Philosophy

Philosophy is a critical, speculative, and reflective discipline concerned with the exploration of ideas. The questions with which it deals can be found in every human pursuit and subject matter. Among the subjects it embraces are the nature of truth and reality, the possibility of knowledge, the quest for moral values and political justice, and the nature of mind, language, art, and reason. The field of logic is a formal study of the art of exact thinking. Given this breadth, philosophy can be related to almost any subject or profession.

Recent studies have shown that strong liberal arts majors are in much demand in the world outside the University. While preprofessionals may enter the job market with higher salaries, those with liberal arts majors tend to rise higher in their professions. This is because a liberal arts degree indicates a capacity for thinking, learning, writing, and breadth of understanding. Philosophy is a strong liberal arts major, and majors in philosophy rank in the highest percentages for GRE, LSAT, and GMAT scores. In addition to academic work, philosophy contributes toward careers in law, medicine, business, government, journalism, religion, computers, and education.

The Department of Philosophy at SIU is a pluralistic department, representing a variety of traditions, such as analytic philosophy, phenomenology, American philosophy, Asian philosophy, and feminism. It has faculty who specialize in the history of philosophy, logic, ethics, metaphysics, political and legal philosophy, the philosophy of science, the philosophy of technology and the philosophy of religion, among others.

The student electing to major in philosophy should consult the department’s director of undergraduate studies. Majors may request to take a graduate level seminar (for undergraduate credit) as a substitute for three credit hours at the 400-level. Philosophy majors will satisfy the College of Liberal Arts Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement by passing PHIL 304 and PHIL 305A or PHIL 305B. A minor is not required for a major in philosophy, though it is recommended that the student take foreign languages such as Greek, Latin, French or German.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy Requirements

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<td>Logic requirement: PHIL 105 or PHIL 320</td>
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Degree Requirements | Credit Hours
---|---
History of Philosophy requirement: PHIL 304 and PHIL 305A, PHIL 305B | 6
Six hours from 300 level courses in addition to PHIL 304 and PHIL 305A or PHIL 305B | 6
At least nine hours of 400-level courses | 9
Electives for major in Philosophy | 6
Electives | 32
Total | 120

**Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy, Pre-Law Specialization Requirements**

Degree Requirements | Credit Hours
---|---
University Core Curriculum Requirements | 41
College of Liberal Arts Academic Requirements | 14
Requirements for Major in Philosophy-Pre-Law specialization | 33
PHIL 104; PHIL 105; PHIL 309I; PHIL 310; PHIL 340 PHIL 445; PHIL 499 | 3
History of Philosophy requirement: PHIL 304 and PHIL 305A, PHIL 305B | 6
At least six hours of 400-level courses | 6
Electives | 32
Total | 120

**Philosophy Minor**

A minor in philosophy requires 15 hours, a maximum of six of which may be selected from philosophy courses offered in the University Core Curriculum and below the 300-level, six of which must be selected from the courses listed above for the major. PHIL 304 and PHIL 305A or PHIL 305B are recommended.

**Philosophy Courses**

**PHIL102 - Intro to Philosophy** 102-3 Introduction to Philosophy. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: H4 900] Introduction to fundamental philosophical issues across a broad spectrum. Problems in metaphysics, epistemology and ethics will be among the areas explored. Emphasis throughout is
upon developing in the student an appreciation of the nature of philosophical questioning, analyzing and evaluating arguments and reflecting on the nature of human existence.

**PHIL103A - World Humanities I** 103A-3 World Humanities. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: HF 904N] This course will explore the rise, development and interaction of the major world civilizations as embodied in ideas and their expressions in religion, philosophy, literature and art. The great traditions of Near Eastern, European, Central Asian, Indian, Chinese and Japanese cultures will be examined. (A) The first semester will cover the early civilizations of the Near East, the classical world of Greece and Rome, early China and India.

**PHIL103B - World Humanities II** 103B-3 World Humanities. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: H9 900] This course will explore the rise, development and interaction of the major world civilizations as embodied in ideas and their expressions in religion, philosophy, literature and art. The great traditions of Near Eastern, European, Central Asian, Indian, Chinese and Japanese cultures will be examined. (B) The second semester will look at the integrative civilizations of Buddhism, Medieval Christianity and Islam, and Modern Europe.

**PHIL104 - Ethics** 104-3 Ethics. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: H4 904] Introduction to contemporary and perennial problems of personal and social morality, and to methods proposed for their resolution by great thinkers past and present.

**PHIL105 - Elementary Logic** 105-3 Elementary Logic. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: H4 906] Study of the traditional and modern methods for evaluating arguments. Applications of logical analysis to practical, scientific and legal reasoning, and to the use of computers.

**PHIL106 - Philosophy of Self-Cultivation** 106-3 Philosophy of Self-Cultivation. An introduction to the history of the relation between mind and body. It focuses on how the relation of mind and body can help bring about well being or the good life. The course incorporates a physical activity component: walking, jogging, table tennis, for example.

**PHIL210 - The American Mind** 210-3 The American Mind. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: HF 906D] This course will survey the diverse traditions, ideas and ideals that have shaped American culture in the past and today. Major works from Native American, African American, feminist, Puritan, Quaker and American Zen Buddhist writers may be used as well as those from such intellectual movements as the Enlightenment, Transcendentalism and Pragmatism.

**PHIL211 - Philosophy & Diversity** 211-3 Philosophy and Diversity: Gender, Race and Class. (University Core Curriculum) This course is a philosophical introduction to diverse perspectives within modern American culture. It will address through reading and discussion important contemporary moral and social issues from the perspective of nontraditional orientations including African American, Native American and American feminism. The resources of philosophy and other related disciplines such as psychology, sociology and literature will be used to develop a culturally enriched perspective on important contemporary issues.

**PHIL300 - Metaphysics** 300-3 Metaphysics. Metaphysics deals with the broadest and most fundamental concepts: What does it mean to exist? It encompasses questions about whether what fundamentally exists is one or many. Is reality essentially physical or does it include something nonphysical? What is "causality"? Is there an ultimate or highest reality, that which some call God? If God exists, can there be anything that is not God? Can we know what reality truly is or is the human mind fated to behold only the world as it appears to us? Can we at least know ourselves? Is human existence basically similar to the existence of any "thing" or does our sense of history and mortality make us experience Being in a different way? This course will engage these and other questions through readings selected from the Western tradition, from the ancient Greeks to the modern age. Readings from Asian traditions may also be included.

**PHIL301 - Philosophy of Religion** 301-3 Philosophy of Religion. An analysis of problems in the psychology, metaphysics, and social effects of religion. Among topics discussed are the nature of mystical experience, the existence of God, and problems of suffering, prayer, and immortality.

**PHIL303I - Philosophy and the Arts** 303I-3 Philosophy and the Arts. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: H9 900] An interdisciplinary examination of (1) literary and other artistic works which raise
philosophic issues and (2) philosophic writings on the relationship between philosophy and literature. Possible topics include: source of and contemporary challenges to the traditional Western idea that literature cannot be or contribute to philosophy; the role of emotion, imagination and aesthetic value in philosophic reasoning; the role of literature in moral philosophy; and philosophic issues of interpretation.

PHIL304 - Ancient Philosophy 304-3 Ancient Philosophy. (Advanced University Core Curriculum course) (Same as CLAS 304) The birth of Western philosophy in the Greek world, examining such Pre-Socratics as Anaximander, Heraclitus, Pythagoras, and Parmenides; focusing upon the flowering of the Athenian period with Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. The course will conclude with a discussion of the Hellenistic systems of Stoicism, Epicureanism, and the Neo-Platonic mysticism of Plotinus of the Roman period. Fulfills CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement. Satisfies University Core Curriculum Humanities requirement in lieu of 102.

PHIL305A - Modern Philosophy 305A-3 Modern Philosophy-Metaphysics and Epistemology. (Advanced University Core Curriculum course) A survey course covering the major figures and themes in the development of modern philosophy up to Kant. Concentration on the Rationalist and Empiricist traditions and the simultaneous development of modern science. Either 305A or 305B fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement. 305A or B satisfies the University Core Curriculum Humanities requirement in lieu of 102.

PHIL305B - Modern Philosophy 305B-3 Modern Philosophy-Moral and Political Philosophy. (Advanced University Core Curriculum course) A survey course covering the major figures and themes in the development of modern philosophy up to Kant. Concentration on the Rationalist and Empiricist traditions and the simultaneous development of modern science. Either 305A or 305B fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum requirement. 305A or B satisfies the University Core Curriculum Humanities requirement in lieu of 102.


PHIL307I - Phil:Science/Nature/Technology 307I-3 Philosophy of Science, Nature and Technology. (University Core Curriculum) Interdisciplinary study of major humanistic critiques of technology, science and nature; analysis of topics such as ecology, the information revolution, aesthetics and ethics in various branches of science and technology, relation of science to technology.

PHIL308I - Asian Religions 308I-3 Asian Religions: A Philosophical Approach. (University Core Curriculum) [IAI Course: H4 903N] This course examines three major areas of Asian religious traditions from a philosophical perspective: South Asia, East Asia, and Buddhist traditions. Since it is not possible to be all inclusive, concentration will be on those with continuing significant spiritual, philosophical, social, political, aesthetic and literary influence. More specifically, it is an introduction to some of the major Asian religious traditions, such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Zen Buddhism, approached through philosophical reflection. Emphasis is on classical traditions, since this provides a solid foundation upon which students are than able to pursue further independent readings in more recent developments. Furthermore, this emphasis permits an extended exploration of the interaction among contemporary economic, sociological and religious developments and classical traditions.

PHIL309I - Peace, Law & Justice 309I-3 Philosophy of Peace, Law, and Justice. (University Core Curriculum) An interdisciplinary exploration of classical and modern theories of peace, law, and justice with special attention to their implications for important contemporary political issues.

PHIL310 - Advanced Critical Thinking 310-3 Advanced Critical Thinking. A course designed to improve students’ critical reading, thinking and writing skills and to help students planning to attend law school prepare for the LSAT exam. Uses LSAT guides on Logical Reasoning and Logic games as texts.

PHIL314 - Love, Sex, Gender & Philosophy 314-3 Love, Sex, Gender, and Philosophy. (Same as WGSS 314) A survey of philosophical approaches to love, sex, and gender. A philosophical inquiry into the representation of love, sex, and gender, including materials that combine text, words, and images. The course studies an ancient philosophy text on love, a classical text of twentieth-century feminist
philosophy, and critiques of feminism that draw on the life of gender, sexuality, and race. It questions the nature and possibilities of love.

PHIL320 - Deductive Logic 320-3 Deductive Logic. An introduction to first order logic, including the Boolean connectives, conditionals, and identity. The emphasis is on the concept of logical consequence and the related concepts of tautological and analytic (semantic) consequence. Other topics include truth functional and non-truth functional connectives, truth-tables, informal proofs, proofs of non-consequence, derivations using a Fitch natural deduction system, and translations to and from English.

PHIL334 - Ethics-Media/Culture/Society 334-3 Ethics in Media, Culture and Society. (University Core Curriculum) (Same as JRNL 334) The purpose of this course is to discuss what it means to act ethically. Does it mean anything more than doing what is right? Are ethics for a lawyer different from a journalist or priest or doctor? How does society decide what is ethical behavior and what is not?

PHIL340 - Ethical Theories 340-3 Ethical Theories. (Advanced University Core Curriculum course) [IAI Course: H4 904] Nature of ethics and morality, ethical skepticism, emotivism, ethical relativism, and representative universalistic ethics. Bentham, Mill, Aristotle, Kant, Blanshard, and Brightman. Satisfies University Core Curriculum Humanities requirement in lieu of 104.

PHIL344 - Biomedical Ethics 344-3 Biomedical Ethics. Changes in biology and medicine have brought into sharp focus such problems as allocation of scarce medical resources, use of human subjects in experiments, abortion, euthanasia, genetic screening, truth-telling in medical practice, moral rights of patients and other matters. This course brings ethical principles to bear on these issues.

PHIL360 - Latin American Philosophy 360-3 Latin American Philosophy. The course deals with philosophy in Latin America from the 19th century to the present. Central themes of the course include: identity theory, philosophy and culture, and political philosophy.

PHIL371 - Intro to Contemp Phenomenology 371-3 Introduction to Contemporary Phenomenology. Introductory survey of individual thinkers and questions in the contemporary phenomenological tradition: Husserl, Sartre, Merleau-Ponty, Levinas, and Ricoeur.

PHIL375 - Ecology and Ethics 375-3 Ecology and Ethics. An exploration of several views of the relationship between human beings and the natural world. This course will examine the changing paradigms of environmental studies for insights about our epistemological and moral approaches to nature. Both classical and contemporary literature on nature will be used. Such topics as the Gaia hypothesis, ecofeminism, deep ecology, and the use of nature for human purposes will be addressed.

PHIL385 - Mystical Literature 385-3 Mystical Literature and Meditation. This course will introduce and explore the profound tradition of literature that has nourished religious, ethical, as well as philosophical and literary, developments in Western and Eastern cultures, but has often been overlooked, not only by the sciences, but also by the humanities: the tradition of mystical literature. In addition to reading primary sources representative of Western and Eastern mystical traditions, this course will include a weekly lab during which the student will be exposed to meditative techniques and actual meditative practices. Finally, this course will integrate guest speakers/practitioners, audio and visual supports pertaining to the course, and work on the Web, allowing students to broaden their connections to others who also share an interest in this field of study and practice. Prerequisite: at least one course (three hours) in the humanities on the 100 or 200 level.

PHIL389 - Existential Philosophy 389-3 Existential Philosophy. Surveys the two main sources of existentialism, the philosophies of Kierkegaard and Nietzsche, with occasional reference to thinkers such as Sartre, Heidegger, Buber, Marcel, and others.

PHIL399 - First Freedoms 399-3 First Freedoms. (University Core Curriculum) (Same as JRNL 399) The First Amendment protects citizens from the government and sets boundaries of democratic self-government. The course encompasses free expression in all media-social, broadcast and cinema. It explores tensions between law and ethics, press freedom and privacy, intellectual freedom and equality and liberty and security.

PHIL400 - Philosophy of Mind 400-3 Philosophy of Mind. An investigation of the philosophic issues raised by several competing theories of mind, focusing on the fundamental debate between reductionistic
accounts (e.g., central state materialism, identity theories of the physical and mental) and views which reject such proposed reductions. Traditional and contemporary theories will be examined. Designed for students in the life and social sciences with little or no background in philosophy as well as philosophy students.

**PHIL405 - Democratic Theory** 405-3 Democratic Theory. (Same as POLS 405) An examination of various aspects of democratic thought, including the liberal tradition and its impact upon the United States. Fulfills the CoLA Writing-Across-the-Curriculum (WAC) requirement. Prerequisite: POLS 114 or consent of instructor.

**PHIL415 - Logic of Social Sciences** 415-3 Logic of Social Sciences. (Same as SOC 415) An examination of the theoretical structure and nature of the social sciences and their epistemological foundations. The relationship of social theory to social criticism; theory and praxis. Historical experience and social objectivity. Social theory as practical knowledge.

**PHIL420 - Symbolic Logic** 420-3 Symbolic Logic. An introduction to first order logic with an emphasis on quantification. Topics include the semantics of the quantifiers, first-order validity, quantifier equivalences, functions, informal proofs, proofs of non-consequence, derivations using a Fitch natural deduction system, translations to and from English, soundness and completeness, the axiomatic method, first order set theory, and mathematical induction. Prerequisite: PHIL 320 or consent of the instructor.

**PHIL433 - Post-Colonialism** 433-3 Post-Colonialism Philosophy. This course focuses on African, Caribbean, and Latin American philosophers who have and continue to contribute to the development of post-colonial philosophy. In this class we will examine how post-colonial thinkers challenge and rework some of the main areas of philosophy, such as epistemology, political philosophy, ethics, philosophy of language, etc., by decentering the colonial assumptions that underpin these areas and their development. This class explores what this decentering means, not only for postcolonial theory, but also for how we think of race, class, gender and other forms of oppression and liberation, globally. Restricted to junior standing.

**PHIL434 - Media Ethics** 434-3 Media Ethics. (Same as JRNL 434) Explores the moral environment of the mass media and the ethical problems that confront media practitioners. Models of ethical decision-making and moral philosophy are introduced to encourage students to think critically about the mass media and their roles in modern society.

**PHIL441 - Philosophy of Politics** 441-3 Philosophy of Politics. (Same as POLS 403) The theory of political and social foundations; the theory of the state, justice, and revolution. Classical and contemporary readings such as: Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Dewey, Adorno and others. Prerequisite: PHIL 340 or PHIL 102 or consent of instructor.

**PHIL445 - Philosophy of Law** 445-3 Philosophy of Law. Study of contemporary philosophical essays on topics at the intersection of law and philosophy, such as abortion on demand, capital punishment, plea bargaining, campus speech codes, legalization of addictive drugs, and animal rights, and of what systematic philosophers, such as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, John Stuart Mill, Karl Marx, and H.L.A. Hart, have written about the nature of a legal system and the appropriate realm of legal regulation.

**PHIL446A - Feminist Philosophy** 446A-Feminist Philosophy. (Same as WGSS 456A) A general survey of feminist theory and philosophical perspectives.

**PHIL446B - Special Topics Fem Philosophy** 446B-Special Topics in Feminist Philosophy. (Same as WGSS 456B) A special area in feminist philosophy explored in depth, such as Feminist Ethics, French Feminism, Feminist Philosophy of Science, etc.

**PHIL446C - Women Philosophers** 446C-3 Women Philosophers. (Same as WGSS 456C) Explores the work of one or more specific women philosophers, for example Hannah Arendt, Simone DeBeauvoir, etc.

**PHIL450 - Transcendentalism** 450-3 American Transcendentalism. This course will study the rise of Transcendentalism as a philosophical movement in early Nineteenth Century New England. Focus will be on Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau with possible attention to Margaret Fuller and other figures like Hedge, Parker and Brownson.
PHIL451 - Hist African Amer Philosophy 451-3 History of African American Philosophy. (Same as AFR 499A) A survey of major thinkers and themes in the history of African American Philosophy from colonial times to the 20th century. Prerequisite: at least one previous course in either Philosophy or Africana Studies with a grade of C or better.

PHIL455 - Philosophy of Race 455-3 Philosophy of Race. (Same as AFR 499B) A survey and critical examination of a range of theories on the nature and meaning of "race," the intersection of race with class and gender, and the promotion of racial progress. Such theories include racial realism and idealism, racial biologism, cultural race theory, social constructivist theory, integrationism, separatism, racial eliminativism, cosmopolitanism, and especially critical race theory. Prerequisite: at least one previous course in Philosophy or Africana Studies with a minimum grade of C.

PHIL459 - Topics Africana Philosophy 459-1 to 6 Topics in Africana Philosophy. (Same as AFR 499C) A seminar on varying topics, themes, and figures in African, African American, and/or Caribbean Philosophy, e.g., "W.E.B. Du Bois and His Contemporaries," "Pan-Africanism," "Philosophies of Liberation," "Black Feminism," "Contemporary African Philosophy," "Philosophies of the Caribbean." Prerequisite: At least one previous course in Philosophy or Africana Studies with a minimum grade of C.

PHIL460 - Philosophy of Art 460-3 Philosophy of Art. We will examine several important theories that define art by focusing in on only one aspect, for example, imitation, expression, form, institutional setting, or even indefinability. What role does imagination play in each of these accounts, and does this tell us something important about how people experience their world?

PHIL468A - Kant: Theoretical Philosophy 468A-3 Kant-Theoretical Philosophy.

PHIL468B - Kant: Practical Philosophy 468B-3 Kant-Practical Philosophy.

PHIL468C - Kant: Aesthetics/Teleology/Rel 468C-3 Kant-Aesthetics, Teleology and Religion.

PHIL469 - Hellen & Roman Phil-Augustine 469-3 Hellenistic and Roman Philosophy to Augustine. (Same as CLAS 469) The career of philosophy during the Hellenistic, Roman and Early Medieval period, especially as a means of personal salvation, exploring such figures and movements as: Epicurus, Stoicism, the Middle Academy, Skepticism, Gnosticism, Plotinus, Early Christianity, Augustine, and Boethius. Prerequisite: PHIL 304 or consent of instructor.

PHIL470A - Greek Philosophy-Plato 470A-3 Greek Philosophy-Plato. (Same as CLAS 470A) Survey of Plato's dialogues mostly selected from those of the middle period (Meno, Phaedo, Symposium, Republic, Phaedrus), perhaps along with some from the early period (especially Protagoras) and late period (Sophist, Timaeus).

PHIL470B - Greek Philosophy-Aristotle 470B-3 Greek Philosophy-Aristotle. (Same as CLAS 470B) A general survey of the Aristotelian philosophy including the theory of nature, metaphysics, ethics, and political philosophy. Readings will consist of selections from the corpus.

PHIL471A - Medieval Philosophy 471A-3 History of Medieval Philosophy. An examination of some of the most important figures and themes in medieval philosophical thought. Medieval debates in the area of metaphysics, natural philosophy, epistemology, ethics and politics will be explored in reading the works of such figures as Augustine, Boethius, Abelard Avicenna, Averroes, Maimonides, Bonaventure, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus, Ockham and Nicholas of Cusa. Prerequisite: PHIL 304 or consent of instructor.

PHIL471B - The Medieval Thinker 471B-3 The Medieval Thinker. An examination of the thought of one of the central and most influential figures of the medieval world. Possible subjects of the course are Augustine of Hippo, Al-Ghazali, Moses Maimonides, Bonaventure, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus, Dante Alighieri or William Ockham. Prerequisite: PHIL 304 or consent of instructor.

PHIL472 - The Rationalists 472-3 The Rationalists. Study of the philosophy of one or more of Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Malebranche, Wolff. Prerequisite: PHIL 305A or B or consent of instructor.

PHIL473A - The Empiricists-Locke 473A-3 The Empiricists-Locke. Study of the principles of British empiricism as represented by Locke. May also include study of Berkeley. Prerequisite: PHIL 305 or consent of instructor.

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PHIL473B - The Empiricists-Hume 473B-3 The Empiricists-Hume. Study of the principles of British empiricism as represented by Hume. May also include study of Berkeley. Prerequisite: PHIL 305 or consent of instructor.

PHIL474 - Aristotle's Ethics 474-3 Aristotle's Ethics. This course will focus on reading Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics. Topics will include: the idea of a well-lived life (happiness), the relation of reason and desire, character formation, deliberative and moral reasoning, the types of human excellence, friendship and the role of philosophy in a well-lived life. Readings may include: Greek drama (e.g., Abigitone, Medea), Aristotle's Politics, and contemporary writers in "virtue ethics." Prerequisite: PHIL 304 with a grade of B or better.

PHIL475 - Topics in Asian Philosophy 475-3 Topics in Asian Philosophy. Extended examination of one or two major texts, figures or philosophical schools in Asian philosophy. Topics vary; students are advised to consult with the instructor.

PHIL477 - Indian Philosophy 477-3 Indian Philosophy. An examination of several major traditions and texts of Indian philosophy, such as Vedanta, Nyaya, the Upanishads, the Bhagava Gita, and contemporary political philosophy, with an emphasis on their social and historical contexts.

PHIL478 - Buddhist Philosophy 478-3 Buddhist Philosophy. An examination of several major philosophical traditions or figures in Buddhism, such as Madhyamika, Yogacara, Zen, Mind-Only, and the Kyoto school, emphasis on their social and historical contexts.

PHIL479 - Chinese Philosophy 479-3 Chinese Philosophy. An examination of several major traditions of Chinese philosophy, such as Confucianism, Taoism, Mohism and Maoism, Neoconfucianism, with an emphasis on their social and historical contexts.

PHIL480 - History of Analytic Philosophy 480-3 History of Analytic Philosophy. An introduction to the works of several major 20th Century philosophers in the analytic tradition, including several of the following: Frege, Russell, Moore, Wittgenstein (early and later), members of the Vienna Circle, Ayer, Ryle, Quine, Putnam, Davidson. Includes discussion of challenges to the tradition that have developed within it.

PHIL482 - Recent European Philosophy 482-3 Recent European Philosophy. Philosophical trends in Europe from the end of the 19th Century to the present. Phenomenology, existentialism, the new Marxism, structuralism, and other developments. Language, history, culture and politics.

PHIL485 - The Presocratics 485-3 The Presocratics. The course will survey the Presocratic movement from the Milesians, Heraclitus and the Pythagoreans to the Eleatics, Empedocles, Anaxagoras and Democritus. Topics will include: the idea of nature, origin/source/principle (arche), the mathematical and nature, Being, pluralism and monism, the atomic theory. Some attention may be paid to the Sophists and the Epicureans. Prerequisite: PHIL 304 with a minimum grade of B.

PHIL486 - Early American Philosophy 486-3 Early American Philosophy. From the Colonial Era to the Eve of World War I. This course will trace the transplantation of European philosophy to the New World and watch its unique process of development. Movements such as Puritanism, the theory of the American Revolution, the philosophical basis of the Constitution, transcendentalism, idealism, Darwinism and pragmatism and such figures as: Jonathan Edwards, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Josiah Royce, Charles Sanders Peirce, and William James.


PHIL490 - Special Problems 490-1 to 8 Special Problems. Hours and credits to be arranged. Courses for qualified students who need to pursue certain topics further than regularly titled courses permit. Special topics announced from time to time. Students are invited to suggest topics. Special approval needed from the department.
PHIL491 - Undergrad Directed Readings 491-1 to 6 Undergraduate Directed Readings. Supervised readings for qualified students. Open to undergraduates only. Additional hours beyond three (3) must have approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Special approval needed from the instructor.

PHIL499 - Senior Thesis 499-3 Senior Thesis. A paper on a topic agreed to by the student and a faculty thesis director. The paper should be of sufficient length to manifest the student's mastery of a philosophical area and logical and critical skills. Not for graduate credit. Special approval needed from the instructor and department.

PHIL500 - Metaphysics 500-3 Metaphysics. Seminar focusing on readings taken from major classical to contemporary writings in the subject of metaphysics (e.g., Aristotle's Metaphysics, Descartes' Principles, Whitehead's Process and Reality, etc.) or on special movements or on problems in the subject (e.g., substance, causation, reductionism, etc.).

PHIL501 - Philosophy of Religion 501-3 Philosophy of Religion. Analysis of a problem in philosophical theology or the phenomenology of religion or of the work of a particular thinker.

PHIL530 - Theory of Knowledge 530-3 Theory of Knowledge. Seminar focusing on readings taken from major classical to contemporary writings in the theory of knowledge (e.g., Plato, Theaetetus; Aristotle, De Anima; Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding; Quine, Ontological Relativity; Rorty, The Mirror of Nature, etc.) or on movements or on problems in the subject (the object of knowledge, justification, method, etc.).

PHIL542 - Political & Legal Philosophy 542-3 Political and Legal Philosophy. Relations of law, morality, and politics, and consideration of problems and issues in philosophy of law.

PHIL545 - Ethics 545-3 Ethics. An examination of the fundamental assumptions underlying twentieth century British and American moral theory. Special attention is given to recent attempts to develop a psychologically realistic moral philosophy that avoids both moral absolutism and extreme forms of relativism.

PHIL551 - Introduction to Teaching 551-1 Introduction to Teaching and the Profession. Introduction to the methodology and ethics of teaching philosophy; supervision of teaching assistants. Restricted to philosophy graduate students on assistantship contract.

PHIL552 - Teaching Practicum 552-1 Teaching Practicum. Ongoing supervision of teaching assistants and discussion of pedagogical, ethical and professional issues. Prerequisite: PHIL 551.

PHIL553 - Supervision of Teaching 553-1 Supervision of Teaching for Graduate Assistants. Instruction in the methods of teaching philosophy and direct supervision of course teaching. Prerequisite: PHIL 551.

PHIL558 - Phenomenology Research Group 558-3 Phenomenology Research Group. The Phenomenology Research Group is a forum for doing phenomenology. Each year we focus on a particular theme. Beginning with first-person perspectives, we examine how something becomes meaningful for us in experience, and we inquire after cross-cultural structures of those experiences. Since the touchstone for such reflection is experience, the orientation of scholarship is problem-based and contextual. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Grades.

PHIL560 - Aesthetics 560-3 Aesthetics. Selected topics or writings.

PHIL562 - Phil of Human Communication 562-3 Philosophy of Human Communication. (See CMST 562)

PHIL563 - Philosophy of Nietzsche 563-3 Philosophy of Nietzsche. A reading of Nietzsche's works and critical discussion of his major themes in light of their historical and contemporary reception.

PHIL564 - Frankfurt Schl Critical Theory 564-3 Frankfurt School Critical Theory. An examination of the conceptual foundations and historico-philosophical theories of the Institute for Social Research School, known as critical theory, covering one or more of the major first- and second-generation thinkers: Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, Habermas.
PHIL565 - Continental Feminist Philosophy 565-3 Continental Feminist Philosophy. (Same as WGSS 565) An examination of major figures and problems in continental feminism, focusing on metaphysical, ethical, political, and aesthetic theories in the works of Beauvoir, Kristeva, Iragaray, Butler, and Kofman.

PHIL566 - Psychoanalysis 566-3 Psychoanalysis. An examination of psychoanalytic theory in the context of continental philosophy, studying the foundation of psychoanalysis and major developments since Freud, including French psychoanalytic theory, the British School, and developments in American psychoanalysis.

PHIL570 - American Idealism 570-3 American Idealism. One or more American idealists. Recent seminars have been devoted to the thought of Brand Blanshard and Peter A. Bertocci.


PHIL573B - American Realism-Critical 573B-American Realism-Critical Realism. An examination of selected works of representatives in the realist tradition of American philosophy.

PHIL573C - American Realism-Scientific 573C-3 American Realism-Scientific Realism. An examination of selected works of representatives in the realist tradition of American philosophy.

PHIL573D - American Realism-Post Realism 573D-3 American Realism-Post Realism. An examination of selected works of representatives in the realist tradition of American philosophy.

PHIL577A - Classical American Philosophy-Peirce 577A-3 Classical American Philosophy-Peirce. A focused study of various aspects of Peirce's philosophy such as his pragmatism and semiotics.


PHIL577C - Classical American Philosophy-Dewey 577C-3 Classical American Philosophy-Dewey. An examination of such themes in Dewey's philosophy as the influence of Darwin, nature and experience, aesthetics, technology and democracy.

PHIL577D - Classical American Philosophy-Mead 577D-3 Classical American Philosophy-Mead. A critical examination of Mead's theories regarding the social self and social life.

PHIL578 - Husserl 578-3 Husserl. A careful and systematic reading of Husserl's major works or treatment of important themes throughout his writings, such as, the problem of evidence, perception and rationality, time-consciousness, phenomenology of association, or the lifeworld.

PHIL579 - Heidegger 579-3 Heidegger. This course features a close reading of Heidegger's masterwork, BEING AND TIME, supplemented by selected later essay and secondary literature as suggested by the instructor.

PHIL580 - The Pre-Socratics 580-3 The Pre-Socratics. The emergence of Greek philosophy in the sixth century B.C., the Milesians, Heraclitus and the Pythagoreans; the Eleatic movement and Parmenides, and the critical systems of Empedocles, Anaxagoras, and atomism; concluding with a discussion of the Sophistic movement and Socrates. Epic, lyric and dramatic literature of the period may be examined as well as philosophical writings.

PHIL581 - Plato 581-3 Plato. Intensive reading of selected texts focusing on some aspect of Plato's thought or on Platonism as a movement.

PHIL582 - Aristotle 582-3 Aristotle. Intensive reading on several texts, analyzing selected portions of Aristotle’s thought.

PHIL583 - Merleau-Ponty 583-3 Merleau-Ponty. This course will focus on a major work by Merleau-Ponty (such as the Phenomenology of Perception), or will develop a major theme (perception, aesthetics, politics) in his thought by consulting several of his works.
PHIL584 - Levinas 584-3 Levinas. This course will be devoted to a detailed and systematic study of one of Levinas's major works, such as Totality and Infinity or Otherwise than Being, or to a survey of key elements of his thought contained in his many important essays.

PHIL587 - Kant 587-3 Kant.

PHIL588 - Hegel 588-3 Hegel.

PHIL589 - Scheler 589-3 Scheler. This course is devoted to a systematic reading of Scheler's works that concern any one of the many dimensions of his thought, for example, the nature of "person", ethics and value theory, the philosophy of religion, the sociology of knowledge, or politics.

PHIL590 - Graduate Seminar 590-1 to 12 General Graduate Seminar. Selected topics or problems in philosophy. Repeatable for 12 hours per term, 30 hours toward degree.

PHIL591 - Readings in Philosophy 591-1 to 16 Readings in Philosophy. Supervised readings for qualified students. Prerequisite: Students must have written permission from the Graduate Director to register for more than six hours at each level.

PHIL599 - Thesis 599-2 to 6 Thesis. Minimum of four hours to be counted towards a Master's degree.

PHIL600 - Dissertation 600-3 to 32 (1 to 16 per semester) Dissertation. Repeatable for 16 hours per term, 30 hours toward degree.

PHIL601 - Continuing Enrollment 601-1 per semester Continuing Enrollment. For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only.

PHIL699 - Postdoctoral Research 699-1 Postdoctoral Research. Must be a Postdoctoral Fellow. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted.

Philosophy Faculty

Alexander, Thomas, Professor, Ph.D., Emory University, 1984.
Auxier, Randall E., Professor, Ph.D., Emory University, 1992.
Beardsworth, Sara, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Warwick, 1994.
Clarke, David S., Jr., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Emory University, 1964.
Eames, Elizabeth R., Professor, Emerita, Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College, 1951.
Gatens-Robinson, Eugenie, Associate Professor, Emerita, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, 1984.
Gillan, Garth J., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Duquesne University, 1966.
Hahn, Robert A., Professor, Ph.D., Yale University, 1976.
Hickman, Larry A., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, 1971.
Kelly, Matthew J., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, 1963.
Manfredi, Pat A., Associate Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, 1982.
Plochmann, George Kimball, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1950.
Schedler, George E., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of California at San Diego, 1973; J.D., Southern Illinois University, 1987.
Steinbock, Anthony J., Professor, Ph.D., SUNY, Stony Brook, NY, 1993.
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