Description of Major

The undergraduate program in philosophy is designed to enable students to gain an understanding of the substantive issues that philosophers have struggled with through the ages. Students majoring in philosophy can expect to develop their abilities to engage in critical examination and evaluation. Such skills have proven to be of great value in almost any type of human endeavor. The program serves as a basis for professional training in other fields such as law, education, politics, journalism, and theology; or as a foundation for future professional training in philosophy.

The department participates in the Honors Program, as well as the undergraduate programs in American and Florida Studies, Humanities, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Political Science, International Affairs, and Religion. In addition, it offers more than ten courses in the University’s Liberal Studies Program. Students have considerable latitude to design the content of a major that meets their needs and interests. For example, a student might focus on ethics; on social and political philosophy; on logic and philosophy of science; on the history of philosophy; on epistemology; or on cognitive studies. A major in philosophy can also be combined with a major in another discipline.

Grades below “C–” will not be accepted for major or minor credit.

Program Planning Notes

The student’s program is planned in consultation with the Undergraduate Advisor. Please review all college-wide degree requirements summarized in the “College of Arts and Sciences” chapter of the most recent General Bulletin. Note: the required courses listed below may not be offered every semester. Students should check with the department undergraduate advisor(s) at least two semesters before graduation to make sure they will have the opportunity to complete the requirements.

Minimum Program Requirements — Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liberal Studies</td>
<td>36 sem. hrs.*</td>
<td>60 hours must be earned at a senior institution.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Coursework</td>
<td>30 sem. hrs.</td>
<td>The final 30 hours must be in residence at FSU.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minor Coursework</td>
<td>12 sem. hrs.</td>
<td>40 hours must be at the 3000/4000 level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives (possibly including 12 hours in a foreign or classical language)</td>
<td>42 sem. hrs.</td>
<td>66 hours must be in College of Arts &amp; Sciences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>120 sem. hrs.</td>
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*NOTE: Three hours of major coursework may be used to satisfy Liberal Studies (Humanities) requirements.
Admission to the College of Arts and Sciences requires at least a 2.0 grade point average in prior academic work. Arts and Sciences students are required to complete 3 hours of math, 3 hours of history, 6 hours of English composition, 6 hours of humanities, and 6 hours of natural sciences. This requirement is usually satisfied through the student’s general education program (Liberal Studies or A.A.) or major/minor program. If not, additional coursework must be taken.

**Program Requirements — Detail**

Thirty (30) semester hours in philosophy are required for the major, including the following:

1) Logic (3 hours).* One of:
   - PHI 2100 Reasoning & Critical Thinking (3)
   - PHI 3130 Introduction to Symbolic Logic (3)

*NOTE: Students who wish to continue their studies in philosophy at the graduate level should take PHI 3130.

2) History of Philosophy (6 hours):
   - Ancient Philosophy. One of:
     - PHH 3130 Plato and his Predecessors (3)
     - PHH 3140 Aristotle to Augustine (3)
   - and
   - Modern Philosophy: PHH 3400 Modern Philosophy (3)

3) Ethics (3 hours):
   - PHI 3670 Ethical Theory (3)

4) Contemporary Metaphysics and Epistemology (3 hours). One of:
   - PHI 3220 Introduction to Philosophy of Language (3)
   - PHI 3300 Knowledge and Belief (3)
   - PHI 3320 Philosophy of Mind (3)
   - PHI 4500 Metaphysics (3)
   - PHH 4600 Contemporary Philosophy (3)

5) Seminar for Majors, to be taken in the senior year (3 hours):
   - PHI 4938 Seminar for Majors (3)

The balance of the student’s program should be developed in consultation with a faculty advisor. In planning a program of studies the student’s academic and career interests and goals should be taken into consideration.

**Additional requirements:** At least twenty-one (21) hours in the major must be at the 3000 level or above; at least fifteen (15) hours must be completed in the Philosophy Department at Florida State University; and completion of a minor in an approved field (12 semester hours, or as required by the minor area).

**Other Required Coursework** (typically 12 semester hours): Students must complete a classical or modern foreign language through the 2200 (or equivalent) level. This requirement may be satisfied through coursework, examination (CLEP for French, German or Spanish; departmental examination for Latin), or demonstration of native speaking ability.