Philosophy

Paul Weirich, Chair
College of Arts and Science
438 Strickland Hall
(573) 882-2871
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http://philosophy.missouri.edu/

The Department of Philosophy offers a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, including courses on applied ethics, ethical theory, epistemology, logic, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of language, philosophy of religion, philosophy of science, philosophy of biology, decision theory, political philosophy, non-Western philosophy, and the history of Western philosophy. The study of philosophy is not only fascinating in its own right but practical too, since it encourages the development of marketable intellectual abilities. These include the abilities to read, think, and write about conceptually complex and abstract material, and to construct and analyze elaborate chains of reasoning. Philosophy majors go on to pursue careers in such fields as law, medicine, business, the non-profit sector, the church, and academia.

The department offers BA, BS, MA, and PhD degrees in philosophy, as well as an undergraduate minor.

Faculty

Professor R. N. Johnson**, A. Melnyk**, P. L. Vallentyne**, P. Weirich**
Assistant Professor M. Heckel*
Associate Professor Emeritus A. von Schönborn*

* Graduate Faculty Member - membership is required to teach graduate-level courses, chair master's thesis committees, and serve on doctoral examination and dissertation committees.

** Doctoral Faculty Member - membership is required to chair doctoral examination or dissertation committees. Graduate faculty membership is a prerequisite for Doctoral faculty membership.

Undergraduate

- BA in Philosophy (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsandscience/philosophy/ba-philosophy)
- BS in Philosophy (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsandscience/philosophy/bs-philosophy)
- Minor in Philosophy (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsandscience/philosophy/minor-philosophy)

Double and Dual Majors

A philosophy major can be paired with a major in another department in the College of Arts and Science (double major) or in some other College (dual major). Students must meet the major requirements of both departments. The program for each department must be approved by the advisor for that department.

Departmental Honors

To earn a BA (or BS) with Departmental Honors in philosophy, a student must achieve at least a 3.3 GPA in all courses, and a 3.7 GPA in all philosophy courses; meet all the standard requirements for the regular philosophy BA (or BS); take PHIL 4998 Honors I in Philosophy, and PHIL 4999 Honors II in Philosophy, writing a satisfactory senior thesis normally of 3,000 to 9,000 words under the guidance of a faculty member who has consented to work with the student; and pass an oral examination on the thesis before a committee of three members of the philosophy faculty.

Graduate

- MA in Philosophy (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsandscience/philosophy/ma-philosophy)
- PhD in Philosophy (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsandscience/philosophy/phd-philosophy)

About the Program

The Department of Philosophy provides excellent training in both research and teaching. The nationally and internationally renowned faculty have expertise in the core areas of philosophy, with particular strengths in epistemology, ethics, philosophy of mind, and political philosophy, and also in various specialties, including philosophy of biology, experimental philosophy, and the foundations of decision and game theory. With 11 full time faculty and around 25 graduate students, we offer a supportive community for pursuit of the MA and the PhD, with a broad range of courses, rigorous training, attentive, high-quality advising, the opportunity to develop a professional network through our series of colloquia and conferences, and help in every aspect of job seeking. We give students the advice and support they need to present their work at regional and national conferences, and to publish in professional journals, before they begin to look for jobs. We also give our students extensive training and experience in teaching, including assistantships with award-winning teachers.

Although we award an MA degree, we only admit students to our PhD program (with the MA obtained in the process).

We receive about 50 applications per year and offer funding to about 10-15% of these. The normal ranges of scores for students we admit are: GRE Verbal 158-170, GRE Quantitative 147-166, and GPA in the major (normally philosophy) 3.9. Our decisions are also based on the quality of the writing sample, letters of reference, and other factors, such as degree of fit with the Department.

Professional Development

Presentation of research at professional meetings and publication by graduate students is strongly encouraged. Prominent philosophers from other institutions visit the Department yearly for talks and symposia. Twice yearly, the Florence G. Kline endowment sponsors an intensive workshop at which papers on a special topic are presented by leading figures in philosophy.

Financial Aid

Fellowships and teaching assistantships are available to qualified students. Applications for fellowships must meet the Graduate School
deadlines, usually in January. Applications for teaching assistantships must meet the Department deadline of January 15.

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Director of Graduate Studies: Kenneth Boyce

PHIL 1000: The Big Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy
Introduction to traditional philosophical problems and methods of philosophical inquiry. Consideration given to different philosophical theories on the nature of reality, human beings, nature and God; knowledge and how it is acquired; values and social issues.

Credit Hours: 3
PHIL 1000 - MOTR PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy

PHIL 1000H: The Big Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy - Honors
Introduction to traditional philosophical problems and methods of philosophical inquiry. Consideration given to different philosophical theories on the nature of reality, human beings, nature and God; knowledge and how it is acquired; values and social issues.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Honors eligibility required

PHIL 1100: The Difference Between Right and Wrong: An Introduction to Ethics
Introduction to different philosophical theories regarding when acts are morally right rather than wrong; when things are good rather than bad; nature of the "good life", nature of ethical reasoning and justification.

Credit Hours: 3
PHIL 1100 - MOTR PHIL 102: Introduction to Ethics

PHIL 1100H: The Difference Between Right and Wrong: An Introduction to Ethics - Honors
Introduction to different philosophical theories regarding when acts are morally right rather than wrong; when things are good rather than bad; nature of the "good life", nature of ethical reasoning and justification.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Honors eligibility required

PHIL 1150: Introductory Bioethics
This course approaches moral problems in biomedical and scientific research from a philosophical perspective. First, we’ll familiarize ourselves with ethics and political philosophy. Then we’ll study the ethical issues that arise in connection with a series of issues, including research involving human and animal subjects, eugenics, the human genome project, cloning and stem cell research. By thinking about these issues, we learn how to think critically about particular moral quandaries, as well as to uncover and examine some of our deepest moral commitments.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 1159: Blind Spots
The human mind is systematically biased towards illusion, distortion, and error. Failing to recognize one’s own biases, moreover, is a bias in itself - the so-called Blind Spot Bias. PHIL 1159 is an online philosophy course that will provide a comprehensive introduction to cognitive biases, and to the skills that can be used to identify and negotiate their influences on patterns of cognition and behavior. The course will be structured around case studies of particular biases, such as confirmation bias, probability neglect, and overconfidence. The course will employ a variety of instructional materials including popular science articles, essays written by philosophers and psychologists, and video lectures by the instructors and by other researchers. Assignments include discussion board posts, a few short essays, and the creation of argument maps using MindMup, a free, web-based platform developed by researchers at Princeton University. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 1200: How to Think: Logic and Reasoning for Everyday Life
Methods of analyzing and evaluating arguments of all types. Uses both informal and formal techniques. Identifies informal fallacies and introduces elementary symbolic logic.

Credit Hours: 3
PHIL 1200 - MOTR PHIL 101: Introduction to Logic

PHIL 1200H: How to Think: Logic and Reasoning for Everyday Life - Honors
Methods of analyzing and evaluating arguments of all types. Uses both informal and formal techniques. Identifies informal fallacies and introduces elementary symbolic logic.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Honors eligibility required

PHIL 2005: Topics in Philosophy-Humanities
Organized study of philosophical issues to which no regular course is devoted. Subjects and earnable credit may vary from semester to semester.

Credit Hour: 1-3

PHIL 2010: The Philosophy of Film
(same as FILMS_VS 2010). Philosophical problems having to do with film. Topic may include the nature of films, the differences between fiction and documentary film, ethical issues with film and filmmaking.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2100: Philosophy: East and West
(same as S_A_ST 2100). Compares the interpretation and role of philosophical concepts such as experience, reason, permanence, change, immortality, soul, God, etc., in Indian, Chinese and European traditions.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2150: Philosophy of Race
This course surveys developments in the philosophy of race. We will examine the ordinary conception of race and consider criticisms of it. Theorists in the field generally hold the ordinary notion of race in disrepute. The line of inquiry then becomes “What does ‘race’ denote?” and “Why”? In response, we will disambiguate race from closely associated concepts such as ethnicity, culture, nation, and class as
part of a sustained investigation into the relationship between race and racism. Toward the end of the course, we will more directly reflect on implications of the inequality that race seems to track with a focus on mass incarceration and reparations. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: PHIL 1000, PHIL 1100, or PHIL 1200

PHIL 2200: Philosophy and Intellectual Revolution
Examines such revolutions as the Copernican, Darwinian, Marxian and Freudian. What are the new views? How is our place in the universe affected? What puzzles arise in replacing old by new views?

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 2300: Philosophy and Human Nature
Philosophical exploration and examination of theories of human nature with reference to relevant developments in such sciences as biology, psychology, and economics.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 2350: The Meaning of Life
Does life have meaning, or is it essentially meaningless, absurd? This course will examine some of answers philosophers have given to this and related questions.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2400: Ethics and the Professions
Examination of ethical issues confronted by members of different professions such as medicine, law, business, journalism and engineering.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 2410: Philosophies of War and Peace
(same as PEA_ST 2410). Moral issues about the recourse to war by the nation and the individual's obligations to participate. The nature of peace, social and personal. Special attention to the Vietnam War and the nuclear age.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2410W: Philosophies of War and Peace - Writing Intensive
(same as PEA_ST 2410W). Moral issues about the recourse to war by the nation and the individual's obligations to participate. The nature of peace, social and personal. Special attention to the Vietnam War and the nuclear age.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2420: Ethical Issues in Business
Major theories of moral obligation and justice and their application to business practices. Corporate responsibility, government regulation, investment and production, advertisement, the environment, preferential hiring, etc. through case studies, legal opinions and philosophical analysis.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2430: Contemporary Moral Issues
Review of the major contemporary ethical theories and their contribution to the resolution of major social issues such as euthanasia, suicide, abortion, capital punishment, violence and war. Emphasis on nature, interests, and rights of persons. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 2440: Medical Ethics
Considers moral issues posed by developments in biological sciences and medical technology. Topics may include: genetic engineering, abortion and euthanasia, distribution of health care.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 2500: Philosophy and Gender
(same as WGST 2500). A critical examination of central ideas and themes in feminist philosophical thought. Topics may include: sex, marriage, parenthood, reproduction, body image, pornography, prostitution.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 2500H: Philosophy and Gender - Honors
A critical examination of central ideas and themes in feminist philosophical thought. Topics may include: sex, marriage, parenthood, reproduction, body image, pornography, prostitution.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Honors eligibility required

PHIL 2600: Rational Decisions
Principles for making decisions in a rational way. Special attention to principles that use probabilities and utilities. Some discussion of decisions made in conjunction with other people, and decisions made for other people. Math Reasoning Proficiency Course.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing and grade of C or better in MATH 1050, MATH 1100, MATH 1160, MATH 1400, or MATH 1500

PHIL 2700: Elementary Logic

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing and grade of C or better in MATH 1050, MATH 1100, MATH 1160, MATH 1400, or MATH 1500

PHIL 2820: Minds, Brains, and Machines
(same as PSYCH 2820 and LINGST 2820). Cognitive science is a many-splendored thing. It draws on a variety of disciplines, including psychology, neuroscience, computer science, linguistics, anthropology, and philosophy. The purpose of this course is to introduce the central
questions of cognitive science, the conceptual and empirical tools used to investigate those questions, and some of the answers that have emerged so far. After an initial overview of the foundations of the cognitive-scientific enterprise as a whole, we will see what particular sectors of it have to say about mental capacities such as language, categorization, reasoning, social cognition, and consciousness.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: PSYCH 1000

PHIL 2850: Minds and Morals: An Introduction to Moral Psychology  
Moral psychology is the interdisciplinary study of how we reason and act morally. This course is a systematic introduction to the field, drawing on research from both psychology and philosophy. Topics include competing theories of moral judgment, the situationist challenge to virtue ethics, and the role of deliberation in moral agency.

Credit Hours: 3  
Recommended: PHIL 1100, PHIL 2820

PHIL 2900: Environmental Ethics  
Environmental Ethics explores the ethical, ecological, and policy dimensions of a range of issues such as climate change, land and natural resource management, sustainability, animal rights, hunting and fishing, ecofeminism, property rights, and environmental justice. Graded on A-F basis only.

Credit Hours: 3  
Recommended: PHIL 1100

PHIL 3000: Ancient Western Philosophy  
(same as AMS 3025). Philosophical thought on nature, knowledge, the gods, human life and society, from Thales to Augustine. Emphasis on Plato and Aristotle. The relevance of the ancients to contemporary life.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3100: Medieval Philosophy  
Major thinkers from St. Augustine through 14th century Ockhamists.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3200: Modern Philosophy  
Surveys critical and speculative thinking of modern period from Descartes to Kant in relation to scientific, religious and social movements.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3200W: Modern Philosophy - Writing Intensive  
Surveys critical and speculative thinking of modern period from Descartes to Kant in relation to scientific, religious and social movements.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3400: 19th Century Philosophy  
A careful and sympathetic study of some of the major thinkers of this period, notably Kierkegaard and Nietzsche.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3500: Existentialism  
The nature of human existence, the meaning of life, the relation of the individual to nature, society, and any gods that may be, according to Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Sartre, de Beauvoir, Camus and others. Students are encouraged to come to grips with the issues in relation to their own lives.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3600: 20th Century Philosophy  
The course will be a survey of some of the notable philosophers/thinkers whose contributions have been made in the twentieth century.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3700: Selected Modern Philosophers  
Advanced study of a particular philosopher or a number of philosophers from the same school in the modern period. May be taken twice for credit with permission of the department.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3800: Selected Contemporary Philosophers  
Advanced study of a particular contemporary philosopher or philosophers. May be taken twice for credit with permission of the department.

Credit Hours: 3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 3800: Topics in Philosophy-General  
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects and earnable credit may vary from semester to semester.

Credit Hour: 1-3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing and two courses in Philosophy, or instructor's consent; departmental consent for repetition

PHIL 4005: Topics in Philosophy-Humanities  
Organized study of selected topics. Subjects and earnable credit may vary from semester to semester. Departmental consent for repetition.

Credit Hour: 1-3  
Prerequisites: sophomore standing  
Recommended: two courses in Philosophy, or instructor's consent
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 4100</td>
<td>Philosophy of Language</td>
<td>(same as LINGST 4100; cross-leveled with PHIL 7100, LINGST 7100). Examination of contemporary views of the relationship between language, minds, and the world.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>sophomore standing and PHIL 2700</td>
<td>one other course in Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Advanced Logic</td>
<td>(same as LINGST 4110; cross-leveled with PHIL 7110, LINGST 7110). Presents the method of truth trees for sentence and predicate logic. Examines proofs concerning the decidability, soundness, and completeness of formal systems. Emphasizes the theory of formal systems. Math Reasoning Proficiency Course.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>sophomore standing and PHIL 2700</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4120</td>
<td>Selected Topics in Logic</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7120). Possible topics include elementary set theory and modal logic, the logic of possibility and necessity.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4130</td>
<td>Probability and Induction</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7130). This course studies probability, its various interpretations, and its basic principles. It identifies forms of reasoning that establish the probability of a conclusion. The methods of reasoning it treats are at the heart of science and practical affairs.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4150</td>
<td>Formal Semantics</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7150). The course provides a systematic introduction to the semantics of natural languages, using the tools of formal logic. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing and one of the following classes: PHIL 2700, PHIL 4110, or ENGLISH 4640.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4200</td>
<td>Metaphysics</td>
<td>Metaphysics studies what there is and how things are, most generally speaking. Topics may include realism versus nominalism, substance and attribute, facts, modality, identity and causality.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4210</td>
<td>Philosophy of Mind</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7210). Considers theories and arguments in contemporary philosophy of mind, focusing on the nature of mental states, their relation to brain states and the plausibility of various materialist theories of the mind.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 4220</td>
<td>Philosophy of Religion</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 4210). Considers basis for and nature of religious beliefs.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>One course in Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4300</td>
<td>Epistemology</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7300). An examination of contemporary philosophical theories concerning the nature, sources and limits of knowledge and justified belief.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 4400</td>
<td>Philosophy of Science</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7400). Why believe the scientific world-view? What, if anything, is the scientific method? Are today's theories really superior to past theories? Examines contemporary philosophical answers to such questions.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 4410</td>
<td>Philosophy of History</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7210). Readings from classic and contemporary philosophers of history. Problems about nature and limits of historical knowledge; relation between history and other disciplines; the existence, nature, and kinds of historical laws.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 4420</td>
<td>Philosophy of Biology</td>
<td>A survey of philosophical problems arising from consideration of evolutionary theory and the biological sciences. Topics may include reductionism, sociobiology, biological laws, and epistemic problems relating to evolutionary theory.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 4500</td>
<td>Theories of Ethics</td>
<td>(cross-leveled with PHIL 7500). Normative and meta-ethical theories. Topics may include the rationality and objectivity of morality, the meaning of moral language, the differences between deontological, utilitarian and virtue theories.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sophomore standing and either PHIL 2700 or PHIL 4110</td>
<td>Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, PHIL 3200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PHIL 4600: Political and Social Philosophy
(same as PEA_ST 4600; cross-leveled with PHIL 4210). Contemporary and/or historical theories of justice and the state. Utilitarianism, Liberalism, Libertarianism, Marxism, Communitarianism and Feminism may be among the views covered.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing
Recommended: two courses in Philosophy

PHIL 4610: Philosophy of Law
(cross-leveled with PHIL 7610). What is law? Are there pre- or trans-legal rights? Is punishment justifiable? How can judicial decisions be justified? What are the relations between law and morality?

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 4620: Marxism
(cross-leveled with PHIL 7620). A philosophical examination of (a) the notion of critique as seen in Marx's early and middle writings, and (b) specific topics by such authors as Lenin, Lukacs and Plekhanov.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing
Recommended: two courses in Philosophy

PHIL 4700: Aesthetics
(cross-leveled with PHIL 7700). Typical components of art; theories of art as representation, form, expression; relation of art to value.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 4700W: Aesthetics-Writing Intensive
(cross-leveled with PHIL 7700). Typical components of art; theories of art as representation, form, expression; relation of art to value.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 4800: Asian Philosophy
(same as S_A_ST 4800; cross-leveled with PHIL 7800). This course traces the origins of Indian and Chinese philosophical world views. Included are the major ideas in Hindu, Jaina, and Buddhist thought in India, and Taoism and Confucianism in China. Emphasis is placed on the diverse, assimilative, and pragmatic nature of Indian thought and its impact on contemporary Asian philosophy.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 4810: Philosophy of India
(same as S_A_ST 4810; cross-leveled with PHIL 7810). General development of Indian philosophy.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: sophomore standing

PHIL 4850: Special Readings in Philosophy
Regular individual meetings with an instructor as part of studying a sequence of readings, comparable in difficulty and number to readings assigned in a regularly-offered 4000-level course. Only by special arrangement with an instructor.

Credit Hour: 1-3
Prerequisites: junior standing

PHIL 4950: Senior Seminar in Philosophy
A capstone course required of and only open to senior Philosophy majors. Course content will vary, depending on the professor teaching the course.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: senior Philosophy major

PHIL 4950W: Senior Seminar in Philosophy - Writing Intensive
A capstone course required of and only open to senior Philosophy majors. Course content will vary, depending on the professor teaching the course.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: senior Philosophy major

PHIL 4998: Honors I in Philosophy
Special work for Honors candidates.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: junior standing

PHIL 4999: Honors II in Philosophy
Special work for Honors candidates.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: junior standing

PHIL 7100: Philosophy of Language
(same as LINGST 7100; cross-leveled with PHIL 4100, LINGST 4100). Examination of contemporary views of the relationship between language, minds, and the world.

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: PHIL 2700 or instructor's consent
Recommended: Some work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000 or PHIL 3200

PHIL 7110: Advanced Logic
(same as LINGST 7110; cross-leveled with PHIL 4110, LINGST 4110). Presents the method of truth trees for sentence and predicate logic. Examines proofs concerning the decidability, soundness, and completeness of formal systems. Emphasizes the theory of formal systems.

Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7120: Selected Topics in Logic
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4120). Possible topics include elementary set theory and modal logic, the logic of possibility and necessity.

Credit Hours: 3
Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 2700 or PHIL 7110

PHIL 7130: Probability and Induction
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4130). This course studies probability, its various interpretations, and its basic principles. It identifies forms of reasoning that establish the probability of a conclusion. The methods of reasoning it treats are at the heart of science and practical affairs. Prerequisites: PHIL 2700
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7150: Formal Semantics
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4150). The course provides a systematic introduction to the semantics of natural languages, using the tools of formal logic.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Basic proficiency in first order logic

PHIL 7210: Philosophy of Mind
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4210). Considers theories and arguments in contemporary philosophy of mind, focusing on the nature of mental states, their relation to brain states and the plausibility of various materialist theories of the mind.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7220: Philosophy of Religion
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4220). Considers basis for and nature of religious beliefs. Philosophical approaches to religion, cultural implications of religion, psychoanalysis and religion, mysticism and myth.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7300: Epistemology
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4300). An examination of contemporary philosophical theories concerning the nature, sources and limits of knowledge and justified belief.
Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: Previous work in PHIL 1000, PHIL 3000, or PHIL 3200

PHIL 7400: Philosophy of Science
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4400). Why believe the scientific world-view? What, if anything, is the scientific method? Are today’s theories really superior to the past theories? Examines contemporary philosophical answers to such questions.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7410: Philosophy of History
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4410). Readings from classic and contemporary philosophers of history. Problems about nature and limits of historical knowledge; relation between history and other disciplines; the existence, nature, and kinds of historical laws.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7500: Theories of Ethics
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4500). Normative and meta-ethical theories. Topics may include the rationality and objectivity of morality, the meaning of moral language, the differences between deontological, utilitarian and virtue theories.
Credit Hours: 3
Recommended: one course in Philosophy

PHIL 7600: Political and Social Philosophy
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4600, PEA_ST 4600). Contemporary and/or historical theories of justice and the state. Utilitarianism, Liberalism, Libertarianism, Marxism, Communitarianism and Feminism may be among the views covered.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7610: Philosophy of Law
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4610). What is law? Are there pre- or trans-legal rights? Is punishment justifiable? How can judicial decisions be justified? What are the relations between law and morality?
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7620: Marxism
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4620). A philosophical examination of (a) the notion of critique as seen in Marx’s early and middle writings, and (b) specific topics by such authors as Lenin, Lukacs and Plekhanov.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7700: Aesthetics
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4700). Typical components of art; theories of art as representation, form, expression; relation of art to value.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7810: Philosophy of India
(cross-leveled with PHIL 4810, S_A_ST 4810). General development of Indian philosophy.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 7850: Special Readings in Philosophy
Special Readings in Philosophy.
Credit Hour: 1-3

PHIL 8090: Research in Philosophy
Research not leading to thesis. Graded S/U only.
Credit Hour: 1-99

PHIL 8100: Protoseminar in Philosophy
Introduction to graduate level work in philosophy. Required of all students entering the program, in the first year. An intensive workshop focused on skills rather than any particular philosophical content.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: restricted to first year graduate students

PHIL 8210: Teaching of Philosophy I
Seminar meetings on course design, teaching methods, the evaluation of teaching, grading, instructor obligations, and teaching aids. Some
individualized instruction, including help preparing for and assessing the effectiveness of practice teaching.

**Credit Hour:** 1  
**Prerequisites:** graduate philosophy students

**PHIL 8300: Dissertation Seminar**  
The course will address writing and time management for Ph.D. students writing a dissertation. Also discussed will be preparation for the academic job market in philosophy, especially the development of an application dossier. Graded on S/U basis only.

**Credit Hour:** 1  
**Prerequisites:** Philosophy Ph.D. student

**PHIL 8510: Metaphysics: A Survey**  
A graduate-level survey of central issues in metaphysics. May be repeated up to 6 hours of credit.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**PHIL 8520: Philosophy of Mind: A Survey**  
A graduate-level survey of central issues in the philosophy of mind.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**PHIL 8530: Epistemology: A Survey**  
A graduate-level survey of central issues is epistemology.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**PHIL 8540: Philosophy of Language: A Survey**  
A graduate-level survey of central issues in philosophy of language.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**PHIL 9001: Topics in Philosophy**  
Organized study of selected topics. Need departmental consent for repetition.

**Credit Hour:** 1-99  
**Prerequisites:** instructor’s consent

**PHIL 9030: Topics in Modern Philosophy: 17th-19th Centuries**  
Interpretation and evaluation of philosophical debates from the 17th to the 19th centuries. These will be addressed in relation to their historical context and current philosophical problems.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** Graduate Philosophy Student

**PHIL 9050: Plato**  
Advanced studies in Plato; emphasis on recent scholarship.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9060: Aristotle**  
Advanced studies in Aristotle; emphasis on recent scholarship.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9090: Research in Philosophy**  
Work toward preparation of thesis or dissertation. Graded on a S/U basis only.

**Credit Hour:** 1-99  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy students

**PHIL 9110: The Rationalists**  
Interpretation and evaluation of major works of Descartes, Leibniz, and/or Spinoza in relation to their historical context and current philosophical problems.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9120: The Empiricists**  
Epistemological and metaphysical doctrines of Locke, Berkeley and Hume.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9130: Kant**  
Critique of Pure Reason: historical context, meaning and cohesion of its claims, critical assessment of them.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9240: Russell and Wittgenstein**  
Each initially defends, but then rejects logical atomism. Metaphysical and epistemological themes of such intellectual phases and shifts of one or both philosophers.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9320: Social and Political Philosophy**  
Topics of current interest in social and political philosophy. generally one of the following: social contract theory, utilitarianism, voting procedures, or convention.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** PHIL 4600 or instructor’s consent and graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9350: History of Eastern Ethics**  
Historical survey of major eastern ethical theories. Explores broad range of ethical theories developed in Asia: Hindu and Buddhist in India; Toaism and Confucianism in China; and Zen in Japan.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** graduate Philosophy student

**PHIL 9510: Decision Theory**  
Principles for making rational decisions, including principles of expected utility theory, game theory, and social choice theory. A survey of basic ideas and an introduction to selected research topics.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Prerequisites:** PHIL 4110; graduate Philosophy student
PHIL 9520: Ethical Theory
Contemporary theories of the right and the good. Metaethical topics such as moral language, reasoning, and justification.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9610: Metaphysics
Theories of the categories and structures of reality, e.g., appearance and reality, causality, space and time, God, Nature, the human being.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9710: Philosophy of Mind and Psychology
Survey of important recent work in contemporary philosophy of mind and psychology. Graduate seminar.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9720: Foundations of Cognitive Science
Examination of philosophical questions arising in cognitive science concerning, for instance, the nature of computation and representation, inter-disciplinary relations, the nature of cognitive scientific explanation, and its relation to folk psychological explanation.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9820: Epistemology
Knowledge and opinion, the types, sources, and extent of knowledge, according to a variety of views.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9830: Philosophy of Science
Examines central issues in general philosophy of science concerning the scientific method and the role in it of observation, the nature of rational theory-choice, progress, and the status of theories postulating unobservables.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9840: Philosophy of Language
Topics of current interest in the philosophy of language.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: Graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9850: Philosophy of Biology
Philosophical problems relating to the life sciences, with attention given especially to explanation and reductionism in biology.
Credit Hours: 3

PHIL 987: Seminar in Logic
Topics of current interest in logic. Generally one of the following: inductive logic, set theory, conditionals, epistemic logic, or formal semantics.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: PHIL 4110 graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9901: Seminar in Philosophy
Special topics. May be repeated for credit.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student

PHIL 9991: Seminar in Philosophy
Special topics. May be repeated for credit.
Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisites: graduate Philosophy student