

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.

Degree Requirements Overview

Code	Title	Credits
SEEDS	General Education Requirements	24-27
	New Student Seminar	1
	Major Requirements	36
	Free Electives ¹	59-56
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		
In addition to PHIL 424, two courses must be at the 300-400 level.		
<i>Logic</i>		
PHIL 106	Logic	3
<i>Value Theory</i>		
Complete 2 courses from the following:		
PHIL 200	Ethical Reasoning	
PHIL 207	Meaning In Life	
PHIL 212	Social and Political Philosophy	
PHIL 260	Philosophies of Art	
PHIL 281	Ethics and Technology	
PHIL 290	Special Topics in Fields in Philosophy	
<i>Knowledge and Reality</i>		6
Complete 2 courses from the following:		
PHIL 264	Critical Reasoning and Arguments	
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 345	Philosophies of the Self	
PHIL 395	Special Topics in Periods of Movements	
<i>Traditions in Contemporary Philosophy</i>		3
Complete 1 course from the following:		
PHIL 218	Feminist Philosophy	
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 and Community Engagement	3
PHIL 105	Happiness and Meaning in Life	3
PHIL 200	Ethical Reasoning	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 207	Meaning In Life	3
PHIL 212	Social and Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 214	Ethics of Love, Sex and Desire	3
PHIL 216	Stoicism	3
PHIL 218	Feminist Philosophy	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 264	Critical Reasoning and Arguments	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 281	Ethics and Technology	3
PHIL 288	Introduction to Cognitive Science	3
PHIL 290	Special Topics in Fields in Philosophy	3
PHIL 291	Special Topics in Fields of Philosophy	3
PHIL 292	Special Topics in Fields of Philosophy	3
PHIL 293	Special Topics in Fields of Philosophy	3
PHIL 295	Special Topics in Periods and Movements	3
PHIL 297	Special Topics in Periods and Movements	3
PHIL 298	Philosophy and AI	3
PHIL 310	Knowledge, Belief and Truth	3
PHIL 312	Existence and Reality	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 345	Philosophies of the Self	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

New Student Seminar

Code	Title	Credits
Students in the Adult Learner program must take GNED 100.		
Complete one course from the following. Some courses may be restricted by major. Consult with an academic advisor.		1
ADVS 198	Pathways to Success	
CHEM 190	Freshman Seminar in Chemistry	
FYS 100	First Year Seminar	
GNED 100	Adult Academic Success Seminar	
GNED 199	New Student Seminar	
HPEM 199	Freshman Seminar in Health and Physical Education	
IDS 155	Pathways to Adult Learning	
JUST 199	New Student Seminar	
MATH 102	New Student Experience for Mathematical Sciences	
MUGN 199	Freshman Seminar for Music Majors	
NURS 199	Introduction to Nursing	
POLS 199	Freshman Seminar in Political Science and Law	

SEEDS General Education Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill the SEEDS requirements. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/programs/seeds-general-education-requirements/>)

Code	Title	Credits
Foundations		
<i>Effective Writing I</i>		
Complete one Effective Writing I course.		3
<i>Effective Writing II</i>		
Fulfilled by PHIL 264 in the major.		
Complete one Effective Writing II course.		3
<i>Interactive Communication</i>		
Complete one Interactive Communication course.		3
<i>Quantitative Reasoning</i>		
Complete one Quantitative Reasoning course.		3
<i>Political and Civic Life</i>		
Fulfilled by PHIL 212 in the major.		
Complete one Political and Civic Life course.		3
<i>World Language</i>		
Complete two sequential classes in one World Language when starting at the Beginner I or Beginner II level. Complete one class when starting at the Intermediate/Advanced Level.		3-6
Exploration		
Complete one course from four different Exploration categories:		6
<i>Analyzing Cultures and Societies</i>		
<i>Creative Expression</i>		
<i>Ethical Inquiry</i>		
Fulfilled by PHIL 100, PHIL 102, or PHIL 105 in the major.		
<i>Historical Thinking</i>		
<i>Literary and Artistic Analysis</i>		
<i>Scientific Reasoning</i>		

Fulfilled by PHIL 266 in the major.

Total Credits **24-27**

Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This recommended degree plan is provided as an outline for students to follow in order to complete their degree requirements within four years and 120 credits. This plan is a recommendation and **MUST** be used in consultation with their academic advisor. Important note: Students should be aware this plan assumes no pre-requisite coursework is required. If pre-requisite coursework is needed, students may have additional requirements to fulfill which do not appear on the plan.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
New Student Seminar		1 SEEDS: Effective Writing I	3
SEEDS: Quantitative Reasonings	3	SEEDS: World Language 2 or Free Elective	3
PHIL 100, 102, or 105 (fulfills SEEDS: Exploration 1 - Ethical Inquiry & PHIL major elective course 1)	3	SEEDS: Exploration 2 - Historical Thinking recommended	3
SEEDS: World Language 1	3	PHIL major elective course 2	3
FREE Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3		
16		15	

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
PHIL 212 (fulfills SEEDS: Political and Civic Life & PHIL major Value Theory course 1)	3	PHIL 264 (fulfills SEEDS: Effective Writing II & PHIL major Logic course)	3
SEEDS: Interactive Communication	3	SEEDS: Exploration 3 - Creative Expression recommended	3
PHIL major elective course 3	3	PHIL Major Traditions in Contemporary Philosophy course	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
15		15	

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
PHIL 266 (Fulfills SEEDS: Exploration 4 - Scientific Reasoning & PHIL Knowledge & Reality course 1))	3	PHIL major History course	3
PHIL Major Value Theory course 2	3	PHIL major elective course 4	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3

Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
15		15	

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
PHIL major Seminar course		3 PHIL major Knowledge & Reality course 2	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	2
15		14	

Total Credits 120