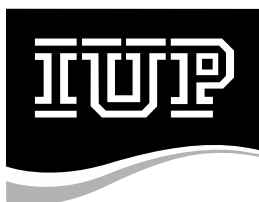


UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2017–18

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
www.iup.edu/philosophy

This document is a direct extract from the full 2017–18 *Undergraduate Catalog*. As a result, the original page numbering will appear.

For information on other colleges at IUP, or about specific courses, please consult the full 2017–18 catalog, available at www.iup.edu/registrar/catalog. Earlier catalogs are also available at this web address.



Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Department of Philosophy

Website: www.iup.edu/philosophy

Mary C. MacLeod, Chairperson; Pedersen, Rives, Rubenstein; and professors emeriti Begres, Boone, Bouffard

The discipline of philosophy involves sustained, rigorous focus on some of the deepest questions human beings ask, questions about the nature of reality, thought and consciousness, the scope and limits of human knowledge, the value and essence of art, and the foundations of ethics and justice. Philosophy distinguishes itself by its methods: unpacking concepts, questioning beliefs, evaluating arguments, and examining the methods and assumptions of other disciplines, including natural science, social science, law, and fine arts. Interdisciplinary focus is inherent in philosophy, and most courses offered by the department are designed to be accessible to a broad range of students, not just those majoring in philosophy.

Students of philosophy learn to read carefully, think independently, communicate clearly, argue cogently, spot fallacies, clarify muddled reasoning, and identify questionable assumptions. Surveys show that such critical reasoning and analytical writing skills are those most sought by potential employers. Standardized exams for graduate, business, and law school test for such skills, and the data demonstrate that philosophy majors do extraordinarily well on them. Historically, according to Educational Testing Service data, philosophy majors outperform all other majors on both the Verbal Reasoning section and the Analytical Writing section of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).

Two degree programs are available: a bachelor of arts degree program in philosophy and a bachelor of arts degree program in philosophy/pre-law. A Philosophy minor is also offered. The Philosophy BA is best suited to students intending a broad education in philosophy. Some philosophy majors earn advanced degrees and pursue academic careers, but most pursue

careers in law, medicine, public service, business, or information technology. The Philosophy/Pre-law Track is designed for students intending to pursue an advanced degree in law and provides ideal training in the skills required for close, critical reading of legal texts, a fact borne out by law school admissions rates and LSAT performance data.

A significant number of students interested in exploring interdisciplinary connections choose philosophy as a second major, both for its flexibility and the new perspective it provides on the primary major. Course work in metaphysics (PHIL 420), the philosophy of science (PHIL 330), and the theory of knowledge (PHIL 421) deepens students' understanding of the methods and assumptions of natural science and social science. Course work in the history of ideas deepens students' appreciation of the Western intellectual tradition and their understanding of academic pursuits, generally (PHIL 324, 325, 326, and 410). Course work in ethics (PHIL 122) and political philosophy (PHIL 323) provides orientation for work in social science, business, law, criminology, or safety science. Philosophers also take a distinctive perspective on aesthetic questions of interest to fine arts majors (PHIL 223) and questions about the nature of the mind of interest to psychology majors (PHIL 360).

Honors in Philosophy

The department offers students an opportunity to graduate with honors in philosophy. The option is encouraged for students intending to pursue graduate or advanced professional degrees. Philosophy majors and philosophy/pre-law majors may be invited to apply or may nominate themselves. In either case, to be considered for Honors in Philosophy, students must have earned at least 60 credits in total, with a minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA and a minimum 3.5 GPA in philosophy courses. Honors in Philosophy requires completion of a two-semester, 6-credit, Honors Thesis Independent Study. The honors thesis is completed individually under the direction of a department professor who specializes in the student's area of interest and is approved by a thesis committee comprising the director and two other readers. To determine how honors will be integrated into existing requirements for the philosophy or philosophy/pre-law major, students should consult their assigned advisors. Students completing the departmental honors program are recognized at departmental commencement ceremonies.

Bachelor of Arts—Philosophy

Liberal Studies: As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: 49-50

Mathematics: 3cr

Liberal Studies Electives: 9cr, no courses with PHIL prefix

College: 0-6
Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)

Major: 30

Required Courses:

PHIL 221 Symbolic Logic I 3cr

PHIL 324 Ancient Greek Philosophy 3cr

PHIL 325 Early Modern European Philosophy 3cr

Controlled Electives:

Three PHIL courses (9cr) (with restrictions) (2, 3) 9cr

At least two courses from the following two categories

Knowledge and Reality: 6cr

Six credits from the following:

PHIL 330, 350, 360, 390, 420, 421, 460

Ethics and Values: 6cr

Six credits from the following:

PHIL 223, 232, 240, 270, 320, 323, 326, 450

Free Electives: 34-41

Total Degree Requirements: 120

- (1) Intermediate-level foreign language may be included in Liberal Studies electives.
- (2) In addition to PHIL 221, no more than four 100- and 200-level courses may be counted toward the major. Only PHIL courses may be counted toward the major.

- (3) No more than 9 non-classwork credits may be counted toward the major. Non-classwork credits include independent study, independent honors project, and internship in philosophy.

Bachelor of Arts—Philosophy/Pre-law Track

Liberal Studies: As outlined in Liberal Studies section with the following specifications: 49-50

Mathematics: 3cr

Liberal Studies Electives: 9cr, no courses with PHIL prefix

College: 0-6
Foreign Language Intermediate Level (1)

Major: 30

Required Courses:

PHIL 221 Symbolic Logic I 3cr

PHIL 324 Ancient Greek Philosophy 3cr

PHIL 325 Early Modern European Philosophy 3cr

Controlled Electives:

Three PHIL courses (9cr) (with restrictions) (2, 3) 9cr

At least two courses from the following two categories

Knowledge and Reality: 6cr

Six credits from the following:

PHIL 330, 350, 360, 390, 420, 421, 460

Ethics and Values: 6cr

Six credits from the following:

PHIL 223, 232, 240, 270, 320, 323, 326, 450

Other Requirements: Pre-law Interdisciplinary Track 15-21

Seven courses, including at least one from each of six areas:

Business: ACCT 201, ACCT 202, BLAW 235

Criminology: CRIM 210, 215, 225, 255

Economics: ECON 121, 122, 332

English: ENGL 212, 227, 265, 310, 321

History: HIST 320, 341, 342, 346, 475

Political Science: PLSC 358, 359, 361, 405

Free Electives: 13-26

Total Degree Requirements: 120

- (1) Intermediate-level foreign language may be included in Liberal Studies electives.
- (2) In addition to PHIL 221, no more than four 100- and 200-level courses may be counted toward the major. Only PHIL courses may be counted toward the major.
- (3) No more than 9 non-classwork credits may be counted toward the major. Non-classwork credits include independent study, independent honors project, and internship in philosophy.

Minor—Philosophy 18

Controlled Electives:

Six PHIL courses (with restrictions) (1, 2) 18cr

- (1) No more than three 100- and 200-level courses may be counted toward the minor. Only PHIL courses may be counted toward the minor. Unless otherwise indicated in the Course Descriptions, all 300- and 400-level courses require either philosophy major or minor status, junior or senior standing, or permission of the instructor.
- (2) No more than 3 non-classwork credits may be counted toward the minor. Non-classwork credits include independent study, independent honors project, and internship in philosophy.

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Required Course:

PHIL 483/H/ Honors Thesis in Philosophy 6cr