

PHILOSOPHY (B.A.)

Philosophy is the rational inquiry into our most basic beliefs and values. Socrates famously said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." This examination involves seeking answers to questions like these:

How should I live? • What is truth? • How is the mind related to the body? • Do we have free will? • What is justice? • How should we make ethical judgments when there seems to be no clear right or wrong answer? • Are we more likely to know what is real through reason or through the senses? • How am I related to the world and to others? • What is the value of art? • How does technology mediate our engagement with the world and with others?

A philosopher's examination into these issues is grounded on evidence, reasoning, and argument. If you are a curious person who enjoys intellectual challenges, then you may find a philosophy classroom invigorating.

What many people do not know about studying philosophy is that it is practically valuable. How so? Philosophy students acquire the following set of cognitive transferable skills, which are valuable in many professions within the 21st-century knowledge economy:

- Logical reasoning
- Problem solving and creative thinking
- Clear and persuasive writing
- Abstract conceptualization
- Mental dexterity
- The ability to develop and assess different perspectives and frameworks

Common professions for philosophy majors:

- Technology
- Business
- Law
- Government
- Advertising
- Journalism
- Sales
- Human Resources
- Activism
- Teaching
- Public Policy

120 credits of coursework is required for the baccalaureate degree with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA, and a minimum 2.0 major GPA.

Program Requirements Overview

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|-------|------------|
| General Education Requirements | | 42 |
| World Languages and Cultures Requirements | | 3-9 |
| Major Requirements | | 36 |
| Free Electives ¹ | | 39-33 |
| Total Credits | | 120 |

¹ Graduate Swing Courses will count toward free electives for students in combined (UG/GR) programs.

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|---|-----------|
| Required Courses | | |
| <i>Logic</i> | | |
| PHIL 264 | Critical Reasoning and Arguments | 3 |
| <i>Value Theory</i> | | |
| Complete 2 courses from the following: | | |
| PHIL 200 | History of Ethics | |
| PHIL 212 | Social and Political Philosophy | |
| PHIL 260 | Philosophies of Art | |
| PHIL 290 | Special Topics in Fields in Philosophy | |
| <i>Knowledge and Reality</i> | | 6 |
| Complete 2 courses from the following: | | |
| PHIL 266 | Philosophy of Science | |
| PHIL 270 | Philosophy of Mind | |
| PHIL 310 | Knowledge, Belief and Truth | |
| PHIL 312 | Existence and Reality | |
| PHIL 390 | Special Topics in Fields of Philosophy | |
| <i>History</i> | | 3 |
| Complete 1 course from the following: | | |
| PHIL 331 | History of Philosophy: Ancient Philosophy | |
| PHIL 333 | History of Philosophy: Modern Philosophy | |
| PHIL 395 | Special Topics in Periods of Movements | |
| <i>Traditions in Contemporary Philosophy</i> | | 3 |
| Complete 1 course from the following: | | |
| PHIL 231 | American Philosophy | |
| PHIL 337 | Analytic Philosophy | |
| PHIL 339 | Contemporary Continental Philosophy | |
| PHIL 397 | Special Topics in Periods of Movements | |
| <i>Seminar</i> | | |
| PHIL 424 | Seminar in Philosophy | 3 |
| Major Electives | | 12 |
| Complete 4 courses from the list below. Only 1 course may be at the 100 level. | | |
| Total Credits | | 36 |

Major Electives

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------|----------------------------|---------|
| PHIL 100 | Introduction to Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 102 | Ethics | 3 |
| PHIL 106 | Logic | 3 |

| | | |
|----------|---|------|
| PHIL 200 | History of Ethics | 3 |
| PHIL 202 | Ethics and Business | 3 |
| PHIL 204 | Philosophical Issues in Biomedical Ethics | 3 |
| PHIL 206 | Philosophical Issues in Law and Justice | 3 |
| PHIL 212 | Social and Political Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 214 | Ethics of Love, Sex and Desire | 3 |
| PHIL 231 | American Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 233 | Contemporary Philosophers | 3 |
| PHIL 237 | Asian Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 239 | Existentialism | 3 |
| PHIL 260 | Philosophies of Art | 3 |
| PHIL 262 | Philosophy of Religion | 3 |
| PHIL 266 | Philosophy of Science | 3 |
| PHIL 270 | Philosophy of Mind | 3 |
| PHIL 271 | Philosophy of Sport | 3 |
| PHIL 280 | Philosophy of Technology | 3 |
| PHIL 288 | Introduction to Cognitive Science | 3 |
| PHIL 290 | Special Topics in Fields in Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 295 | Special Topics in Periods and Movements | 3 |
| PHIL 310 | Knowledge, Belief and Truth | 3 |
| PHIL 312 | Existence and Reality | 3 |
| PHIL 316 | Philosophy of Law | 3 |
| PHIL 324 | Legal Reasoning | 3 |
| PHIL 330 | Philosophy and Death | 3 |
| PHIL 331 | History of Philosophy: Ancient Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 333 | History of Philosophy: Modern Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 337 | Analytic Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 339 | Contemporary Continental Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 376 | Feminist Jurisprudence | 3 |
| PHIL 390 | Special Topics in Fields of Philosophy | 3 |
| PHIL 395 | Special Topics in Periods of Movements | 3 |
| PHIL 397 | Special Topics in Periods of Movements | 3 |
| PHIL 446 | Independent Study in Philosophy | 3-12 |

General Education Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill General Education categories. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/programs/general-education-requirements-ba-bs/>)

| Code | Title | Credits |
|------------------------------------|--|---------|
| A. New Student Seminar | | |
| | Complete a 1 credit New Student Seminar | 1 |
| C. Communication | | |
| | 1. Writing | 3 |
| | 2. Literature | 3 |
| | 3. Communication | 3 |
| D. Fine and Performing Arts | | |
| | Complete a 3 credit Fine and Performing Arts course. | 3 |
| F. Humanities | | |
| | 1. Great Works and Their Influences | 3 |
| | 2. Philosophical and Religious Perspectives | 3 |
| G. Computer Science | | |
| | Complete a 3 credit Computer Science course. | 3 |

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|---|--|
| H. Mathematics | |
| | Complete a 3 credit Mathematics course. 3 |
| I. Natural Science Laboratory | |
| | Complete a 4 credit Natural Science Laboratory course. 4 |
| J. Physical Education | |
| | Complete a 1 credit Physical Education course. 1 |
| K. Social Science | |
| | 1. American and European History 3 |
| | 2. Global Cultural Perspectives 3 |
| | 3. Social Science Perspectives 3 |
| Students in P12 Subject Area Teaching programs complete EDFD 200 as part of the Teacher Education sequence. | |
| L. Interdisciplinary Studies | |
| | Complete a 3 credit Interdisciplinary Studies course. 3 |
| Students in P12 Subject Area Teaching programs complete SASE 210 as part of the Teacher Education sequence. | |
| Total Credits | |
| 42 | |

World Languages and Cultures Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill World Languages and Cultures categories. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/programs/world-languages-and-cultures-requirements/>)

| Code | Title | Credits |
|------------------------|--|------------|
| World Languages | | |
| | Based on language placement exam, complete one or two sequential courses in the same language. Requirement is automatically fulfilled by language major courses. | 3-6 |
| World Cultures | | |
| | Requirement may be fulfilled by course selected in General Education 0-3 - Social Science: Global Cultural Perspectives. Requirement may also be fulfilled by major coursework. See list of courses. | |
| Total Credits | | 3-9 |

Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This four-year plan is provided as an outline for students to follow in order to complete their degree requirements within four years. This plan is a recommendation and students should only use it in consultation with their academic advisor.

| First Year | | | |
|--|---------|--|---------|
| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (A) New Student Seminar | 1 | GENERAL EDUCATION: (C2) Literature | 3 |
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (C1) Writing | 3 | GENERAL EDUCATION: (H) Mathematics | 3 |
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (C3) Communication | 3 | GENERAL EDUCATION: (K1) Social Science – American and European History | 3 |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (K3) Social Science – Social Science Perspectives | 3 Philosophy Value Theory area course 1 | 3 |
| PHIL 100, 102, or 106 | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | 3 | |
| | 16 | 15 |

Second Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|--|----------------|---|----------------|
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (G) Computer Science | | 3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (D) Fine and Performing Arts | 3 |
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (K2) Social Science – Global Cultural Perspectives | | 3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (I) Natural Science Laboratory | 4 |
| PHIL 264 | | 3 World Cultures | 3 |
| PHIL elective course | | 3 Philosophy History area course | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| | 15 | | 16 |

Third Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|---|----------------|--|----------------|
| GENERAL EDUCATION: (L) Interdisciplinary Studies | | 3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (F1) Humanities – Great Works and Their Influences | 3 |
| Philosophy Value Theory area course 2 | | 3 World Language 1 | 3 |
| Traditions in Contemporary Philosophy area course | | 3 Philosophy Knowledge and Reality area course 1 | 3 |
| PHIL Elective course | | 3 PHIL Elective course | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| | 15 | | 15 |

Fourth Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|--|----------------|--|----------------|
| World Language 2 | | 3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (J) Physical Education | 1 |
| Philosophy Knowledge and Reality area course 2 | | 3 PHIL 424 | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| | 15 | | 13 |

Total Credits 120