PHILOSOPHY (PHIL)

PHIL 101 - INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
Basic philosophical questions in metaphysics, theory of knowledge, political theory, ethics, and philosophy of religion. Representative answers to be found in writings of classical and contemporary philosophers.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 102 - PHILOSOPHIES OF LIFE
We will consider the shape and character of various human lives and examine concepts such as meaningfulness, completeness, unity, memory, the experience of time, awareness of mortality, and vividness of experience.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 103 - HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY
A survey of major philosophers and philosophical movements from the ancient world through the 19th century.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 130 - JUSTICE, LIBERTY, EQUALITY
This course covers contemporary problems and theoretical reflections drawn from ancient, modern and contemporary sources about justice, liberty and equality.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 204 - PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION
The concepts of God, faith and reason, religious experience, the problem of evil, and religion and morality.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Non-western Culture, Social Science

PHIL 206 - PHILOSOPHY IN LITERATURE
Philosophical problems found in selected novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 209 - CRITICAL THINKING
Practical training in informal analysis and evaluation of arguments encountered in everyday events.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 210 - LOGIC
Deductive and inductive logic; analysis of propositions and arguments and fallacies of reasoning.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Legal Studies, Social Science

PHIL 215 - WHAT IS A FAMILY?
This course offers a detailed examination of key texts in the humanities that have shaped Western thought on the family. Students read texts spanning ancient, early modern, late modern, and contemporary contexts, and analyze the diverse ways family is understood, enacted, and represented.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science, Women Gender Studies

PHIL 219 - WORLD RELIGIONS
A survey of the histories and beliefs of the major world religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Satisfies non-Western requirement.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, International Studies, Non-western Culture, Social Science

PHIL 230 - ETHICS
Classical ethical systems such as those of Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Mill, and Nietzsche.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: Sophomore standing

PHIL 240 - THE ENLIGHTENMENT
This course will examine philosophical and political texts, along with works of drama, music, and art from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. These investigations will serve a larger mission of answering the dominant question of this unique period of history: What is Enlightenment?
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, International Studies, Social Science

PHIL 250 - ON HAPPINESS
A consideration of alternative conceptions of human fulfillment; among other themes, we will examine the relation of happiness to love, morality, and mortality.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 290 - TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY
A detailed analysis of a major movement, problem, work, or future in modern or contemporary philosophy.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science

PHIL 304 - FEMINISM & WESTERN PHILOSOPHY
This course will provide a close examination of selected canonical texts in Western philosophy and their subsequent feminist responses and revisions. We will explore how feminist philosophers have interpreted influential Western thinkers from the 17th century to the present, and how these interpretations have generated foundations for feminist inquiry, informing contemporary philosophical, feminist, and public discourse on topics including the self and autonomy; difference and sameness; reason and belief; public and private spheres; sexuality and identity; and gender, nation, and race. The reading list will include texts by Descartes, Locke, Marx, Emerson, Beauvoir, Foucault, and Said, and their feminist interpreters.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science, Women Gender Studies
Prerequisites: WGS 110 or WGS 210
Course Notes: or instructor consent.

PHIL 323 - PERSIAN LETTERS
A study of Montesquieu’s eighteenth century epistolary novel, Persian Letters.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: One course in Philosophy or one in Literature required.
PHIL 324 - POLITICS & LITERATURE
A philosophical understanding of political life through the reading of literature. Topics may include oppression, tyranny, compromise, jealousy, friendship, equality, liberty, and justice.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Prerequisites: POS 104 or POS 329 or 3 Credit Hours of Philosophy
Course Notes: 1 course in PHIL or Literature.

PHIL 329 - PHILOSOPHY OF LAW
Philosophic issues and theories concerning law, judicial process, justice, liberty, responsibility, and punishment.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Legal Studies, Social Science
Course Notes: 1-PHIL 1-POS course.

PHIL 330 - PHILOSOPHY OF NATURE
A philosophical examination of the fundamental differences between the natural world and the human world and between the world of necessity and the world of artifice.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: One course in philosophy.

PHIL 331 - PHILOSOPHY OF TECHNOLOGY
Social and ethical implications of new technology; problems in contemporary environmental ethics.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: 3 SH of PHIL with a min grade of C required or consent, of instructor.

PHIL 343 - PHILOSOPHY & TYRANNY
A philosophical study of tyranny through the writings of Sophocles, Herodotus, Xenophon, Plato, Montesquieu, Marx and Hannah Arendt.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Prerequisites: 3 Credit Hours of Philosophy

PHIL 350 - PHILOSOPHY IN FILM
Philosophy through the medium of film. Topics may include appearance and reality, justice, political myths, friendship, violence, the individual and the community, the meaning of life, and love and sex. Readings and film(s) for each topic.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: 1 course in PHIL or Literature.

PHIL 355 - EXISTENTIALISM
We will explore issues of human freedom, commitment, vulnerability, and authenticity by reading authors such as Kierkegaard, Dostoyevsky, Nietzsche, Heidegger, and Camus.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Prerequisites: 3 Credit Hours of Philosophy
Course Notes: 1 course in PHIL.

PHIL 361 - METAPHYSICS ANCIENT AND MODERN
Metaphysics Ancient and Modern. We will explore the greatest questions of metaphysics: the relation between speech, being, and soul, between the visible and the intelligible, and between the perishable and the imperishable.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: Prerequisites: 3 hrs of PHIL w/min grade of C.

PHIL 371 - HERODOTUS
This is a one book course on Herodotus’s ‘Histories’ a work which is at the same time historical, literary, and philosophical. The themes of the ‘Histories’ are timely because they are timeless: freedom, slavery, tyranny, oppression, diversity, national character, the power of speech and the power of deed, and eros and its perversions.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: 1 course in Philosophy required.

PHIL 372 - PLATO ON LOVE
This course is devoted to Plato’s dialogue, The Symposium, the subject of which is love.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Prerequisites: 3 Credit Hours of Philosophy

PHIL 374 - UTOPIAS
Thomas More's “Utopia,” which gave us the word “utopia” itself, enjoyed its 500th anniversary in 2016. This course reflects on whether the idea of a utopia still makes sense and, if so, what its use is.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Prerequisites: 3 Credit Hours of Philosophy

PHIL 380 - TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY
Detailed analysis of a major movement, problem, work, or future in modern or contemporary philosophy.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Course Notes: One course in Philosophy or instr. consent

PHIL 384 - PHILOSOPHICAL PSYCHOLOGY
An examination of fundamental psychological concepts (e.g., perception, consciousness, memory, shame, emotions and rationality) from a philosophical perspective.
Credits: 3
Attributes: Humanities, Social Science
Prerequisites: 3 Credit Hours of Philosophy

PHIL 395 - INDEPENDENT STUDY
Study of a particular philosopher, movement, or problem.
Credits: 1-4
Course Notes: Consent

PHIL 399 - SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT
A research project in the student’s area of concentration done under the direction of the area advisor or another appropriate faculty member.
Credits: 1-3
Course Notes: Sr.stand. consent