

PHILOSOPHY, BA: GENERAL PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy seeks to illuminate fundamental aspects of the world, of our relation to and knowledge of the world, and of our own nature as rational, purposive, and social beings. The study of philosophy aims at an appreciation of the ways this enterprise has been, is, and might be approached. It also provides a vantage point for reflecting on the nature and achievement of other disciplines, such as science, the arts, and the humanities. Philosophical topics can be divided roughly into value theory (ethics, politics, aesthetics) and theoretical philosophy (epistemology, metaphysics, mind, and logic). The four concentrations available within the major allow students to emphasize different sets of questions.

The General Philosophy Concentration requires a balanced selection of coursework from within both practical and theoretical philosophy as well as the history of these enterprises.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 32. Double majors may entail more course units.

For more information: <http://philosophy.sas.upenn.edu/undergraduate/philosophy-majors-and-minor/philosophy-majors/major-general-philosophy> (<http://philosophy.sas.upenn.edu/undergraduate/philosophy-majors-and-minor/philosophy-majors/major-general-philosophy/>)

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Distribution Requirements</i>		
PHIL 1110	Ancient Greek Philosophy	1
PHIL 1170	History of Modern Philosophy	1
PHIL 1710	Introduction to Logic	1
Select 2 courses in Contemporary Theoretical Philosophy (attribute APLT) (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aplt/)		2
Select 1 course in Value Theory (attribute APLV) (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/aplv/)		1
<i>Level Requirements</i>		
Select 4 course units of Philosophy with at least 2 course units above 2000 and 2 course units at the 3000 or 5000 level		4
<i>Other Courses in Philosophy</i>		
Select 5 other courses in Philosophy		
<i>Courses Outside the Philosophy Department</i>		
Select 2 courses outside the Philosophy Department by approval of the Undergraduate Chair		2
Total Course Units		32

Honors

Must be a Senior Major in Philosophy and have a minimum 3.33 GPA in the major. Applicants must have completed the distribution requirements for the major including two courses above 2000 one of which must be above 3010. Please consult with the Undergraduate Chair for other specific criteria.

Code	Title	Course Units
PHIL 4998	Directed Honors Research (or a 5000-level course)	1

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<http://www.college.upenn.edu/sectors-policy/>).