

Department of Philosophy

Mission of the Department

The Department of Philosophy offers a selection of courses that provide the intellectual tools for discussing and pursuing the ultimate truth and ultimate good, the core mission of Catholic liberal arts college education.

Major for the Bachelor of Arts Degree

Philosophy
Ethics and Values Studies

Minor for the Bachelor of Arts Degree

Philosophy
Ethics and Values Studies

Goals of the Major in Philosophy

The major in Philosophy acknowledges three goals for its program of study:

1. Introduce students to the discussion of the ultimate truth and ultimate good;
2. Familiarize students with major philosophical issues and thinkers; and,
3. Prepare majors, minors and others for graduate study in such professional fields as philosophy, theology, and law.

I. Major Program Requirements

Thirty-three (33) semester credits of philosophy, including the following:

PHIL 113 Formal Logic
PHIL 151 Ancient Philosophy
PHIL 202 Medieval Philosophy
PHIL 303 Modern Philosophy
PHIL 304 Contemporary Philosophy
PHIL 310 Metaphysics
PHIL 313 Epistemology
PHIL 324 Ethical Theory
PHIL 495 Philosophy Seminar

II. Other Program Requirements

1. A modern or classical second language through intermediate level.
2. A comprehensive examination at the end of the student's senior year. The philosophy examination consists of written answers to questions selected from a previously disclosed list and later oral discussion of the written answers. Students who are writing an honors thesis are exempt from the comprehensive examination.

Note: All degree students should review requirements for graduation as described in this catalog.

Goals of the Major in Ethics and Values Studies

The major in Ethics and Values Studies acknowledges three goals for its program of study:

1. Introduce students to the discussion of the ultimate truth and ultimate good;
2. Bring students to an awareness of the role of ethics and values in many areas of personal and social endeavor; and,
3. Move students toward ethical decision-making in all areas of social interaction.

I. Major Program Requirements

Thirty-three (33) credit hours, including the following:

PHIL 107 Ethics
PHIL 324 Ethical Theory
PHIL 496 Ethical Issues in Contemporary Media

Two of the following courses:

PHIL 206 Environmental Ethics
PHIL 207 Business Ethics
PHIL 208 Bioethics
CO 308 Communication Ethics

Three of the following courses:

PHIL 151 Ancient Philosophy
PHIL 202 Medieval Philosophy
PHIL 303 Modern Philosophy
PHIL 304 Contemporary Philosophy

Three of the following courses, to be chosen from three different disciplines:

AN/SO 208 The Family
AN/SO 317 Ethnic and Racial Relations
CO 280 Gender Communications
PHIL 121 Philosophy of Human Being
PHIL 255 Art and Beauty
PHIL 256 Social and Political Philosophy
PO 206 Modern Political Ideologies
PO 250 Contemporary Issues in American Politics
SO 200 Social Problems
SO 215 Contemporary Issues in Rural and Urban Sociology
SO 351 Medical Sociology
TH 205 Moral Theology
TH 209 Christian Social Teachings
TH 220-229 Ethical Studies
TH 255 Theology of the Land

II. Other program requirements

1. Modern or classical language through the intermediate level
2. Successful completion of the department's comprehensive examination or successful completion of an honor's thesis with at least the director or one reader from the Philosophy Department.

Minor in Philosophy

Minor Program Requirements

Eighteen (18) semester credits of philosophy, including:

PHIL 495 Philosophy Seminar
and at least one course from among the following:
PHIL 310 Metaphysics
PHIL 313 Epistemology
PHIL 324 Ethical Theory

Minor in Ethics and Values Studies

Minor Program Requirements

Eighteen (18) semester credits including:

PHIL 107 Ethics
PHIL 324 Ethical Theory
PHIL 496 Ethical Issues in Contemporary Media

Two of the following courses:

PHIL 206 Environmental Ethics
PHIL 207 Business Ethics
PHIL 208 Bioethics
CO 308 Communication Ethics

One of the following courses:

AN/SO 208 The Family
AN/SO 218 Ethnic and Racial Relations
CO 280 Gender Communications
PHIL 121 Philosophy of Human Being
PHIL 255 Art and Beauty
PHIL 256 Social and Political Philosophy
PO 206 Modern Political Ideologies
PO 250 Contemporary Issues in American Politics
SO 200 Social Problems
SO 215 Contemporary Issues in Rural and Urban Sociology
SO 351 Medical Sociology
TH 205 Moral Theology
TH 209 Christian Social Teachings
TH 220-229 Ethical Studies
TH 255 Theology of the Land