

PHILOSOPHY (PHILOS)

PHILOS 101 – INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

3–4 credits.

Introduction to various philosophical questions and to the strategies that philosophers use to address these.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Elementary

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 104 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY FOR FRESHMEN

3 credits.

Selected topics addressing various philosophical questions and to the strategies that philosophers use to address these.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Elementary

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 106 – STUDY ABROAD IN PHILOSOPHY

2–4 credits.

Treatment of a topic in philosophy in a course offered at a university outside the United States.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Level – Elementary

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 1999

PHILOS 141 – THE MEANING OF LIFE

3–4 credits.

Introduces the subject of philosophy through a question that is familiar to nearly every person: What is the meaning of life? This question will be approached through reading both classical philosophical works and the works of contemporary philosophers.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities

Level – Elementary

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 206 – STUDY ABROAD IN PHILOSOPHY

2–4 credits.

Treatment of a topic in philosophy in a course offered at a university outside the United States.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2001

PHILOS 210 – REASON IN COMMUNICATION

3–4 credits.

Argument in familiar contexts; emphasis upon developing critical skills in comprehending, evaluating, and engaging in contemporary forms of reasoning, with special attention to the uses of argument in mass communication media.

Requisites: MATH 96 or placement into MATH 141

Course Designation: Gen Ed – Quantitative Reasoning Part A Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 211 – ELEMENTARY LOGIC

3–4 credits.

The formal characteristics of logical truth and inference.

Requisites: Sophomore standing and satisfied Quantitative Reasoning (QR) A requirement

Course Designation: Gen Ed – Quantitative Reasoning Part B

Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Ability to think critically about arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

PHILOS 241 – INTRODUCTORY ETHICS

3–4 credits.

Nature of moral problems and of ethical theory, varieties of moral skepticism, practical ethics and the evaluation of social institutions.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 243 – ETHICS IN BUSINESS

3–4 credits.

Case studies of moral issues in business; types or reasons appealed to for settlement.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 304 – TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY: HUMANITIES

3-4 credits.

Examination of selected topics in philosophy.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 320 – PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

3-4 credits.

Focus on various central questions in philosophy of science, potentially including topics from the history of philosophy of science as well as topics important to contemporary philosophy of science. Topics might include: What is science? How does scientific explanation work? How do scientists generate and use evidence? What is the relationship between science and social or political values? What are the aims of science? May also include discussion of specific subdisciplines of philosophy of science, such as philosophy of biology, philosophy of physics, philosophy of medicine, and more.

Requisites: Sophomore standing. Not open to students with credit for PHILOS 220.

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Think critically about philosophical and scientific arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Interpret complex texts accurately and analyze them logically.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Communicate precisely and concisely in both writing and speech.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain several central concepts in science and philosophy of science, such as explanation, confirmation, underdetermination, objectivity, (anti)realism, scientific revolutions, pluralism, reductionism, models, measurement, data, research ethics

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Reflect on their own society's relationship to science or scientific advancements

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Synthesize and understand multiple perspectives in philosophy of science or other science studies disciplines (e.g., history and sociology of science)

Audience: Undergraduate

PHILOS 340 – 19TH CENTURY PHILOSOPHY: IDEALISM AND ITS CRITICS

3 credits.

Examine debates about the legacy of idealism by discussing some of their most familiar interlocutors - Hegel, Nietzsche, Marx - as well as interlocutors who were obscured from history.

Requisites: 3 credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand major nineteenth-century debates about epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Make persuasive philosophical arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Interpret complex texts accurately and analyze them logically.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Practice interpretative charity and intellectual honesty, which includes appropriate attribution to others of their ideas, and recognition and frankness about the limitations of one's own ideas.

Audience: Undergraduate

PHILOS 341 – CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES

3-4 credits.

A philosophical study of some of the major moral issues in contemporary society, such as those concerning abortion, euthanasia, punishment, property, politics, sex, nuclear disarmament, and world hunger.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS/MED HIST 344 – FOOD ETHICS

3 credits.

There are many ethical issues related to food production, distribution, consumption, and policy, including animal welfare, animal rights, vegetarianism and veganism, environmental impact, treatment of workers, prospects for agricultural reform, ethical responsibilities of corporate and industry actors, and labeling issues surrounding the use of genetically engineered foods. Some are more theoretical, such as which individuals affected by agriculture deserve direct moral consideration. Other are more practical, such as how to feed a growing global population. We will begin with a brief survey of ethical theories and methods of ethical reasoning, and then explore, from both personal and policy perspectives, several food ethics issues. Among the aims of the course are the goals of helping you think critically about the ethically relevant impacts of your own food choices and improving your understanding of ethical issues implicated in food systems.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2021**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Think critically about arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Interpret complex texts accurately and analyze them logically.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Think critically about ethical issues.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain the social, economic, and/or environmental dimensions of the sustainability challenge(s) of modern food systems.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Apply sustainability principles and/or frameworks to addressing the challenge of human and environmental harms arising from modern food systems.

Audience: Undergraduate

PHILOS 430 – HISTORY OF ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

3-4 credits.

Various philosophers from the presocratics to the Stoics and Epicureans; particular emphasis on Plato and Aristotle.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2025**PHILOS 432 – HISTORY OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY**

3-4 credits.

Covers various philosophers from the 17th century through early 20th century.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2025**PHILOS/JEWISH/RELIG ST 435 – JEWISH PHILOSOPHY FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY**

3 credits.

A survey of major philosophers and philosophical currents within Judaism from antiquity through the seventeenth century.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Breadth – Humanities Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2018**PHILOS 440 – EXISTENTIALISM**

3-4 credits.

Feeling like life is absurd, that existence is meaningless? Worried that you aren't living authentically? Then a course in Existentialism is just what you need. Study the classic texts of this intellectual movement that expressed despondency about Western civilization, its decadence, and its values. Along the way you'll meet the likes of Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Sartre, Camus, and De Beauvoir.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2023**PHILOS/ENVIR ST 441 – ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS**

3-4 credits.

Adequacy of ethical theories in handling such wrongs as harm to the land, to posterity, to endangered species, and to the ecosystem itself. Exploration of the view that not all moral wrongs involve harm to humans. Inquiry into the notion of the quality of life and the ethics of the "lifeboat" situation.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Summer 2024

PHILOS/JEWISH 442 – MORAL PHILOSOPHY AND THE HOLOCAUST

3 credits.

Selected moral and philosophical issues raised by the Holocaust such as when and whom to rescue; includes issues arising after the annihilation such as forgiveness and reconciliation.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2021

PHILOS 454 – CLASSICAL PHILOSOPHERS

3 credits.

One or more classical philosophers, movements, or problems selected for intensive study.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS/RELIG ST 501 – PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

3-4 credits.

Analysis of religious experience and activity, and examination of principal religious ideas in light of modern psychology, philosophy, science, and anthropology.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 503 – THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

3 credits.

A survey of problems concerning the nature, sources, and limits of human knowledge, including such topics as scepticism, the concept of knowledge, sensory perception, evidence, justified belief, induction.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 504 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN THE THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

3 credits.

One or more special topics in the Theory of Knowledge or one or more major theories of knowledge. Variable content.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS/MED HIST 505 – JUSTICE AND HEALTH CARE

3 credits.

Examines ethical issues in the distribution, financing, and delivery of health care (primarily in the United States). Explores key issues in U.S. health policy and forms the empirical foundation for the rest of the class. Engages in ongoing debates in moral and political philosophy over putative entitlements to health and health care. Investigates the nature, justifiability, and methods of health care rationing (including bedside rationing by doctors) and the myriad issues implicated by the near-universally shared goal of health care cost containment.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2019

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand the conversation about justice and health care as an enterprise incorporating moral philosophy, bioethics, and evidence-based social science

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Identify and clarify diverse moral norms and principles that underlie diverse convictions about justice and health care

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Subject these norms and principles to dispassionate critical reasoning aimed at evaluating the force of underlying reasons for and against them

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Write clear and concise essays subjecting issues concerning justice and health to dispassionate ethical analysis

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Write a clear and concise 15-page essay arguing for a novel thesis concerning justice and health.

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 506 – STUDY ABROAD IN PHILOSOPHY

2-4 credits.

Treatment of a topic in philosophy in a course offered at a university outside the United States.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2001

PHILOS 511 – SYMBOLIC LOGIC

3 credits.

Propositional and predicate logic, with emphasis on metatheory; independence of rules and completeness theorems; discussion of technical and philosophical limitations of classical logic.

Requisites: PHILOS 211**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2022**PHILOS 512 – METHODS OF LOGIC**

3 credits.

Selected topics in philosophical logic and in the various applications of logic to philosophical problems. Variable content.

Requisites: PHILOS 211**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2024**PHILOS/MED HIST 515 – PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS**

3 credits.

Focuses on ethical issues implicated in a population-level approach to disease prevention and health promotion. Explores prominent theoretical approaches to public health ethics and engages with several ethical tensions. Example issues include: the use of coercive or intrusive public health; the justification of paternalistic measures in societies; the extent to which societies should hold individuals responsible for their health conditions; the need to decide who receives life-saving treatment or vaccination; and climate changes and intergenerational justice; ethical issues in international pharmaceutical research.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth – Humanities Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2022**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Understand the conversation about public health ethics as an enterprise incorporating moral philosophy, bioethics, and evidence-based social science.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Identify and clarify diverse moral norms and principles that underlie diverse convictions about public health ethics.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Subject these norms and principles to dispassionate critical reasoning aimed at evaluating the force of underlying reasons for and against them.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Write clear and concise essays subjecting issues of public health ethics to dispassionate ethical analysis.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Write a clear and concise 15-page essay arguing for a novel thesis concerning public health ethics.

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 516 – LANGUAGE AND MEANING

3 credits.

The nature and function of language, theories of meaning, semantic and syntactic paradoxes, proper names, private languages, rules, and linguistic relativity.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2025

PHILOS 520 – PHILOSOPHY OF THE NATURAL SCIENCES

3 credits.

Nature and functions of science; the logic of scientific method; clarification of such concepts as cause, law, theory, probability, determinism, teleology.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 522 – SPECIAL TOPIC

3 credits.

Selected from logic of theory construction, theoretical entities, models, applied mathematics, nature of laws, conventionalism, probability, etc. Variable content.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2020

PHILOS/ENVIR ST 523 – PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEMS OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

3 credits.

Problems raised by genetics, evolutionary theory, and taxonomy: patterns of explanatory force and dispensability of teleology; objectivity of taxonomy.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2021

PHILOS/ECON 524 – PHILOSOPHY AND ECONOMICS

3 credits.

Economics examined from the viewpoint of the philosophy of science. Normative and positive aspects of economic theory. Deterministic and statistical explanation. Arrow impossibility theorem. Radical economics.

Requisites: Sophomore standing and 3 credits of PHILOS or ECON

Course Designation: Breadth – Social Science

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 530 – FREEDOM FATE AND CHOICE

3 credits.

An examination of the philosophical problems associated with free will.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

PHILOS/MED HIST 534 – ETHICS AND THE BRAIN

3 credits.

In-depth analysis of ethical issues arising from the practices and advances of brain science in clinical, research, legal, and consumer contexts. Includes a foundation in ethical theory and philosophical methodology.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Gain knowledge about neurological and neuroscientific technologies and practices.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Gain understanding of major ethical theories and approaches.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Learn to employ philosophical methodology.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Utilize ethical theories and approaches, and philosophical methodologies to critically interrogate the ethical dimensions of the brain sciences.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Develop the skill of writing rigorous, analytical philosophical papers.

Audience: Graduate

6. Expand research beyond material learned in class to incorporate outside scientific and philosophical work.

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 541 – MODERN ETHICAL THEORIES

3 credits.

Ethical theories and problems as discussed in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 543 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN ETHICS

3 credits.

Intensive study of ethical theory, or of one or more ethical theories or moral philosophers of the present or modern period. Variable content.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS/ED POL 545 – PHILOSOPHICAL CONCEPTIONS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

3 credits.

Examination and analysis of conceptions of teaching and learning in classical philosophical works and in contemporary literature in the philosophy of education.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 549 – GREAT MORAL PHILOSOPHERS

3 credits.

Major themes of moral philosophy, from Plato and Aristotle to Bentham and Mill, with critical study of outstanding works.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS/ED POL 550 – PHILOSOPHY OF MORAL EDUCATION

3 credits.

Critical examination of classical and contemporary conceptions of moral education.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 551 – PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

3 credits.

Nature of mind (mental states such as thinking and feeling) and its relation to physical states, with emphasis on recent advances in philosophy and psychology.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 553 – AESTHETICS

3 credits.

Analysis of current philosophies of art and of criticism.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2016

PHILOS 555 – POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Philosophical doctrines involved in justification of political decisions; analysis of some fundamental concepts, e.g. the common good, authority, justice, natural law, natural rights.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

PHILOS 556 – TOPICS IN FEMINISM AND PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Topics from historical and contemporary feminist thought; attention to one or more feminist philosophers, historical movements, philosophical frameworks, or sets of philosophically related issues.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 557 – ISSUES IN SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Specific topics in social and political philosophy such as war and peace, property and industry, individualism and collectivism, freedom and justice.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Social Science Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2024

PHILOS/MED HIST 558 – ETHICAL ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE

3 credits.

Ethical issues apparently created by new biomedical technologies, such as genetic screening, prenatal diagnosis, prolongation of life, treatment of severe birth defects, in vitro fertilization, behavior modification, psychosurgery, and transplantation.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Gain knowledge about ethical issues in healthcare

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Communicate precisely and concisely in both writing and speech

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Think critically about arguments related to ethical issues in health care with the aim of uncovering the truth

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Practice interpretive charity and intellectual honesty, which includes appropriate attribution to others of their ideas, and recognition and frankness about the limitations of one's own ideas

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Independently locate and engage with the latest relevant empirical and philosophical research relevant to evaluating ethical issues in health care

Audience: Graduate

6. Exhibit substantial synthetic and analytic abilities in considering the ethical dimensions of ethical issues in health care

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 560 – METAPHYSICS

3 credits.

Major problems in metaphysics, such as: existence, universals and particulars, space and time, individuals, categories, substance and attribute, necessity.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Either Humanities or Social Science

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 562 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN METAPHYSICS

3 credits.

An intensive study of one or more topics such as: existence, universals and particulars, space and time, individuals, individuation, categories, substance and attribute, necessity, events and processes.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS/AGRONOMY/C&E SOC/MED HIST 565 – THE ETHICS OF MODERN BIOTECHNOLOGY

3 credits.

An in-depth study of a selection of ethical issues arising from the application of modern biotechnology to microorganisms, plants, non-human animals, and human beings. We will aim at a discussion that is informed by empirical research and by work done in ethical theory, political philosophy, and other relevant disciplines, and whose character is rigorous, clear, nuanced, and unbiased.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2021

Learning Outcomes: 1. Think critically about arguments.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Communicate precisely and concisely in both writing and speech.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Exchange reasons about controversial matters respectfully and with the aim of uncovering the truth.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Practice interpretive charity and intellectual honesty, which includes appropriate attribute to others of their ideas, and recognition and frankness about the limitations of one's own ideas.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Independently locate and engage with the latest relevant empirical and philosophical research.

Audience: Graduate

6. Exhibit substantial synthetic and analytic abilities by considering how an application of modern biotechnology ethically compares to the status quo and to other possible alternatives.

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 566 – PHILOSOPHY OF ACTION

3 credits.

Human beings, and perhaps other kinds of creatures, are agents: we can make things happen. We do things intentionally, guide our behavior in light of our reasons, exhibit self-control, and plan for the future. What is it to be an agent, and what makes an event an intentional action? As Wittgenstein put the question, "What is left over if I subtract the fact that my arm goes up from the fact that I raise my arm?" Emphasis on contemporary readings, including Donald Davidson and G.E.M. Anscombe.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**PHILOS 567 – TOPICS IN CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY**

3 credits.

One or more specific topics in contemporary philosophy bridging two or more areas such as epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of language, or moral philosophy.

Requisites: Junior standing and completion of 3 credits in PHILOS**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2021**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Think critically about arguments.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Interpret complex texts accurately and analyze them logically.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Communicate precisely and concisely in both writing and speech.

Audience: Undergraduate

PHILOS/MATH 571 – MATHEMATICAL LOGIC

3 credits.

Basics of logic and mathematical proofs; propositional logic; first order logic; undecidability.

Requisites: (MATH 234 or 375), (MATH 320, 340, 341, or 375), and (MATH 341, 375, 421, 467, or 521), or graduate/professional standing or member of the Pre-Masters Mathematics (Visiting International) Program**Course Designation:** Breadth - Natural Science Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2024**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Recall and state the formal definitions of the first-order logic and their properties used in formal logic (e.g., truth assignments, syntax, semantics, theories, models, etc.).

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Use such definitions to argue certain objects do or do not have the condition or property (e.g., decidability, compactness, undecidability, etc.).

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Recall and state the standard theorems of logic. (e.g., Soundness and Completeness Theorems, the Compactness Theorem, Godel's Incompleteness Theorem, etc.) and recall the arguments for these theorems and the underlying logic of their proofs.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Use concepts from logic in the context of larger arguments (e.g., nonstandard models of arithmetic, etc.).

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Prove or disprove statements related to the above definitions, properties, and theorems using techniques of mathematical argument (direct methods, indirect methods, constructing examples and counterexamples, induction, etc.).

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Convey arguments using English and appropriate mathematical terminology, notation and grammar.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Identify applications of course content in areas of modern research.

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 599 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Independent study as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Spring 2025

PHILOS 681 – SENIOR HONORS THESIS

1-3 credits.

Individual mentored study for seniors completing theses for honors in the major, as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 682 – SENIOR HONORS THESIS

3 credits.

Individual mentored study for seniors completing theses for honors in the major, as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 691 – SENIOR THESIS

3 credits.

Individual mentored study for seniors completing theses, as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2018

PHILOS 692 – SENIOR THESIS

3 credits.

Individual mentored study for seniors completing theses, as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2019

PHILOS 698 – DIRECTED STUDY

2-3 credits.

Independent study as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

PHILOS 699 – DIRECTED STUDY

2-3 credits.

Independent study as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2022

PHILOS 701 – READING SEMINAR

3 credits.

An examination of select topics in philosophy.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 799 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Independent study as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 830 – ADVANCED HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Seminar on the history of philosophy focusing on a period or figure(s).

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 835 – ADVANCED HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Seminar on the history of philosophy focusing on a period or figure(s).

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 902 – PROSEMINAR IN PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Survey of various texts with an emphasis on close reading and developing writing skills.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 903 – SEMINAR: EPISTEMOLOGY

3 credits.

Seminar on epistemology.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 904 – TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

1 credit.

Focuses on the conceptual and ethical recognition of the importance of good teaching, and skills and knowledge drawn from up-to-date pedagogical research. Engages with complex questions about the purposes of higher education and your role in it to better understand your own beliefs, attitudes, and values regarding higher education. Use best practices in teaching and learning in a low-stakes environment to practice and receive feedback on your performance of those skills.

Requisites: Declared in a Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Design curriculum for undergraduate courses in their areas of expertise and competence.

Audience: Graduate

2. Foster ethical and professional conduct.

Audience: Graduate

3. Demonstrate high quality undergraduate instruction in their areas of expertise and competence.

Audience: Graduate

PHILOS 911 – SEMINAR-LOGIC

3 credits.

Seminar on logic.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 916 – SEMINAR-PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE

3 credits.

Seminar on philosophy of language.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2024

PHILOS 920 – SEMINAR-PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE: CAUSATION, EXPLANATION & PROBABILITY

3 credits.

Seminar on philosophy of science.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

PHILOS 941 – SEMINAR-ETHICS

3 credits.

Seminar on ethics.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 951 – SEMINAR-PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

3 credits.

Seminar on philosophy of mind.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 955 – SEMINAR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

3 credits.

Seminar on social and political philosophy.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2022

PHILOS 960 – METAPHYSICS SEMINAR

3 credits.

Seminar on metaphysics.

Requisites: Declared in Philosophy graduate program

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2024

PHILOS 990 – RESEARCH AND THESIS

2-9 credits.

Individual mentored study for graduate students completing theses, as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

PHILOS 999 – INDEPENDENT WORK

2-9 credits.

Individual mentored study for graduate students, as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025