

PHILOSOPHY

Degree Offered

B.A., Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Faculty

Esen O. Traub, Associate Professor, Philosophy

Division Chair, Humanities

Humanities Discipline Coordinator

Michelle Moravec, Assistant Professor

Discipline Chair, Philosophy

Michael Thompson, Adjunct Instructor, Philosophy

The philosophy curriculum is designed to acquaint students with the world of philosophy through historical surveys of ideas and thinkers, critical analyses of basic philosophical issues, and in-depth study of a single author or topic. The program encourages students in creative and critical thinking and enables them to acquire the skills necessary to communicate their ideas. Completion of the major should provide a good basis for graduate study in philosophy as well as in a variety of other fields such as law and medicine, and careers in such diverse areas as social services, teaching, or business.

Major Requirements for a B.A. in Philosophy

Students are required to take 9 courses, comprising

PHI-0200 History of Philosophy I

PHI-0201 History of Philosophy II

200-level 4 other courses selected from this level

or

PHI-0330 Special Topics

300-level 2 courses selected from this level

PHI-0300 Logic

PHI-0310 Ethics and Social Values;

400-level A seminar on an individual philosopher.

PHI-0420 Senior Seminar is a capstone requirement that allows students a choice between taking comprehensive exams or writing a thesis.

In addition to meeting the course requirements for each respective major, all students must also fulfill the general education requirements that are listed under the heading, Rosemont Works: General Education Requirements.

Suggested Course Sequence for a B.A. in Philosophy

First Year

Fall: FND-0110 Foundations of Western Culture

Sophomore Year

Fall: PHI-0200 History of Philosophy I:
Ancient and Medieval

Spring: History of Philosophy II: Early Modern Thought
Any 200-level course

Junior Year

Fall: PHI-0300 Logic
PHI-0210 Contemporary Philosophy
Any 200-level course

Spring: PHI-0330 Special Topics
PHI-0310 Ethics and Social Values

Senior Year

Fall: PHI-0400 Seminar on a philosopher
Any 200-level course

Spring: PHI-0420 Senior Seminar

Other sequences may be chosen in consultation with the student's advisor.

Requirements for a Minor in Philosophy

Five courses

PHI-0200 History of Philosophy I

PHI-0201 History of Philosophy II

200-level any two electives from this level or PHI-0330 Special topics

PHI-0300 Logic or PHI-0310 Ethics and Social Values

Course Descriptions: Philosophy

PHI-0200 History of Philosophy I: Ancient and Medieval

A survey course in the history of philosophy intended to introduce students to the theories of prominent ancient and medieval philosophers. Offered fall semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0201 History of Philosophy II: Early Modern Thought

Examines the development of Western thought from Renaissance humanism to its culmination in the philosophy of the enlightenment with special emphasis on the part played by the new science in shaping our view of the world and our social and political institutions. Offered spring semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0205 Nineteenth Century Philosophy: Idealism and Romanticism

An analysis of Idealism and Romanticism in the philosophy and literature of the nineteenth century. Offered spring semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0210 Contemporary Philosophy

Examines works and themes of significance in 20th century thought as well as discussing emerging issues of philosophical import for the 21st century. Offered fall semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0240 Political Philosophy I

An introduction and analysis of the founding texts of Western political thought – Plato’s *Republic*, Aristotle’s *Politics*, Machiavelli’s *Prince* – as well as of Roman legal and political thought and medieval political philosophy. Offered fall semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0241 Political Philosophy II

An examination of the major political theories from the Renaissance into the twentieth century, including liberalism, Marxism, and other current political theories. Offered spring semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0260 Philosophy of Women

A feminist critique of various historically held views on the nature and status of women along with philosophical perspectives on current women’s issues. Offered spring semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0270 Business Ethics

Case studies and critical analyses of ethical issues in business. Readings from texts in business, philosophy, law, and other relevant fields. Offered as needed. 4 credits.

PHI-0280 Philosophy of Art and Beauty

An introductory analysis of the concepts of art, criticism, and aesthetic value. 4 credits.

PHI-0290 Environmental Philosophy

Examination of basic ideas and value systems that affect the relationship between humans and their environment. Locates our current environmental problems within their broader philosophical context. Offered fall semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0300 Logic: The Art of Reasoning

A course designed to familiarize students with the principles of effective reasoning and to provide tools for separating good from bad arguments. It studies formal and informal fallacies and is helpful for students preparing for GREs or LSATs. Offered spring semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0310 Ethics and Social Values

An introduction to several ethical theories with attempts to evaluate same by applying them to societal problems. Offered spring semester. 4 credits.

PHI-0330 Special Topics in Philosophy

Examination of selected ideas or topics of interest otherwise not covered; some examples are Eastern philosophies, postmodernism, ethical questions in bioethics, philosophical interpretations of evolutionary theory and biological roots of human nature. Offered as needed. 4 credits.

PHI-0401 Seminar on Individual Philosophers

Significant texts and ideas of an important philosopher to be examined in depth. May include two philosophers who can be compared and contrasted. Examples include Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Hume, Kant, Nietzsche. Offered as needed. 4 credits.

PHI-0420 Senior Seminar

A seminar in special areas, designed according to the needs of majors. 2-4 credits.

PHI-0482 Independent Study

Arranged on an individual basis. The area of study is selected by the student in consultation with the instructor. 1, 2, or 4 credits.

PHI-0485 Internship

Supervised experience in an appropriate work setting. Faculty/student conferences and evaluation sessions will be held periodically. Credits to be determined based on breadth and duration of internship.

POLITICAL SCIENCE***Degree Offered***

B.A., Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
Legal Studies Track

Faculty

Robert F. Mulvihill, Associate Professor, Political Science

Discipline Chair, Political Science

Eleanor Gubins, Assistant Professor, Economics and Political Science

Discipline Chair, Economics

Masood Ghaznavi, Professor Emeritus, History and Political Science

Kathleen Murray, Adjunct Instructor, Political Science

The course offerings of the Political Science Department emphasize an understanding of political thought and practice around the world and in the United States. The program enables the student to engage in independent critical and creative thought on the problems and issues of contemporary politics and to communicate those ideas effectively. The program supports and encourages student involvement in several important activities related to the law, international politics, and American politics, and prepares students for a full range of career choices from business to public service, from law school to graduate school. Students are competitively selected to participate in several major conferences, including participation in the foreign affairs conferences of the three military academies and an active Model United Nations program.

The discipline offers a special minor in Governmental Relations designed to prepare the student for work or study in government relations, public policy, or public administration. The Kane Political Science fund supports a range of activities within the discipline, including lectures, student trips, and topical conferences. The discipline sponsors the Law Society which is open to all students from all disciplines. The Law Society's primary mission is to help prepare students for application and admission to law school. In addition, it sponsors lectures and discussions on issues related to the law.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE