

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY

The mission of the philosophy program is to foster greater understanding and appreciation of the value of philosophical inquiry and the examination of perennial questions about the nature of human experience, the purpose of human endeavors individually and communally, and the value of knowledge. We create diverse educational experiences that develop ethical, intellectually curious students who are invested in their communities. By developing critical, logical, and creative thinking, sound judgment, and effective civil communication, we produce students who can engage their philosophical reasoning in the service of solving real-world problems, attending to the ethical issues and theoretical complexities of purpose, policy, and implementation.

A major in philosophy is ideal for students who plan to enter the field of philosophy, law, professional or medical ethics, the ministry, or other fields requiring a liberal arts background.

The major consists of 31 semester hours, including:

COURSE	TITLE	S.H.
FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENT - STUDENT SUCCESS		
YSU 1500	Success Seminar	1-2
or SS 1500	Strong Start Success Seminar	
or HONR 1500	Intro to Honors	
General Education Requirements		
ENGL 1550	Writing 1	3-4
or ENGL 1549	Writing 1 with Support	
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	3
CMST 1545	Communication Foundations	3
Mathematics Requirement (PHIL 2619)		
Arts and Humanities (6 s.h. met with PHIL 1560 and PHIL 3711 in major)		
Natural Sciences (2 courses, 1 with lab)		
Social Science (2 courses)		
Social and Personal Awareness (2 courses)		
Foreign Language Requirement		
FNLG 1550	Elementary Foreign Language (or FNLG 1505)	4
FNLG 2600	Intermediate Foreign Language (or FNLG 1506)	4
Major Requirements		
PHIL 1560	Introduction to Philosophy	3
PHIL 2619	Introduction to Logic	3
PHIL 2612	Ancient & Medieval Philosophy	3
PHIL 3702	History of Modern Philosophy	3
PHIL 3711	General Ethics	3
PHIL 4820	Seminar in Philosophy	3
Philosophy Electives (Three additional courses in Philosophy, 2 of which must be at the 3700-level or 4800-level.)		
PHIL 4861	Senior Capstone Project	3
or PHIL 4820	Seminar in Philosophy	
Minor		
Electives Must complete a minimum number of electives to meet the 120sh total graduation requirement		
Total Semester Hours		120-122

Year 1

Fall	S.H.
YSU 1500	Success Seminar
or SS 1500	or Strong Start Success Seminar
or HONR 1500	or Intro to Honors
	1-2

PHIL 1560	Introduction to Philosophy	3
CMST 1545	Communication Foundations	3
ENGL 1550	Writing 1	3-4
or ENGL 1549	or Writing 1 with Support	
FNLG 1550	Elementary Foreign Language	4

Semester Hours 14-16

Spring

PHIL 2612	Ancient & Medieval Philosophy	3
Social Science Gen Ed		
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	3
FNLG 2600	Intermediate Foreign Language (Natural Science Gen Ed)	4
Elective		
		2

Semester Hours 15

Year 2

Fall

PHIL 2619	Introduction to Logic	3
Natural Science Gen Ed		
Minor Course		
Elective		
Elective		
		3

Semester Hours 15

Spring

PHIL 3702	History of Modern Philosophy	3
Social Science Gen Ed		
Minor 15XX/26XX course		
Natural Science plus lab 15XX/26XX		
SPA Gen Ed		
		3

Semester Hours 16

Year 3

Fall

PHIL 3711	General Ethics	3
PHIL Elective 37XX		
Minor course		
SPA Gen Ed		
Elective 37XX		
		3

Semester Hours 15

Spring

PHIL Elective 37XX		
Minor course		
Elective		
Elective 37XX		
Elective 37XX		
		3

Semester Hours 15

Year 4

Fall

PHIL 4820	Seminar in Philosophy	3
Minor 37XX course		
Elective		
Elective 37XX		
Elective 37XX		
		3

Semester Hours 15

Spring

PHIL 4861	Senior Capstone Project	3
Minor 37XX course		
PHIL Elective		
Elective 37XX		
		3

Elective 37XX	3
Semester Hours	15
Total Semester Hours	120-122

Learning Objectives

- Demonstrated reasoning ability (competently utilize principles of critical thinking, including assessment of definitions, recognition of fallacies, and application of the principles of good inductive and deductive reasoning).
- Demonstrated ability to articulate philosophical ideas and arguments (clarity, nuance, and sophistication of content) and knowledge of seminal figures in history who espouse them.
- Demonstrated ability to engage in charitable reading (willingness to consider alternative and plausible interpretations of an author's work) and to consider arguments from the standpoint and experience of others (suspend one's personal views).
- Master the basics of theoretical writing, including the development of precise definitions, effective analysis of texts, traditions, and theoretical positions, and effective development, defense, and critique of arguments.
- Demonstrated ability to revise beliefs, ideas, and arguments when presented with new sources, criticism, and evidence or to withhold judgment in the absence of reasons (reasonable disagreement and intellectual humility).