the central problems of the philosophy of action: the nature of agency, the individuation of actions, the roles of reason, deliberation and intention in action, weakness of the will, and freedom and responsibility.  
**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission
- PHI 4542 Philosophy of Space and Time** **3 Credits**  
Studies the nature of space and time: the concepts of substantial space and time (or space-time), relational space and time (or space-time), dynamical space-time, conventional space-time metrics, causal reduction of time, time's arrow, dimensionality of space (or space-time). The approach, historical or issue-oriented, and the required amount of knowledge of physics varies with the instructor.  
**Prereq:** a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission

<b>PHI 4662 Ethical Theory 1</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>	<b>PHM 3400 Introduction to Philosophy of Law</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>
Advanced topics in moral theory, including cognitivism, obligations and permissions, moral reasons and moral epistemology.		Introduces philosophical issues in legal thought and practice; for pre-law majors and serves as an introduction to PHM 4440 Philosophy of Law, the course introduces the types of philosophical issues that the major schools of legal thought have attempted to resolve. (H) (WR)	
<b>Prereq:</b> a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission		General Education - Humanities	
General Education - Humanities		WR6	
<b>PHI 4905 Individual Work</b>	<b>1-3 Credits</b>	<b>PHM 3600 Philosophy of Education</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>
Registration requires advance application to the undergraduate coordinator.		Examines questions about the nature, value, and proper role of education, with special attention to schooling in wealthy modern democracies. Topics may include the purposes of education, the value of having an education, educational authority, the distribution of educational opportunity, and the special role of higher education. (H)	
<b>Prereq:</b> upper-division students with 12 credits of philosophy and department permission		<b>Prereq:</b> sophomore or higher standing or PHI 2010 or PHI 2100 or PHI 2630 or PHM 2204 or philosophy major or minor	
<b>PHI 4911 Undergraduate Research in Philosophy</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>	General Education - Humanities	
Provides firsthand, supervised research in Philosophy. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in Philosophy.		<b>PHP 3786 Existentialism</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>
<b>PHI 4912 Honors Project</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>	Examines the existentialist movement in philosophy through readings from such figures as Kierkegaard, Nietzsche and Sartre. (H)	
Open to qualified philosophy majors upon application to the undergraduate coordinator.		General Education - Humanities	
<b>PHI 4930 Special Topics</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>	<b>PHP 4784 Analytic Philosophy</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>
Refer to the department website for a course description for the offered term.		Studies the major philosophers, themes and developments of the analytic tradition, from Frege, Russell, Moore and Wittgenstein to Quine, Austin and contemporary figures.	
<b>Prereq:</b> a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission		<b>Prereq:</b> a 3000-level philosophy course or department permission	
<b>PHI 4956 Overseas Studies</b>	<b>1-15 Credits</b>	General Education - Humanities	
Provides a mechanism by which coursework taken as part of an approved study abroad program can be recorded on the UF transcript and counted toward graduation.		<b>REL 4177 Special Topics in Religion and Ethics</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>
<b>Prereq:</b> undergraduate advisor permission		Special topics in religion and ethics. (WR)	
<b>PHM 2204 Social Issues and Political Thought</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>	WR6	
Introduces the classic works in the fundamental issues of political philosophy. Topics include comparative systems, authority and freedom. (H) (WR)			
General Education - Humanities			
WR6			
<b>PHM 3032 Ethics and Ecology</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>		
Normative study of the relationships between human beings and the environment, with special emphasis on land and resources. (H)			
General Education - Humanities			
<b>PHM 3123 Feminist Philosophy</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>		
Analyzes theoretical and practical issues in feminism such as radical, liberal and socialist perspectives, gender roles and equal opportunity; an elective in the women's studies program. (H and D)			
General Education - Diversity			
General Education - Humanities			
<b>PHM 3127 Race and Philosophy</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>		
Examines the concept of race and how it has been used, both theoretically and practically, looking at both historical and contemporary works. Topics may include the definition of "race", the political use and abuse of the term, and its role in one's sense of identity.			
<b>PHM 3202 Political Philosophy</b>	<b>3 Credits</b>		
Studies philosophical problems of political freedom, justice, obligation and coercion. (H) (WR)			
General Education - Humanities			
WR6			