



# Philosophy BA

Philosophy is about hard questions: Are we free? Is there a God? What is knowledge? What should I do with my life? In addressing these questions, philosophy develops your skills in thinking, analysis, writing, argumentation, and critical reading. Studying philosophy makes you more open-minded; you will encounter the ideas of people who have lived lives very different from yours, and you will be impressed by them. Philosophy is enormously interesting and rewarding. If anyone ever asks you “Why study philosophy?” You will answer “Why haven’t you started yet?”

## Career Outlook

Major companies increasingly value the analytical thinking taught in philosophy programs, and philosophy majors consistently outperform other majors in standardized test scores (e.g., GRE, LSAT, and MCAT) and mid-career earnings. Thus, a philosophy BA provides excellent preparation for many different careers.

An undergraduate philosophy major is an ideal choice for students interested in law school, bioethics careers, business school, and other professional degree programs.

## Future Career Options

- Career Counselor
- Human Resources, Employee Relations, and Benefits Coordinator
- Human Rights Officer
- Interpersonal Consulting
- Journalist
- Lawyer/Paralegal
- Mediation/Conflict Management
- Mental Health Counselor
- Nonprofit Professional/Community Affairs Liaison
- Patient Care Advocate
- Secondary and Higher Education Teacher

## Skills Developed By Degree Completion

- Read and engage critically with a broad range of historical and contemporary philosophy
- Understand moral theories and apply them to ethical and practical problems
- Understand methods and formal reasoning tools and apply them using research skills
- Apply philosophical concepts, analytical skills, and critical thinking to other disciplines
- Create, write, present, and defend own philosophical views clearly

Successful alumni have gone on to fulfill many of the opportunities above. Additional possibilities are taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Contact an advisor to discuss additional future career options.

# IT STARTS RIGHT NOW

This is a sample academic map for the courses to take each academic semester/session. This map is not a substitute for academic advisement. Contact your advisor when making final selections.



## UNIVERSITY STUDIES

University studies is required for all first-year students and those with less than 24 credit hours.



## MILESTONE COURSES

Milestone courses should be taken in the order shown to ensure you stay on a timely and accurate path toward graduation.



## SUMMER AND INTERSESSION COURSES

Don't forget that summers and winter breaks are a way to fast-track your route to degree completion – and lighten your load during fall and spring!

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## 2024-2025 4-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

### Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Year

1

#### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

ENGL 1100: First-Year Writing (3)  
FGN LANG 1001: Language and Culture I (5)  
PHIL 1110: Western Philosophy I (3)  
GEN ED CORE: Mathematics Proficiency (3)  
INTDSC 1003: University Studies (1)

#### SPRING SEMESTER (17 credit hours)

FGN LANG 1002: Language and Culture II (5)  
PHIL 1111: Western Philosophy II (3)  
GEN ED CORE: Communication Proficiency (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Life/Natural Sciences (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Social Sciences (3)

Year

2

#### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

FGN LANG 2101: Language and Culture III (3)  
PHIL 1030: Present Moral Problems (3)  
GEN ED CORE: Information Literacy (3)  
GEN ED CORE: US History or Government (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Life/Natural Sciences (3)

#### SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

PHIL 1160: Critical Thinking (3) or PHIL 3360: Formal Logic (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Life/Natural Sciences (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Social Sciences (3)  
Cultural Diversity (3)  
Elective (3)

Year

3

#### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

ENGL 3100: Junior-Level Writing (3)  
PHIL 3378: Philosophy of the Mind (3) or PHIL 3380: Philosophy of Science (3)  
PHIL XXXX: Elective (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Social Sciences (3)  
Elective (3)

#### SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

PHIL 4440: Theories and Knowledge (3) or PHIL 4445: Metaphysics (3)  
PHIL XXXX: Philosophy Elective (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)

Year

4

#### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

PHIL XXXX: Philosophy Elective (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)

#### SPRING SEMESTER (16 credit hours)

PHIL 4XXX: Philosophy Capstone (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)  
Elective (3)

Check once completed

