

Philosophy

Contact Information

Website: www.uis.edu/philosophy/

Email: phi@uis.edu

Office Phone: (217) 206-8405

Office Location: BRK 377A

- Philosophy (p. 1)
- Philosophy Minor

Students must take a minimum of two classes in the following three areas: 1) core analytical philosophy, 2) history of philosophy, and 3) values.

1. In order to gain analytical skills, students must take at least two classes (eight hours) in the area of core philosophy, such as philosophy of mind, philosophy of language, philosophy of science, and analytical metaphysics.
2. In order to gain a comprehensive outlook on the history of philosophy, students must take one class in ancient and medieval philosophy (such as PHI 421) and one class in the history of modern philosophy (such as PHI 425) or department approved comprehensive equivalents of at least seven credit hours.
3. In order to gain familiarity with value theory, students are required to take at least two classes (at least eight hours) in the areas of ethics, aesthetics, or political philosophy. This includes at least one course devoted specifically to ethics, satisfied by PHI 242 or PHI 341 or PHI 447 or an equivalent approved by the department.

Departmental Goals and Objectives

The Philosophy Department at UIS strives to be a national leader in offering advanced undergraduate education online while serving the entire UIS student population, undergraduate and graduate.

The curriculum focuses on the areas of core analytic philosophy (metaphysics, epistemology, and related areas) and values (ethics, aesthetics, and political philosophy) while providing a sound background in the history of philosophy.

The objectives of the Philosophy major include providing students with basic knowledge in the main areas of philosophy (theory of knowledge, values, and history of philosophy); increasing their awareness of ethical issues; improving their analytical skills; and assisting them in developing problem-solving experience in at least one of the main areas of philosophy.

The Bachelor's Degree

Advising

Students should consult with their academic advisor for specific guidance regarding completion of general education requirements.

Area of Specialization

Currently, students may specialize in the area of core analytic philosophy or in the area of values. In addition to the eight hours required of all majors, students specializing in either core analytic

philosophy (Area 1) or values (Area 3) must take one advanced class in the area of specialization and a senior seminar associated with the chosen area of specialization. Students should note that advanced courses have at least four hours of Area 1 or Area 3 courses as prerequisites.

Grading Policy

The Philosophy program does not have a grading policy which differs from that of the campus policy.

Philosophy Electives

In order to gain a broad philosophical perspective, every student needs to take four hours of philosophy electives (an extra class in any area of philosophy, including topics not covered in the main major, such as continental, feminist, or Asian philosophy; American pragmatism; or philosophy of religion).

Program Learning Outcomes

- **Clarity:** Students will learn to articulate a position, formulate an argument, and describe the views of other philosophers with a high degree of clarity and precision.
- **Argumentation:** Students will learn to make well-articulated, cogent, reasoned and sustained arguments in defense of a philosophical thesis.
- **Reading:** Students will learn to read with comprehension and to critically assess the works of other philosophers.
- **Dialog:** Students will learn to engage each other, and their instructors, in meaningful philosophical dialog.
- **Competence:** Students will develop competent knowledge in their field of specialization within the major.
- **Knowledge:** Students will acquire adequate knowledge in the areas of History of Philosophy, Value Theory, and Core Analytic Philosophy.

Requirements

Core Courses

Matriculation Module ¹	0
-----------------------------------	---

Logic/Critical Thinking

PHI 301	Critical Thinking (or equivalent transfer course)	4
or PHI 401	Logic	

Area 1 (Core Analytical Philosophy)

Select eight hours from the following:	8
--	---

PHI 353	Person, Identity, and Dignity
PHI 470	Topics In Analytic Philosophy
PHI 471	Philosophy of Science
PHI 472	Introduction to Metaphysics and Epistemology
PHI 473	Philosophy of Mind
PHI 481	Philosophy of Language
PHI 482	Metaphysics of Things

Area 2 (History of Philosophy)

Select two of the following:	8
------------------------------	---

PHI 421	Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
PHI 425	History of Modern Philosophy

PHI 480	Readings in the History of Philosophy	
Area 3 (Values) ²		
Select eight hours from the following:		8
PHI 242	Ethics, Love & Goals of Life	
PHI 336	Contemporary American Political Philosophy	
PHI 341	Ethics	
PHI 432	Philosophy of Art	
PHI 434	Aesthetics	
PHI 441	Moral Theory	
PHI 447	Rationality and Moral Choice	
PHI 448	Moral Values in Political Philosophy	
PHI 460	Topics in Normative Philosophy	
PHI 485	Social Philosophy	
Philosophy Elective		4
Any PHI Class		
Advanced class in specialization		
Select one of the following:		4
PHI 460	Topics in Normative Philosophy	
PHI 470	Topics In Analytic Philosophy	
PHI 480	Readings in the History of Philosophy	
PHI 481	Philosophy of Language	
PHI 482	Metaphysics of Things	
PHI 485	Social Philosophy	
Capstone		4
PHI 495	Senior Seminar in Philosophy	
Total Hours		40

¹ Note: The Matriculation Module must be completed before the last 16 semester hours of philosophy courses are taken.

² All majors must take PHI 242 or PHI 341 or PHI 447

NOTE:

Students may have seven hours in any or all of Areas 1, 2, 3, and three hours in the elective, with additional hours in another area.

Minors

- Philosophy Minor

Online

The online Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy allows students to participate in dynamic, diverse, and interactive online learning communities and to complete their degrees via the Internet. The online format enables them to complete course work using the latest networked information technologies for increased access to educational resources, advisors, and materials with no on-campus visits required. The online degree follows the same curriculum as the on-campus degree.

- Philosophy (p. 1)