

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy is both an intellectual activity and a subject of study. As an activity, philosophy seeks to analyze, evaluate, and often reformulate the ideas, principles and arguments by which experience is understood and explained and by which action is directed and justified. Philosophy explores every area of experience and behavior: e.g., aesthetic, political, religious, scientific and moral. The writings produced by great philosophers are worthy of study as models of thought and as artifacts of historical influence and cultural significance.

Courses offered in philosophy fall into three general groups: broad introductory courses that cover a variety of topics, historical courses that study important thinkers, and special topic or field courses. Some offerings combine the latter two characteristics. Few undergraduate courses are intended primarily for majors. The BA program in philosophy has been approved for offering at OSU-Tulsa. Students may pursue work in philosophy as part of their general education, as a support to their major area of concentration, as a minor, as a major leading to a BA degree, as a second major, or in connection with a graduate program.

In addition to the standard Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, which offers three tracks (see below), the Department also offers two specialty options, Pre-Ministry and Pre-Law. The Pre-Ministry option includes required courses in Religious Studies, and students are encouraged to take counseling courses as electives. The Pre-Law option is flexible and allows students to incorporate relevant courses from departments such as Political Science, Economics, Finance and Business Communications

The standard Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy accommodates students of three sorts. The "general" track is designed for students who wish to explore philosophy as a general path to the refinement of their thinking, writing and speaking, and a deepening appreciation of the most fundamental and guiding ideas and values of civilization. It is a very flexible program, requiring two lower-division introductory courses, two upper-division historical survey courses and 19 hours of additional unspecified philosophy courses numbered 3000 or above. The "pre-professional" track is designed for students who wish to provide a philosophical foundation for their professional interests (such as law, medicine, business, public service). Though requirements are technically the same for these students as those on a general track, they are assigned a second adviser who helps to coordinate curricular and other activities for the best career preparation possible. The "graduate preparation" track is designed for students who are interested in pursuing graduate studies in philosophy. It requires an additional six hours of upper-division philosophy and mandates more specific courses than either of the other tracks. Students may shift from track to track at any time without prejudice.

A minor or a second major in philosophy will complement any other area of study. A philosophy minor requires 18 hours of unspecified philosophy courses, 12 of which must be numbered 3000 or above.

Courses

PHIL 1113 Introduction To Philosophy (H)

Description: Selected philosophical problems: the nature of reality, knowledge, value, social ideals and religion. Previously offered as PHIL 2113.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 1213 Philosophies of Life (H)

Description: Introduction to selected views of living a meaningful life in light of morality, social values, truth and freedom.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 1313 Logic and Critical Thinking (A)

Description: Formal and informal reasoning, common fallacies, definitions and language functions, patterns of explanation. Practical criticism and development of everyday arguments.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Analytical & Quant Thought

PHIL 2013 Philosophical Classics (H)

Description: Basic works by great thinkers, including Plato, Descartes and Hume. Previously offered as PHIL 1013.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 2043 Philosophy of Film (H)

Description: This course introduces students to the various philosophical issues surrounding film. Topics will include: the nature of cinema, authorship and narration, film's relationship with the emotions, genre, and cinematic depictions of love, violence, race and gender. Various film techniques will also be discussed, including cinematography, lighting, editing, scoring and sound design. These issues will be dealt with by making use of philosophical texts. Course previously offered as PHIL 3723.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 2053 Philosophy in Literature (H)

Description: Selected literary works examined for philosophical ideas and themes. Attention to the interrelation of form and content. Thematic approach. Course previously offered as PHIL 4453.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 2513 Philosophy and Culture (H)

Description: A philosophical investigation of diverse cultural attitudes, values, and experiences. Representative topics include social media, entertainment, music, film, art, tradition, ritual, gender, race, class, and religion.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 2890 Honors Experience in Philosophy

Prerequisites: Honors Program participation and concurrent enrollment in a designated PHIL course.

Description: A supplemental Honors experience in Philosophy to partner concurrently with designated Philosophy course(s). This course adds a different intellectual dimension to the designated course(s).

Credit hours: 1

Contact hours: Lecture: 1

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Honors Credit

PHIL 2990 Sophomore Seminar in Philosophy

Prerequisites: 3 credit hours of Philosophy or consent of instructor.

Description: A seminar-style course on varying philosophic topics intended for sophomores, taught by faculty members on a rotating basis.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 3003 Symbolic Logic (A)

Description: Propositional logic and predicate logic with identity. Formal analysis of language. Previously offered as PHIL 4303.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Analytical & Quant Thought

PHIL 3113 Ancient Greek Philosophy (H)

Prerequisites: PHIL 1113, PHIL 1313 or PHIL 2013, or any 3000-4000 level PHIL course.

Description: Historically-based introduction to the philosophical ideas and works of Plato and Aristotle. Begin by reading excerpts and commentary on the Pre-Socratics and Sophists. End the course with readings from the Hellenistic schools of philosophy: Stoics, Sceptics, and Epicureans.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3213 17th and 18th Century Philosophy (H)

Prerequisites: PHIL 1113 or PHIL 1313 or PHIL 2013, or any 3000-4000 level PHIL course.

Description: Major philosophers and problems in Western thought from the 17th through the 18th century. Emphasis on Descartes, Hume and Kant.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3313 19th and 20th Century Philosophy (H)

Prerequisites: PHIL 3213 or consent of instructor.

Description: Major philosophers and problems in Western thought from Hegel to the present.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3413 Ethical Theory (H)

Description: Contemporary and classical views on the nature of moral judgments, moral value, relativity and objectivity, freedom and responsibility.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3433 Happiness and Well-being (H)

Description: An investigation into the science and philosophy of happiness and well-being as well as the relationship between the two.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3513 Social Philosophy (H)

Description: Major social thinkers and contemporary issues. Social authority, human rights, political forms and justice. Emphasis on Aristotle, Locke, Mill and Marx.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3523 Medieval Philosophy (H)

Description: The central focus is on the philosophical and theological problems that engaged the minds of medieval thinkers from Christian, Islamic, and Jewish traditions, including Abelard, Avicenna, Averroes, Maimonides, Aquinas, Scotus, and Ockham.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3553 Philosophy of Dreams (H)

Description: Critical examination of philosophical writings about dreams and dream theories. Topics include distinguishing dreams from reality, questions about morality in dreams, and debates about the evolutionary functions of dreams.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3613 Philosophy of Religion (H)

Description: Nature of religion, religious experience and religious language. God-concepts, theistic arguments, God and evil, God and immortality.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3623 Philosophy of Race (DH)

Description: Philosophy of Race investigates race discourse within the texts of contemporary philosophers. The course begins with an examination of the concept of race from antiquity through postmodernity. Course discussion focuses on the biological veracity of race, the rise of race as a sociopolitical concept, and the role of modern philosophers in shaping the prevailing perception of people of non-European descent in the West and the implicit justification of slavery, which pervades their texts.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Diversity, Humanities

PHIL 3633 MLK, Malcolm X, & Philosophy of Race (DH)

Description: Critical examination of African American philosophers and other Black thinkers of the Diaspora. In an effort to understand the philosophical significance of the Black experience. Since Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X are widely accepted as the apex of the two major strains of Black-American philosophy this course will closely read their works.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Diversity, Humanities

PHIL 3703 Animal Ethics (H)

Description: Ethical Issues regarding animals and their moral status. Topics include animal welfare, consciousness, ethical arguments for and against eating meat, debates about the legal rights of the great apes, biomedical research, the ethics of zoos and aquariums, methods of population control, and companion animals.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3713 Philosophy of Education

Description: Classical and contemporary philosophers who have systematically developed their ideas about education, including Plato, Aristotle, Rousseau, Locke, and Dewey.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 3743 Patterns in Science: Historical and Value Dimensions of Western Science (H)

Description: A general introduction to the history of western science, stressing cultural values affecting scientific innovations, as well as the affects of scientific innovations on cultural values. Important examples from the history of astronomy and physics and from the history of evolutionary biology will be examined. Students will critically examine the relationship(s) between scientific work and broader cultural concerns.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3773 Social Media Today (H)

Description: In this class students are going to read and reflect upon some of the most influential theories on social media today. Discussions will include the competing analyses of Bauerlein, Carr, Shirky and many others who debate the influences of modern media (like Snapchat, Facebook, and Instagram) on a wide array of topics: social identity, friendship, love, knowledge, communication, individuality, commerce, entertainment, creativity, consumerism, political activism, and democratic ideals.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3803 Business Ethics (H)

Description: Ethical issues in business, such as employer-employee duties and loyalties, advertising uses, preferential treatment practices. Analytic grounding in basic theories of ethics.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3813 American Philosophy (H)

Description: Dominant trends in American philosophy, with an emphasis on Pragmatism.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3823 Engineering Ethics

Description: Philosophical analysis of moral issues in engineering practice, such as whistle blowing, conflicts of interest and product liability. Professional codes of ethics.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 3833 Biomedical Ethics (H)

Description: Moral problems brought about by recent developments in scientific research and medical technology. Abortion, euthanasia, genetic engineering, and human experimentation.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3843 Philosophy of Law (H)

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing.

Description: Philosophical issues related to U.S. law. The relationship between law and morality, the nature and functions of law and grounds of liability.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3853 Pragmatism (H)

Description: A survey of Pragmatism and its history. While the course will primarily focus on two major figures of American Pragmatism, Charles Peirce and William James, we will also explore how pragmatism developed in the 21st century and track its influence in both philosophy and science.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3890 Advanced Honors Experience in PHIL

Prerequisites: Honors Program participation and concurrent enrollment in a designated PHIL course.

Description: A supplemental Honors experience in mathematics to partner concurrently with designated upper-division PHIL course(s). This course adds a different Intellectual dimension to the designated course(s).

Credit hours: 1

Contact hours: Lecture: 1

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Honors Credit

PHIL 3913 Existentialism (H)

Prerequisites: Three credit hours of philosophy.

Description: Selected writings and themes in the development of existentialism and related intellectual movements. Subjectivity, phenomenological description, hermeneutics, freedom and value; and such writers as Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Sartre, Marcel and Buber.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3920 Contemporary Philosophical Problems

Description: Selected contemporary problems and discussions. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 3933 Creation and Evolution (H)

Description: Critical examination of claims that various Creationist/ Intelligent Design models offer better scientific explanations for selected biological phenomena than does the current dominant view of Darwinian Evolution.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 3943 Asian Philosophy (HI)

Description: Three main streams of Asian thought: Indian, Chinese and Buddhist. How various thinkers in the three traditions have dealt with questions of being and becoming, knowledge, ethics, and society.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities, International Dimension

PHIL 3991 Contemporary Philosophy Research

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing, at least 12 hours in philosophy completed.

Description: Study of leading edge research in philosophy through presentation and discussion of current philosophy journal articles with faculty. Previously offered as PHIL 4991.

Credit hours: 1

Contact hours: Lecture: 1

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4000 Senior Thesis in Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 4990 and consent of instructor.

Description: Guided individual work on a thesis under the direction of a faculty member, with a second faculty reader and oral presentation. Intended for senior standing undergraduate Philosophy majors.

Credit hours: 1-3

Contact hours: Other: 1

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Independent Study

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4003 Mathematical Logic and Computability

Prerequisites: PHIL 3003 or MATH 3613 or consent of instructor.

Description: The basic metatheorems of first order logic: soundness, completeness, compactness, Löwenheim-Skolem theorem, undecidability of first order logic, Gödel's incompleteness theorem. Enumerability, diagonalization, formal systems, standard and nonstandard models, Gödel numberings, Turing machines, recursive functions, and evidence for Church's thesis. Same course as MATH 4003.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4013 Perspectives on Death and Dying (H)

Description: Issues that arise as individuals confront the fact of mortality. Dying patients, the ethical issues of euthanasia and suicide, the process of grief, death in literature and the arts, and philosophical and religious views on immortality.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 4113 Philosophy and the Arts (H)

Description: Nature of aesthetic objects and experiences; form, meaning and value in the arts; the function of art in society; criteria of criticism of the arts.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 4313 Philosophy Of Mind (H)

Description: A survey of problems in the philosophy of mind, including the nature of consciousness, physicalism vs. dualism, the self and personal identity, psychopathologies, animal minds, and artificial intelligence.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 4543 Philosophy of Language

Prerequisites: PHIL 1313 or PHIL 3003.

Description: A survey of the development of the philosophy of language, including works of philosophers such as Frege, Wittgenstein, Russell, Strawson, Searle, Donnellan, Grice, and Kripke.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4553 Contemporary Ethical Theory

Prerequisites: PHIL 3413 or consent of instructor.

Description: Debate in ethical theory since Moore. The naturalistic fallacy, intuitionism, and value realism.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4713 Philosophy of Science (H)

Description: Philosophical issues related to science and its role in society. Topics include science and common sense, laws and theories, causality, nature of scientific progress.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 4723 Philosophy of Psychology (H)

Description: A survey of problems in philosophy of psychology, including the nature of psychology and its relation to natural sciences, the cognitive architecture of our minds, which cognitive capacities are innate and which are developed, the relationship between the brain, body, and external world, how we understand other minds, how language affects thought.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 4733 Philosophy of Biology(H)

Description: Selected philosophical topics, such as Darwinism and other theories of evolution, physical reductionism, and issues of genetic engineering.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

General Education and other Course Attributes: Humanities

PHIL 4943 Indian Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 3943 or consent of instructor.

Description: Study of texts and themes in two main traditions of Indian Philosophy: Hinduism and Buddhism. How these schools present the fundamental nature and knowledge of reality, human existence, the divine, and enlightenment.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4953 East Asian Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 3943 or consent of instructor.

Description: Study of texts and themes in the Chinese and Japanese traditions: Confucianism, Daoism and Zen. How these schools present the fundamental nature and knowledge of reality, human existence, community and enlightenment.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4983 Metaphysics and Epistemology

Prerequisites: 12 credit hours of philosophy.

Description: The study of the fundamental nature of reality and human knowledge of it.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4990 Special Studies in Philosophy

Description: Selected philosophical topics or works. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 10 credit hours.

Credit hours: 1-3

Contact hours: Other: 1

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Independent Study

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 4993 Senior Honors Thesis

Prerequisites: Departmental invitation, senior standing, Honors Program participation.

Description: A guided reading and research program ending with an honors thesis under the direction of a faculty member, with second faculty reader and oral examination. Required for graduation with departmental honors in philosophy.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Other: 3

Levels: Undergraduate

Schedule types: Independent Study

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5000 Master's Thesis in Philosophy

Description: Supervised individual work on a thesis for a master's degree. Offered for variable credit, 1-6 credit hours, maximum of 6 credit hours.

Credit hours: 1-6

Contact hours: Other: 1

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Independent Study

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5210 Seminar on a Major Philosopher

Prerequisites: Three courses in philosophy.

Description: The writings of a major philosopher and related material. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Other: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Independent Study

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5303 Topics in Philosophy of Religion

Description: An examination of central topics in the philosophy of religion, such as the existence of God, the problem of evil, divine attributes, miracles, revelation, faith and reason, religious pluralism and exclusivism, and morality.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5310 Seminar on a Field of Philosophy

Description: Three courses in philosophy. Selected topics in one field of philosophy. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Other: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Independent Study

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5313 Topics in Social Political Thought

Description: Consideration of a single topic (e.g. justice), topics (e.g. distributive justice and citizenship) of a single philosophical school, or movement (e.g. Marxism) or several movements and schools (e.g. Marxism and liberalism).

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5323 Seminar In Ancient Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 3113.

Description: Philosophical problems that characterize ancient Philosophy: form and matter, one and many, universal and particular, actuality and potentiality, stability and change, substance and accidents, first principles and elements. Close reading of Plato and Aristotle.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5333 Seminar In Modern Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 3213 or PHIL 3313.

Description: Examination of the metaphysical and epistemological systems of philosophers over 17th-19th century Europe such as Descartes, Spinoza, Locke, Leibniz, Berkeley, Hume, Kant and Hegel.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5343 Seminar in East and West Comparative Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 3943.

Description: Critical comparison between West European and East Asian traditions of philosophy, such as being and non-being, the nature of truth, self, human being, ethics, human rights, community, and religion.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5353 Seminar in Contemporary Continental Philosophy

Prerequisites: PHIL 3213 or PHIL 3313.

Description: Themes such as presence and absence, intentionality and constitution, meaning and "being," identity and difference, history and consciousness, practice and power, construction and deconstruction. Philosophers such as Merleau, Husserl, Heidegger, Sartre, Derrida, and Foucault.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5363 Topics In Metaphysics

Prerequisites: PHIL 3113 or PHIL 3213 or PHIL 4983.

Description: Selected topics that may be approached from an historical or contemporary standpoint, such as idealism, realism, causation, time, universals, personal identity, possibility and free will.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5373 Contemporary Epistemology

Prerequisites: PHIL 3213 or PHIL 3113 or PHIL 4983.

Description: Recent approaches to the theory of knowledge. Origin and justification of belief and certainty, roles of the senses and the mind, and the nature of truth.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5383 Seminar In American Philosophy

Description: Selected philosophical schools or traditions influential in American thought, such as transcendentalism, pragmatism, or naturalism.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5393 German Idealism

Prerequisites: PHIL 3113 or 3213.

Description: Selected major works of post-Kantian German Philosophy, such as the nature of a philosophical system, identity, and self-consciousness.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5423 Topics In Ethical Theory

Prerequisites: PHIL 3413.

Description: Central problems in ethical theory, such as ethical realism/anti-realism, motivational internalism/externalism, and problems within specific normative systems. Written Description.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5433 Topics In Philosophy Of Law

Prerequisites: PHIL 3843.

Description: In-depth examination of selected topics in philosophy of law, such as punishment, jurisprudence, and principles of legislation. Seminar format.

Credit hours: 3

Contact hours: Lecture: 3

Levels: Graduate

Schedule types: Lecture

Department/School: Philosophy

PHIL 5443 Topics In Biomedical Ethics**Prerequisites:** PHIL 3833.**Description:** In-depth examination of selected topics in biomedical ethics, such as implications of the Human Genome Project, ethics of human reproduction, and research ethics. Emphasis on contemporary philosophical thought. Seminar format.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Graduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**PHIL 5453 Topics in Professional Ethics****Description:** In-depth study of ethical issues faced by business and engineering professionals (e.g., social effects of advertising, environmental impact of professional practice, product safety and consumer protection, whistleblowing and confidentiality).**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Graduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**PHIL 5510 Research Topics in Philosophy****Prerequisites:** Consent of graduate adviser or department head.**Description:** Individual research on topics related to the student's interests and/or thesis topic(s). Offered for variable credit, X=1-3 credit hours, maximum of 10 credit hours.**Credit hours:** 1-3**Contact hours:** Other: 1**Levels:** Graduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Philosophy**PHIL 5610 Philosophical Issues in Education****Description:** Contemporary issues in educational theory and practice. The relation of education to political thought, religion, public law and culture. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 3 credit hours.**Credit hours:** 1-3**Contact hours:** Other: 1**Levels:** Graduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Philosophy**PHIL 5910 Research Problems in Philosophy****Prerequisites:** Consent of instructor and department head.**Description:** Individual or group research on specific philosophical problems. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 10 credit hours.**Credit hours:** 1-3**Contact hours:** Other: 1**Levels:** Graduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Philosophy**REL 1103 Introduction to World Religions (HI)****Description:** Major world religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam with a view to understanding the general nature of religion and its various dimensions.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, International Dimension**REL 2013 Hebrew Scriptures (H)****Description:** A study of the Hebrew Scriptures with emphasis upon content, historical background, the history of its study and the critical analysis and theological interpretation of selected passages. Previously offered as REL 3013.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities**REL 2023 The New Testament and Its Study (H)****Description:** A study of the writings of the New Testament in their historical contexts and the methods used in their study. Emphasis interpreting selected New Testament passages. Previously offered as REL 3023.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities**REL 3223 The Teachings of Jesus in Historical Context (H)****Prerequisites:** REL 2023.**Description:** The teachings of Jesus in light of modern historical research. Emphasis on interpreting selected passages from the Gospels.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities**REL 3243 Paul and the Early Church (H)****Prerequisites:** REL 2023.**Description:** The letters of Paul in their historical context with special emphasis on his theology and ethics.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities

REL 3573 The Religions of Native Americans (DH)**Prerequisites:** REL 1103.**Description:** Selected tribal worldviews, belief systems and religious ceremonies as depicted in oral traditions, songs, and literature. Emphasis on Northern and Southern Plains Indians.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Diversity, Humanities**REL 3713 Religion, Culture and Society****Prerequisites:** REL 1103, ANTH 2353, SOC 1113.**Description:** An introduction to the scientific study of religion. Religious activity in both tribal and technological societies studied in the light of contemporary interpretations of culture and of social behavior. Same course as SOC 3713.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**REL 4033 American Christianity through the Colonial Period (H)****Description:** A study of the planting, development and spread of Christianity in America, beginning with the European roots and continuing through the colonial period up to c.1800.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities**REL 4050 Studies in Religion****Description:** Independent studies, seminars and courses on selected topics in religion. Offered for variable credit, 1-6 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.**Credit hours:** 1-6**Contact hours:** Other: 1**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Philosophy**REL 4113 The World of Islam: Cultural Perspectives (HI)****Description:** The cultural heritage of the world of Islam explored through its expression in the art, architecture, and literature of the Muslim peoples.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, International Dimension**REL 4213 Understanding Global Islam (HI)****Description:** A study of the history of Islam starting from Prophet Muhammad to the spread of the Islamic Empire. How Islam moved from Arabia to the world. Introduction to the Islamic divisions, where they are now, why they are similar and different in terms of laws, schools, countries, literature, sciences, Arabic script, the Shia, the Sunna, and different Islamic countries' practices. Also, debatable issues on Muslim women in American and other countries and why those are different from others.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, International Dimension**REL 4223 Religions and Sects in the Middle East (HI)****Description:** A study of the religions of the Middle East and their diverse sects, focusing on how culture and religion shape the Middle East.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy**General Education and other Course Attributes:** Humanities, International Dimension**REL 4330 Seminar in Biblical Studies****Prerequisites:** Two courses in Biblical studies.**Description:** Selected topics in the academic study of the Bible. Offered for fixed credit, 3 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Other: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Independent Study**Department/School:** Philosophy**REL 4413 Classic Christian Writings****Description:** A study of the primary source material from representative Christian authors scattered throughout two thousand years of church history, focusing on understanding the backgrounds from which the writings emerged, and grasping the writers' key ideas.**Credit hours:** 3**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3**Levels:** Undergraduate**Schedule types:** Lecture**Department/School:** Philosophy

Undergraduate Programs

- Philosophy, BA (<http://catalog.okstate.edu/arts-sciences/philosophy/ba>)
- Philosophy: Pre-Law, BA (<http://catalog.okstate.edu/arts-sciences/philosophy/pre-law-ba>)
- Philosophy: Pre-Ministry, BA (<http://catalog.okstate.edu/arts-sciences/philosophy/pre-ministry-ba>)
- Ethics (ETHC), Minor (<http://catalog.okstate.edu/arts-sciences/philosophy/ethics-minor>)
- Philosophy (PHIL), Minor (<http://catalog.okstate.edu/arts-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-minor>)

Graduate Programs

The Department of Philosophy offers a Master of Arts degree in philosophy. Consult the "Master's Degree Programs" section of the "Graduate College" in the Catalog for general regulations and requirements relating to admission.

The Master of Arts degree in philosophy offers a broad-based curriculum designed to serve the interests of two kinds of students:

1. Professional Emphasis: for students who wish to pursue their study of philosophy as a supplement to preparation in a wide variety of professions including business, law, government, the health professions, the ministry, or counseling. Students interested in the professional emphasis have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of courses that support their career plans (biomedical ethics, business ethics, philosophy of law, philosophy of religion, and cognate courses in other disciplines).
2. PhD Emphasis: for students who wish to pursue their study of philosophy as a preparation for PhD studies in philosophy at another institution. Students interested in the PhD emphasis have the opportunity to enhance their understanding of the history of philosophy, logic, and metaphysics and epistemology.

Students in both of these emphases are able to compete for teaching assistantships and may teach either Critical Thinking or Introductory Moral/Social Problems courses.

Prerequisites for admission to the program are 24 semester credit hours (at least 18 at the upper-division level) in philosophy including courses in the history of ancient philosophy (PHIL 3113 Ancient Greek Philosophy (H) or equivalent), the history of 17th and 18th century philosophy (PHIL 3213 17th and 18th Century Philosophy (H) or equivalents) and a course in logic (PHIL 3003 Symbolic Logic (A) or equivalent). Students without these prerequisites, but otherwise admissible, may be granted "qualified" or "provisional" status until the prerequisites are satisfied.

The Master of Arts degree in Philosophy may be earned through any of three options:

1. Thesis option (twenty-four credit hours of course work plus six credit hours of research in which a thesis is written);
2. Report option (thirty credit hours of course work plus two credit hours of research in which a report is written);
3. Creative Component option (thirty-two credit hours of coursework including a creative component).

Students will prepare a plan of study under the guidance of their graduate adviser. Each student is supervised by a three-person advisory committee appointed for, and in consultation with, the student.

A student may also, in accordance with the policies of the Graduate College, select a graduate minor in connection with the master's degree in philosophy, thus permitting a concentration of work in broad areas such as social thought or cognitive science.

Students pursuing a master's or doctor's degree in another field may elect philosophy as a graduate minor. Selected courses and seminars in philosophy can broaden and complement work in such areas as economics, education, engineering, English, history, psychology and sociology.

Faculty

Scott D. Gelfand, PhD—Associate Professor and Head

Professors: Lawrence R. Pasternack, PhD; Eric H. Reitan, PhD

Associate Professors: Rebecca A. Bensen Cain, PhD; James W. Cain, PhD; Marty H. Heitz, PhD; Doren A. Recker, PhD

Assistant Professors: Justin M. Horn, PhD; Apple Z. Igreg, PhD; Brian H. Kim, PhD; Shannon L. Spaulding, PhD