

PHILOSOPHY (PHIL)

Updated December 2, 2024

Chair: A. Scarfe

Professors: J. Forsey, J.R. Muir

DEGREES/PROGRAMS OFFERED

3-Year BA

4-Year BA

Honours BA

Minor

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Philosophy at the University of Winnipeg has a long commitment to an historical approach to philosophy and philosophical education which our graduates attest has served them well. Students in our Department have the opportunity to examine authors from every historical period, and from Europe, the Middle East, North America, and other parts of the world. They can investigate philosophy's fundamental metaphysical, epistemological, and axiological questions: What is the nature of the universe? What can I know? What should I become? What should I do? This historical approach allows students to encounter diverse answers to these questions and come to understand the historical origins of the dominant answers to these questions in contemporary society. In addition to courses in the Department's History Stream, students have the opportunity to select courses from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream or the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream.

The Department offers a variety of 3-Year, 4-Year, and Honours BA programs and a minor. Philosophy courses also provide an excellent theoretical adjunct to majors in other departments. Introduction to Logical Reasoning provides valuable critical thinking tools for all students. The Department offers discipline-specific courses such as Philosophy of Education for Education, Philosophy of Literature for English, Philosophy of History for History, Philosophy of Religion for Religion, and Philosophy of Mind for Psychology. There are also applied ethics courses such as Environmental Ethics for Environmental Science/Studies students and Health Care and Bioethics for prospective doctors, nurses, and other biomedical professionals. Philosophy of the Natural Sciences or Philosophy of the Social Sciences will be of interest to students in these programs.

In addition to increasing one's understanding of possible answers to important questions, philosophy courses enhance students' thinking and writing skills. Philosophy courses are useful to students planning careers in journalism, law, education, policy-making, politics, theology, education, administration, and counseling. Graduate Studies in philosophy typically requires students to have an Honours degree in Philosophy.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A 3-YEAR BA IN PHILOSOPHY

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT	Students must consult with the Department Chair or a member of the Department before declaring a major and are encouraged to do so before the end of their second year.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENT	90 credit hours
RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT	
Degree:	Minimum 30 credit hours
Major:	Minimum 18 credit hours
GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT	
Humanities:	12 credit hours in Humanities
Science:	6 credit hours in Science
Writing:	Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing
Indigenous:	3 credit hours in designated Indigenous requirement courses
Maximum Introductory Courses:	42 credit hours at the 1000 level. 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level. As a result, students must take a minimum of 48 credit hours at the 2000 level or above in order to not exceed the maximum number of introductory courses.
Distribution:	Minimum 3 credit hours from each of 5 different subjects
MAJOR REQUIREMENT	
Single Major:	Minimum 30 credit hours/maximum 48 credit hours
Double Major:	30 credit hours in Philosophy and satisfy minimum credit hours requirement in the other Department/program.
Required courses in Single or Double Major:	
PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)	6 credit hours of History Stream courses
PHIL-1301(6) or PHIL-2302(6)	6 credit hours from either the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream OR the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream
	6 credit hours in any Stream
Depth Requirement:	
	Minimum 6 credit hours must be at the 3000 or 4000 level.

Combined Major: Minimum 48 credit hours from 2 different majors with not less than 24 credit hours in Philosophy courses

Required courses:

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-1301(6) or PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

NOTE: PHIL-1301 and either PHIL-1001 or PHIL-1002 may be taken for degree credit.
3000 and 4000 level courses are offered in rotation.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A 4-YEAR BA IN PHILOSOPHY

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT Students must consult with the Department Chair or a member of the Department before declaring a major and are encouraged to do so before the end of their second year.
Students should already have completed 30 credit hours.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT 120 credit hours

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Degree: Minimum 60 credit hours

Major: Minimum 30 credit hours

GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT

Humanities: 12 credit hours in Humanities

Science: 6 credit hours in Science

Social Science: 12 credit hours in Social Science

Writing: Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing

Indigenous: 3 credit hours in designated Indigenous requirement courses

Maximum Introductory Courses: 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level. As a result, students must take a minimum of 78 credit hours at the 2000 level or above in order to not exceed the maximum number of introductory courses.

Distribution: Minimum 3 credit hours from each of 5 different subjects

MAJOR REQUIREMENT

Single Major: Minimum 48 credit hours/maximum 66 credit hours

Double Major: Minimum 48 credit hours in each major subject as specified by the Department/program
Minimum of 18 credit hours/maximum of 36 credit hours ancillary course
Maximum total of major courses is 84 credit hours

Required courses for Single and Double Major:

Program Core (30 credits)

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

6 credit hours from the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream

6 credit hours from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream

Stream Requirement: 9 credit hours in a Stream

Electives: 9 credit hours

Depth Requirement:

6 credits 3000 level courses

6 credits 4000 level courses

Required courses for Student Directed Stream:

Program Core (30 credits)

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

6 credit hours from the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream

6 credit hours from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream

18 credit hours Thematic selection of courses in consultation with the Department Chair or a member of the Department

Depth Requirement:

6 credits 3000 level courses

6 credits 4000 level courses

Combined Major: Minimum 60 credit hours from two (2) different majors with not less than 30 credit hours from each major subject

Required Courses:

Program Core (30 credits)

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

6 credit hours from the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream

6 credit hours from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream

Depth Requirement:

6 credits 3000 level courses

6 credits 4000 level courses

NOTE: PHIL-1301 and either PHIL-1001 or PHIL-1002 may be taken for degree credit.
3000 and 4000 level courses are offered in rotation.

REQUIREMENTS FOR AN HONOURS BA IN PHILOSOPHY

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT

Students must consult with the Department Chair or a member of the Department to enter the Honours program and are encouraged to do so before the end of their second year.

Students should already have completed 30 credit hours.

Entry, continuing and graduation minimum GPA is 3.0 (B) in Philosophy courses and 2.5 (C+) in other courses.

The minimum 3.0 GPA (B) will be based on all attempts (including course repeats and failures) in Honours Subject courses.

The minimum 2.5 GPA (C+) in all Non-Honours Subject courses will be calculated as for the general degree (i.e., F's are not included, and in the case of repeated courses, only the highest grade will be used).

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT 120 credit hours

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Degree: Minimum 60 credit hours

Honours: Minimum 30 credit hours, including minimum 18 credit hours at upper level (3000/4000) of which a minimum of 9 credit hours must be at 4000 level

GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT

Humanities: 12 credit hours in Humanities

Science: 6 credit hours in Science

Writing: Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing

Indigenous: 3 credit hours in designated Indigenous requirement courses

Maximum Introductory Courses: 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level. As a result, students must take a minimum of 78 credit hours at the 2000 level or above in order to not exceed the maximum number of introductory courses.

Distribution: Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects

HONOURS REQUIREMENT

Single Honours: Minimum 54 credit hours/maximum 78 credit hours in the Honours subject

Minimum 12 credit hours at 3000 level in Philosophy

Minimum 18 credit hours at 4000 level in Philosophy

Double Honours: Minimum 36 credit hours in each Honours subject

Minimum 12 credit hours at 3000 level in Philosophy

Minimum 18 credit hours at 4000 level in Philosophy

Consult department involved for the requirements of the other Honours subject

Required courses:

Single Honours:

Program Core (30 credits)

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

6 credit hours from the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream

6 credit hours from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream

Stream Requirement: 12 credit hours in a Stream

PHIL-4800(6) or 6 credit hours 4000 level in student's Stream

Electives: 6 credit hours

Depth Requirement:

12 credit hours 3000 level courses

18 credit hours 4000 level courses (including PHIL-4800(6) or 6 credit hour 4000 level courses)

Student Directed Honours Program:

Program Core (30 credits)

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

6 credit hours from the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream

6 credit hours from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream

18 credit hours Thematic selection of courses in consultation with the Department Chair or a member of the Department

PHIL-4800(6) or 6 credit hours 4000 level in student's Theme

Depth Requirement:

12 credit hours 3000 level courses

18 credit hours 4000 level courses (including PHIL-4800(6) or 6 credit hour 4000-level courses)

Double Honours:

Program Core (30 credits)

PHIL-1001(6) or PHIL-1002(6)

PHIL-2302(6)

6 credit hours from the History Stream

6 credit hours from the Metaphysics and Epistemology Stream

6 credit hours from the Ethics, Politics, and Value Theory Stream

Stream Requirement: 12 credit hours in a Stream

PHIL-4800(6) or 6 credit hours 4000 level in a Stream

Depth Requirement:

12 credit hours 3000 level courses

18 credit hours 4000 level courses (including PHIL-4800(6) or 6 credit hour 4000 level courses.)

NOTE: PHIL-1301 and either PHIL-1001 or PHIL-1002 may be taken for degree credit.

3000 and 4000 level courses are offered in rotation.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN PHILOSOPHY

Degree:	Students completing any undergraduate degree program are eligible to complete the minor.
Minor:	18 credit hours in the minor subject, with a minimum of 12 credit hours above the 1000 level
Residence Requirement:	Minimum 12 credit hours in the minor subject
Required courses:	Any 18 credit hours in Philosophy, subject to the above requirements
Restrictions:	Students cannot declare the same subject as a major and a minor

GENERAL INFORMATION

Students are advised that 3000 and 4000 level courses are offered in rotation. To complete your degree in a timely manner, you are advised to meet regularly with the Department Chair or a member of the Department.

Philosophy Course Selection

Year 1 students are advised to take a 1000 level course, although 2000 level courses do not generally require a prerequisite. For Year 2 students, or beyond, the first Philosophy course may be at the 2000 level.

3000 level courses require a minimum of 12 credit hours in Philosophy

4000 level courses require:

A minimum of 15 credit hours in Philosophy (9 credits at 2000 level or higher)

B average or better in Philosophy courses

Written permission of the Department Chair

Courses may only be counted once for degree requirements

3000 and 4000 level Topics courses may be repeated when the topics are different

Humanities Requirement

PHIL-2302(6) Logic does not fulfill the Humanities Requirement

Credit for Logic courses received by transfer from other institutions does **not** fulfill the Humanities requirement

Cross-Listed Courses

Approval of the Department Chair or a member of the Department is required to count more than one Philosophy cross-listed course for credit towards the major

STREAMS

HISTORY STREAM COURSES

PHIL 2002(3) History of Philosophy: Classical
PHIL 2003(3) History of Philosophy: Early Modern
PHIL 2004(3) History of Philosophy: 19th Century
PHIL 2005(3) History of Philosophy: Recent
Anglo-American
PHIL 2010(3) History of Philosophy: Existentialism
PHIL-2020(3) History of Philosophy: Renaissance
PHIL 2112(3) History of Philosophy: Medieval Latin
PHIL 2291(3) History of Educational Ideas
PHIL 3502(3) History of Philosophy: Medieval Arabic and
Hebraic

PHIL 3504(3) Plato and Before
PHIL 3505(3) Aristotle and After
PHIL 3507(3) 17th Century Philosophy
PHIL 3508(3) 18th Century Philosophy
PHIL 3509(3) 19th Century Philosophy
PHIL 3510(3) Anglo-American Philosophy
PHIL 3511(3) Postmodern Philosophy
PHIL 4117(3) Topics in Continental Philosophy
PHIL 4503(3) Topics in the History of Philosophy

ETHICS, POLITICS, AND VALUE THEORY STREAM COURSES

PHIL/POL-2200(6) Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 2201(6) Moral Philosophy
PHIL 2202(3) Health Care and Bioethics
PHIL 2207(3) Philosophy of Law
PHIL 2208(3) War and Peace
PHIL 2219(3) Philosophy of Art
PHIL 2220(3) Philosophy of Literature
PHIL 2230(3) Moral Issues in Business

PHIL/IS-2240(3) Indigenous Justice Issues
PHIL 2233(3) Environmental Ethics
PHIL 2281(3) Philosophy of Education
PHIL 3215(3) Philosophy and Social Reality
PHIL 3514(3) Topics in Applied Ethics
PHIL 3515(3) Topics in Political Philosophy
PHIL 3516(3) Topics in Applied Political Philosophy
PHIL 4204(3) Topics in Moral Philosophy

PHIL 4501(3) Topics in Aesthetics

PHIL 4504(3) Topics in Social and Political Philosophy

METAPHYSICS AND EPISTEMOLOGY STREAM COURSES

PHIL 2232(3) Philosophy of Religion

PHIL 2234(3) Philosophy of Nature

PHIL 2251(3) Philosophy of the Natural Sciences

PHIL 2252(3) Philosophy of the Social Sciences

PHIL 2264(3) Philosophy of Mind

PHIL 3100(3) Epistemology

PHIL 3101(3) Metaphysics

PHIL 3304(3) Philosophy of Language

PHIL 3512(3) Philosophy of Mind

PHIL 4266(3) Topics in Epistemology

PHIL 4267(3) Topics in Metaphysics

PHIL 4277(3) Topics in Analytic Philosophy

Students are advised that 3000 and 4000 level courses are offered in rotation and may not be offered in each session.

PHIL-4700(3) Directed Individual Study This course requires permission of Instructor and the Department Chair. Students should have demonstrated ability to do independent work. A preliminary course description must be submitted in writing to the Instructor and the Department Chair by the end of the first week of term. Students should consult their Instructor well in advance of that deadline.

PHIL-4800(6) Honours Thesis: Students wishing to enrol in this course must be enrolled in the Honours Program and consult with the Department Chair or a member of the Department to determine a thesis topic.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All course descriptions for all undergraduate programs can now be found in one large PDF called "All course descriptions" in the "Academic Calendar" section of the University website:

<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/index.html>