

PHILOSOPHY

Communication Arts 265 • (262) 595-2331 • www.uwp.edu/academic/philosophy

Degree Offered:

Bachelor of Arts.

Professor:

Cress, Ph.D.

Associate Professors:

Longeway, Ph.D. (Chair)

Assistant Professor:

Zaibert, Ph.D.

Instructor:

Pearson, M.A.

Professional Accreditations or Memberships:

American Philosophical Association, Philosophy of Science Association

Student Organizations/Clubs:

Parkside Philosophical Society

Career Possibilities:

Because of its emphasis on critical thinking and conceptual analysis, philosophy provides excellent preparation for a wide variety of professional studies and careers. UW-Parkside philosophy graduates have pursued many vocational interests in the past, from graduate work to law to business.

Department Overview

“The unexamined life is not worth living.”

- Socrates

Philosophy is the rational investigation of those truths about reality, knowledge and values essential to understanding the place of human beings in the world and the nature of the good life. It includes within its scope both the study of logic and scientific method, including the metaphysical presuppositions of the sciences, and the investigation of ethical and political values, and so it often provides reflective insight for other fields of study.

The Philosophy department offers its majors and minors a variety of courses in traditional areas of philosophical inquiry while providing a broad range of general education courses and courses bearing on other disciplines, which are cross listed in other departments.

Preparation for Graduate School

Completing the major in philosophy will prepare students for entrance into graduate school in the field, but those interested in this option should endeavor to take as many upper-level courses as they can in as many areas as possible, including especially the history of philosophy. Graduates in philosophy have also pursued graduate study in psychology, art history, library science and law.

Requirements for the Philosophy Major

The major in philosophy consists of a minimum of 36 credits in philosophy courses. The following requirements apply to all majors:

1. PHIL 102 Great Thinkers (3 credits) and PHIL 201 Logic (3 credits) are required.
2. At least 15 credits of upper-level courses in the major must be completed at UW-Parkside. PHIL 410 Senior Seminar in Philosophy (3 cr), 496 Directed Study and 499 Independent Study do not count toward these 15 credits.
3. No more than 6 credits of PHIL 496 Directed Study and 499 Independent Study, will count toward the major.
4. A grade of C-minus or higher is required in any course to be counted toward the major.
5. A 2.50 or better GPA in courses counting toward the major is required. Not all philosophy courses need be counted toward the major.
6. In the senior year, philosophy majors must take PHIL 410 Senior Seminar, and in connection with this course, prepare a portfolio of work done at UW-Parkside demonstrating competence in the presentation and evaluation of philosophical issues.
7. All majors are required to pass three out of four area examinations in the senior year. These exams are given in (1) ethics, value theory and social and political thought; (2) the history of philosophy; (3) metaphysics and philosophy of mind; and (4) epistemology, logic and the philosophy of science. The examinations will consist of essay/research questions which the individual student may propose but must be agreed to by the examiner, and they will be assessed by the faculty of the entire department. With departmental approval, revisions of papers written for courses may be used to satisfy this requirement.
8. All seniors in the major are required to present a paper before a joint meeting of the department and the Parkside Philosophical Society.

Requirements for the Philosophy Minor

The minor in philosophy consists of a minimum of 18 credits in philosophy. The following requirements apply to all philosophy minors:

1. At least 15 credits must be taken in courses numbered over 200.
2. At least 9 credits must be taken at the 300 level or above at UW-Parkside.

3. A grade of C-minus or higher is required in any course to be counted toward the minor.
4. A 2.50 or better GPA in courses counting toward the minor is required.

Requirements for the Minor in Philosophy of Natural Science

The minor in philosophy of natural science is open to students majoring in biological sciences, geology, mathematics, computer science and physics, and to others by consent of the chair of the Philosophy Department. Eighteen credits of course work will be required to complete the minor.

I. Required Courses:

Philosophy

PHIL 105	Introduction to Scientific Thought . . .	3 cr
PHIL 201	Logic	3 cr
PHIL 310	Philosophy of Science	3 cr

History

HIST 221	Beginnings of Science	3 cr
or		
HIST 222	History of Modern Science since 1750 .	3 cr

II. Electives (Choose 2):

GSCI 102	Science and Pseudoscience	3 cr
PHIL 102	Great Thinkers	3 cr
HIST 221	Beginnings of Science	3 cr
or		
HIST 222	History of Modern Science since 1750 .	3 cr
MATH 373	History of Mathematics	3 cr
PHIL 303	Set Theory and Logic	3 cr
	(Cross listed as MATH 303)	
PHIL 203	Truth, Knowledge and Belief	3 cr
PHIL 204	Reason and Reality	3 cr
PHIL 310	Philosophy of Science	3 cr
	(may repeat with different topic)	

Other courses will be accepted as electives from time to time as suitable.

Courses in Philosophy (PHIL)

Students who are required to take English 100 should not enroll in a philosophy course until they have satisfactorily completed English 100.

- 101 Introduction to Philosophy**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Fall, Spring.
 An introduction to philosophical method and typical philosophical issues, such as the existence of God, life after death, freewill, the nature and sources of knowledge and the nature of justice.
- 102 Great Thinkers**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Fall.
 A survey of the history of philosophical thought in the West from its beginnings to the 20th century, emphasizing its social and political context and its relations to the sciences.

- 104 Introduction to Human Values**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Yearly.
 An examination of social controversies from a number of value perspectives including those of moral choice, social policy, religious doctrine and scientific theory.
- 105 Introduction to Scientific Thought**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Yearly.
 This course provides a general introduction to the purposes, philosophy, and procedures of the natural sciences through a discussion of scientific thought and value selection. Issues discussed include methods of scientific investigation, hypothesis formation, and theory selection; science vs. pseudoscience; and science and social values.
- 200 Topics in the History of Philosophy**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Spring.
 Examination in depth of a selected figure, movement, or issue in the history of philosophy. Original sources in translation are studied. May be repeated for credit.
- 201 Logic**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Fall.
 Emphasis on basic skills of critical thinking, in particular the construction and analysis of arguments in every day life. Formal and informal arguments are investigated.
- 203 Truth, Knowledge and Belief**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Alternate years.
 Discussion of epistemological topics such as experience and perception, innate knowledge, skepticism and rational belief, and the nature of truth. May be repeated once for credit with different content.
- 204 Reason and Reality**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Alternate years.
 Metaphysical issues such as free will, cosmology, the nature of reality, space and time, causality, particulars and universals, and humanity's place and meaning in the universe. May be repeated once for credit with different content.
- 205 Philosophy of Religion**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Fall, Spring.
 Introduction to major philosophical issues in religion, including the existence of God, the supernatural, the problem of evil, life's meaning, faith, reason, religious belief, science and morality and the nature of religious commitment.
- 206 Introduction to Ethics**.....3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Yearly.
 Examination of the nature of ethics and its relationship to law and religion. Discussion and appraisal of typical meta-ethical challenges to the possibility of ethics, such as relativism, subjectivism, positivism, naturalism, and egoism. Discussion of the most important normative ethical systems: virtue ethics, deontology, and utilitarianism, with particular emphasis on the work of Aristotle, Mill and Kant.
- 207 Classical Political Philosophy**.....
Prereq: One of the following: POLS 100, 105, PHIL 101, HIST 118. Freq: Occasionally.
 The works of the classical Greek political philosophers, Solon through Aristotle. (Cross listed as POLS 207.)

- 213 Aesthetics**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Yearly.
 Objectivity and criteria of art criticism, nature of aesthetic experience, and nature of art. Papers on theory and criticism will be required from students in ART 461, or any other 300- or 400-level course. May be repeated once under different topics by consent of department chair. (Cross listed as MUS 213 and ART 461).
- 215 Contemporary Moral Problems**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Alternate years.
 Discussion of contemporary moral problems and related theoretical issues, focusing on such issues as sexual morality, punishment, abortion, racism, sexism, warfare and civil disobedience.
- 220 Politics, Law, and Society**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Yearly.
 Issues in political philosophy such as the nature and justification of political doctrines and systems, and analysis of such concepts as justice, freedom, equality and authority. May be repeated once for credit with different content. (Cross listed with POLS 221.)
- 231 Christian Thought**3 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Fall.
 Topics in Christian philosophy, both historical and contemporary (i.e. faith and reason, St. Augustine, contemporary Christian). May be repeated once for credit with different topic.
- 290 Special Topics in Philosophy**1-4 cr
Prereq: None. Freq: Occasionally.
 Selected topics in philosophy will be examined.
- 302 Topics in The History of Philosophy**3 cr
Prereq: One PHIL course or consent of instructor. Freq: Spring.
 Examination in depth of a selected figure, movement, or issue in the history of philosophy. Original sources in translation are studied. Research paper required. May be repeated for credit.
- 303 Set Theory and Logic**3 cr
Prereq: PHIL 201 or MATH 223 or consent of instructor. Freq: Occasionally.
 Elementary propositional and predicate logic; language and axioms of set theory; operations on sets; well-orderings, ordinals, transfinite induction and recursion; cardinals; the axiom of choice and some equivalents. Additional topics chosen in accordance with the interests and needs of the participants. (Cross listed as MATH 303.)
- 304 Theories of International Relations**3 cr
Prereq: POLS 104 or consent of instructor. Freq: Spring.
 Contemporary theories of international relations with selected applications to current issues of relationships in international politics. (Cross listed as POLS 304.)
- 305 Philosophical Analysis**3 cr
Prereq: PHIL 201 or 203 or consent of instructor. Freq: Alternate years.
 Topics in epistemology, philosophical logic, philosophy of language, and/or philosophic method. May be repeated once for credit.
- 306 Modern Political Philosophy**3 cr
Prereq: One of the following: POLS 100, 105, PHIL 101, HIST 119, 120 or consent of instructor. Freq: Alternate Springs.
 Exploration of the origins of liberalism, conservatism and socialism. Readings include Machiavelli, Locke, Rousseau, Mill, DeToqueville, and Marx. (Cross listed as POLS 306.)
- 307 Contemporary Political Thought**3 cr
Prereq: One POLS or PHIL course. Freq: Yearly.
 Explores major ideas, directions, issues, and problems of contemporary political thinkers. Philosophical dimensions of contemporary political and social problems; applications of concepts to contemporary problems. (Cross listed as POLS 307.)
- 310 Philosophy of Science**3 cr
Prereq: PHIL 105 or 201 or consent of instructor. Freq: Alternate years.
 An examination of such topics as the nature of scientific methods and theories; explanation, prediction, confirmation, reduction, the relations among science, culture and values, and science versus pseudoscience. May be repeated once for credit.
- 315 Metaphysics**3 cr
Prereq: PHIL 204 or 205 or consent of instructor. Freq: Alternate years.
 Topics relating to the fundamental nature of reality and of the human condition (i.e., freewill, mind/body, the meaning of life, etc.) May be repeated once for credit.
- 320 Value Theory**3 cr
Prereq: PHIL 206 or consent of instructor. Freq: Alternate years.
 Topics in moral theory or political theory or special issues such as relativism, science and morality, liberalism, Marxism, fascism, sexism, and human rights. May be repeated for credit with different content.
- 328 Ethics in the Criminal Justice System**3 cr
Prereq: One course in PHIL, CRMJ 101, or consent of instructor. Freq: Yearly.
 An examination of ethical issues arising in connection with criminal justice in particular, punishment, legal and police ethics, and the justice of institutions associated with criminal justice.
- 410 Senior Seminar in Philosophy**3 cr
Prereq: Senior standing in the philosophy major. Freq: Fall.
 Preparation of senior portfolio in philosophy, senior area examinations, and paper to be presented to the department.
- 490 Special Topics in Philosophy**1-4 cr
Prereq: 6 credits in PHIL or consent of instructor. Freq: Occasionally.
 Selected topics in philosophy will be examined.
- 499 Independent Study**1-5 cr
Prereq: Consent of instructor and department chair. Freq: Occasionally.
 Topics individually arranged.