PHILOSOPHY

What YOU will learn:

A major in philosophy will move you to study difficult and fundamental problems. Problems like what ethics requires, and how ethical claims can be true or false; what knowledge is, and whether humans can ever have it; how minds and brains are related; and how science works. You will get acquainted with the major issues in a broad range of philosophical areas; be capable of logical analysis; critically explain complicated philosophical texts; write clear, coherent, plausible, argumentative essays; and reason philosophically.

The courses in your major cover areas of Western philosophy. Ethics courses cover both applied ethics (what ethics requires in particular types of cases) and more theoretical courses which investigate the nature and justification of ethics. Social-political philosophy investigates similar questions about social structures. Metaphysics deals with the fundamental nature of the world and reality. The theory of knowledge investigates the nature, scope, and limits of human knowledge. Logic studies inferences. History of philosophy courses examine how people have answered philosophical questions in the past. Aesthetics looks at the nature of art. Philosophy of science explores the practice and justification of science. And philosophy of religion addresses the nature and justification of religion.

Career opportunities YOU will have:

Philosophy prepares you especially well for careers requiring analysis, decision making, and communication. People graduating with philosophy degrees work in many different occupations, including computer programming, business consulting, management, government, policy analysis, editing, law, and medicine. And undergraduate philosophy majors characteristically do very well on entrance exams for graduate and professional schools. Employment of recent Nebraska graduates includes:

- Administrative Assistant, Nebraska Legislature
- Assistant Account Manager, FACTS Management
- Customer Service Rep, Mutual of Omaha
- Professional Golfer, Self-Employed
- Project Developer, AmeriCorps

Why NEBRASKA for Philosophy?

The discipline of philosophy has a long history at Nebraska. The first meeting of what became the western division of the American Philosophical Association was held at the University of Nebraska on January 1-2, 1901. Many distinguished philosophers have come from Nebraska, or worked or studied at UNL.

Take advantage of the visiting speaker’s program which regularly brings prominent philosophers to the department to present papers and talk with faculty and students. In addition, a regular series of Chambers Conferences on specific topics brings together leading figures in specific subdisciplines.

Picture yourself engaging in research similar to current students who are participating in our Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experience (UCARE) Program and getting paid in the process. Examples of recent projects include Religious Philosophies in Politics: How Philosphic Writings Altered the Course of History; and Exposition on the Exposicio Decalogi.

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1040 Oldfather Hall | 402-472-4392 | bronfman@unl.edu

unl.edu/philosophy | cas.unl.edu
COURSE NAME | HOURS | COURSE NAME | HOURS
---|---|---|---
PHIL 231: History of Ancient Philosophy (ACE 5) | 3 | PHIL 232: History of Modern Philosophy | 3
ACE 1: Written texts/research & knowledge skills | 3 | College Distribution Requirement (CDR) A: Written communication | 3
ACE 4: Scientific methods & knowledge of natural/physical world | 3 | CDR B, BL: Natural, Physical & Mathematical Sciences w/ Lab | 4
Language Prerequisite - 101 Level (Elective) | 5 | Language Prerequisite - 102 Level (Elective) | 5
Total Hours 14 | Total Hours 15

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| Philosophy Elective Course (200 or 300 Level) | 3
ACE 2: Communication skills | 3
ACE 6: Social Sciences | 3
Language Requirement - 201 Level (CDR E) | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3 |
| Total Hours 15 |

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| Philosophy Value Theory Course | 3
Philosophy Elective Course (300 or 400 Level) | 3
CDR D: Social Sciences | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3 |
| Total Hours 15 |

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| Philosophy Elective Course (300 or 400 Level) | 3
CDR F: Additional breadth | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3 |
| Total Hours 15 |

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| PHIL 400: Undergraduate Seminar in Philosophy (ACE 10) | 3
ACE 7: Fine Arts | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3
Elective/Minor/Secondary Major/Science/Pre-Professional | 3 |
| Total Hours 15 |

DISCLAIMER: This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with a major of interest in the College of Arts and Sciences. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with an Academic Advisor at the college and department level.