

PHILOSOPHY

The Philosophy Department:

Department website: <https://philosophy.columbia.edu/>

Office location: 708 Philosophy Hall

Office contact: 212-854-3196, hmd2151@columbia.edu

Director of Undergraduate Studies: Wolfgang Mann, 705 Philosophy Hall; 212-854-7887; wrm4@columbia.edu

Economics-Philosophy Adviser: Jessica Collins, 714 Philosophy Hall; 212-854-3970; jessica.collins@columbia.edu

Undergraduate Administrator: Haley Donovan, 708 Philosophy Hall; 212-854-8507; hmd2151@columbia.edu

The Study of Philosophy

Students interested in philosophy may pursue a major either in philosophy or in economics-philosophy. Because philosophy treats issues fundamental to both the sciences and the humanities, students are also welcome to combine their philosophy major with work in other fields. Before declaring a major in philosophy or economics-philosophy, and before deciding to combine philosophy with another discipline, students should meet with the director of undergraduate studies to formulate the program best for them.

Philosophy majors are given a foundation in logic and philosophical methodology, and are asked to confront fundamental questions in the main areas of philosophy: epistemology and metaphysics, ethics and political philosophy, philosophy of mind and language, and history of philosophy. The department requires that all majors take at least one seminar (PHIL UN3912), designed to allow students to focus on particular philosophical issues or texts in greater depth. Outstanding seniors may also pursue their own philosophical project in a senior thesis.

Over and above the courses required of all majors, there is room for considerable flexibility. Through an appropriate choice of electives from among the department's offerings (and from related courses in other departments), there are special opportunities for focusing more intensively on one or two subfields of philosophy, e.g., logic and the philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of science, ethics and political philosophy, or the history of philosophy. Students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies on how best to pursue such programs.

The Study of Economics-Philosophy

The Joint Major in Economics and Philosophy is an interdisciplinary one which, while introducing students to the basic methodologies of economics and philosophy, stresses areas of particular concern to both. These include subjects such as rationality and decision making, justice and well-being, freedom and collective choice, and the nature of empirical scientific theories.

There are two advisers for the Joint Major, one in the Department of Economics and one in the Department of Philosophy. Please note that the economics adviser can advise only on the economics requirements and the philosophy adviser can advise only on the philosophy requirements.

Prospective majors are strongly advised to discuss the major early in their sophomore year. Each major is expected to meet with the

departmental advisers in the middle of their junior year and at the beginning of their senior year.

Student Advising

Director of Undergraduate Studies: Wolfgang Mann, 705 Philosophy Hall; 212-854-7887; wrm4@columbia.edu

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Consulting Advisers

- Students with questions regarding the Philosophy major or concentration should contact the DUS by email to set up an appointment.
- Students interested in joining the Philosophy Undergraduate listserv can email Haley Donovan at hmd2151@columbia.edu.
- Undergraduate Open Houses, Information Events, and Welcome Events will be advertised through our listserv and Department website.

Enrolling in Classes

- Please note some courses require professor permission to join. If this is the case, students should email the professor as early as possible to join the course.

Preparing for Graduate Study

- Students interested in pursuing graduate studies should consult with their advisers or the DUS.

Coursework Taken Outside of Columbia

- Coursework in fulfillment of a major or minor in Philosophy must be taken at Columbia University unless explicitly noted here and/or expressly permitted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Exceptions or substitutions permitted by the Director of Undergraduate Studies should be confirmed in writing by email to the student.

Advanced Placement

- The Department of Philosophy does not accept any advanced placement credit toward courses in the curriculum.

Barnard College Courses

- The Columbia and Barnard Philosophy Departments function together as a unit. The courses specifically designed for Barnard students (first-year and senior seminars) do not count towards the Columbia major or concentration. But all other courses in the Columbia-Barnard joint curriculum do count for the major or concentration, regardless of whether the instructor is associated with Barnard or Columbia.

Transfer Courses

- Courses taken at other institutions may count only after review and approval by the DUS (a written record of approval must be submitted to 708 Philosophy by the student or DUS). No more than 5 courses

taken elsewhere may be applied to the major, and no more than 4 to the concentration.

Study Abroad Courses

- Classes taken abroad through Columbia-led programs (i.e., those administered by Columbia's Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement and taught by Columbia instructors) are treated as Columbia courses, equivalent to those taken on the Morningside Heights campus. If they are not explicitly listed by the department as fulfilling requirements in the major or minor [or special program or concentration], the DUS will need to confirm that they can be used toward requirements in the major/minor.
- Classes taken abroad through other institutions and programs are treated as transfer credit to Columbia, and are subject to the same policies as other transfer courses. There will be a limit on the number of courses taken abroad that can be applied to the major/minor, and they must be approved by the DUS.

Summer Courses

- Summer courses at Columbia are offered through the School of Professional Studies. Courses taken in a Summer Term may be used toward requirements for the major/minor only as articulated in the department/institute/center guidelines or by permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies. More general policies about Summer coursework can be found in the Academic Regulations section of this Bulletin.
- Two courses taken in summer sessions can count towards the major.

Core Curriculum Connections

- Students may be interested in course offerings in this department that can be taken in fulfillment of the [Global Core requirement / Language requirement / Science requirement] of the Core Curriculum. See the list of approved courses for the requirement on this page of the Bulletin that lists all approved courses to see the list of courses in this department that have been approved for the requirement.
- Core classes such as Contemporary Civilization may not count towards the major.

Undergraduate Research and Senior Thesis

Senior Thesis Coursework and Requirements

- Undergraduates majoring in Philosophy or Economics-Philosophy may propose to write a senior thesis. Students who wish to write a thesis should approach a faculty member at the end of their junior or beginning of their senior year, and begin working on a proposal early in the fall semester of their senior year. Proposals are due in early December, and will be reviewed by a committee which will include the Director of Undergraduate Studies; students will be notified of the committee's decision within two weeks. Students whose proposals are approved should register for their faculty advisor's section of Supervised Independent Research for the spring term of their senior year. Theses are due in early April.

- See the full policy and procedure concerning senior theses on the departmental webpage: <http://philosophy.columbia.edu/content/senior-thesis-philosophy>

Department Honors and Prizes

Department Honors

- Departmental honors are highly competitive. Normally no more than 10% of the majors graduating in the department each year will receive departmental honors. In order to qualify for departmental honors in philosophy, a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.6 in the major.
- For students with a GPA of 3.6 or above, there are two possible routes to consideration:
 - A student may complete a senior thesis; those students who complete senior theses will automatically be considered for honors without having to be nominated.
 - A student may be nominated by a faculty member early in the spring semester of their senior year; nominated students will be invited to submit a writing sample. A nominated student who is also writing a thesis may submit their thesis as the writing sample, or may choose to submit a different work.
- Both the senior thesis and writing samples are due in early April. The departmental honors committee will then review the submitted material and the academic records of the writers, and will report to the full faculty.
- The full faculty will then decide which students to recommend for the departmental honors to the Columbia College and General Studies administrations.

Academic Prizes

- Columbia College Prizes
 - Adam Leroy Jones Prize
 - Established by Mrs. Leroy Jones in memory of her husband who was Associate Professor of Philosophy and Director of University Admissions from 1909 until 1934, the prize may be awarded to a student in the College for the best essay on a topic in the Philosophy of Science, or in the Foundations of Logic.
 - James Gutmann Prize
 - Established in 1987 in honor of James Gutmann, CC'18 and Professor of Philosophy, by his family and friends on the occasion of his 90th birthday. It may be awarded each year to a graduating Columbia College senior in Philosophy who plans to pursue graduate work in the field.
 - Lina Kahn Prize
 - Established in 1965 by the family of the late Lina Kahn, who received a Ph.D. in Philosophy in 1916. This annual competition, which is open to graduate students only, awards \$500 to the best paper in metaphysics.

Other Important Information

- Student Organizations
 - Meade Anderson Undergraduate Philosophy Forum
 - Wednesdays 8:00-9:00 pm in 716 Philosophy Hall
 - Join us each week to discuss a topic of philosophical interest! Discussions do not require any background knowledge or preparation. All undergraduates are welcome to attend, and we hope to see you there.
 - The Forum Leaders are Samantha Rosen (skr2168@barnard.edu) and Oscar Lloyd (oa12113@columbia.edu).
- Gadfly
 - The Gadfly is the undergraduate philosophy magazine of Columbia University, which publishes academic papers, interviews, events, and free-form work.
 - <https://www.thegadflymagazine.org>

Professors

David Albert
 Akeel Bilgrami
 Taylor Carman (Barnard)
 Haim Gaifman
 Lydia Goehr
 Axel Honneth
 Wolfgang Mann
 Christia Mercer
 Michele Moody-Adams
 John Morrison (Barnard)
 Fred Neuhauser (Barnard)
 Christopher Peacocke
 Carol Rovane
 Achille Varzi
 Katja Vogt

Associate Professors

Justin Clarke-Doane
 Jessica Collins
 Melissa Fusco
 Tamar Lando
 Karen Lewis (Barnard)

Assistant Professors

Allison Aitken
 Dhananjay Jagannathan
 Francey Russell (Barnard)

Affiliated Faculty

Souleymane Bachir Diagne (French and Romance Philology)
 Jon Elster (Political Science)
 Wayne Proudfoot (Religion)
 Gayatri Spivak (University Professor)

Guidance for Undergraduate Students in the Department

Program Planning for all Students

- PHIL UN1001 Intro to Philosophy & PHIL UN1401 Intro to Logic do not count towards the undergraduate major in Philosophy.
- Courses in which a grade of D has been received do not count toward the major or concentration.

Course Numbering Structure

- No more than one course at the 1000 level can be counted toward the major.
- In order to enroll in one of the 4000-level courses, students must have taken at least four courses in philosophy.
- Students may choose courses prefixed with GR only with the instructor's permission. Additionally, because these seminars are capped, students should register early.

Guidance for First-Year Students

- Refer to the coursework and majors requirements sections.

Guidance for Transfer Students

- Courses taken at other institutions may count only after review and approval by the DUS (a written record of approval must be submitted to 708 Philosophy by the student or DUS). No more than 5 courses taken elsewhere may be applied to the major, and no more than 4 to the concentration.

Undergraduate Programs of Study

Required Coursework for all Programs

- PHIL UN2101* or another course in ancient or medieval philosophy
- PHIL UN2201* or another course in the history of late medieval or early modern philosophy (e.g. PHIL UN3237 or UN3264)
- PHIL UN3411 or, in exceptional cases, a more advanced course in logic
- At least one course in either metaphysics or epistemology (e.g. PHIL GU4501, UN3601, or a related course to be chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies)
- At least one course in either systematic ethics or social and political philosophy (e.g. PHIL UN2702, UN3701, UN3751, or a related course to be chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies)
- At least one majors' seminar, i.e. UN3912

* Substituted courses must be selected in consultation with the DUS.

Major in Philosophy

Students considering a major in philosophy are strongly encouraged to meet with the director of undergraduate studies early in their sophomore year. All majors must consult with the director of undergraduate studies

each term before registering for classes in order to plan and update their individual programs of study.

Students planning to major in philosophy are advised to begin with PHIL UN1010 METHDS/PROB OF PHILOS THOUGHT. Beginning students are especially encouraged to take 2000-level courses, both in the history of philosophy and in systematic philosophy. These courses are typically less specialized and less narrowly focused than higher-numbered ones. More advanced students are encouraged to take 3000-level courses. The department requires that all majors take at least one seminar, PHIL UN3912.

PLEASE NOTE* PHILUN1401 INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC does not count for credit towards the undergraduate major in philosophy. No more than one course at the 1000-level can be counted toward the major. In order to enroll in one of the 4000-level courses, students must have taken at least four courses in Philosophy.

The major requires a minimum of 30 points in philosophy chosen from courses prefixed with *UN* or *GU*:

PHIL UN2101	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I
PHIL UN2201	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY II
PHIL UN3411	SYMBOLIC LOGIC
At least one course in either metaphysics or epistemology e.g., PHIL W3960, or a related course to be chosen in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies.	
Select at least one course in either ethics or social and political philosophy from the following:	
PHIL UN2702	Contemporary Moral Problems
PHIL UN3701	ETHICS
PHIL UN3751	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
A related course to be chosen in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies.	
PHIL UN3912	SEMINAR

- Courses taken pass/fail only count towards the major in unusual circumstances.
- Two courses taken in summer sessions can count towards the major.
- In some instances, courses in other departments can count for credit towards the major. For example, the Religion Department offers courses in philosophy of religion, and the Political Science Department offers courses in political philosophy. Questions about whether courses in other departments will count towards the major should be directed to the DUS.
- The Columbia and Barnard Philosophy Departments function together as a unit. The courses specifically designed for Barnard students (first-year and senior seminars) do not count towards the Columbia major. But all other courses in the Columbia-Barnard joint curriculum do count for the major, regardless of whether the instructor is associated with Barnard or Columbia.
- Core classes such as Contemporary Civilization may not count towards the major.

Joint Major in Economics-Philosophy

- An Introductory course. Most often this will be PHIL UN1010 Methods and Problems of Philosophical Thought.
- PHIL UN3411 Symbolic Logic.
- One 3000-level course in moral, political, or social philosophy. (PHIL UN3701 Ethics satisfies this requirement, as do various other courses offered by the Department from time to time. Consult with the Philosophy adviser if you are in any doubt here.)
- One 3000-level course in epistemology, the philosophy of science, or in the philosophy of one of the particular sciences. (PHIL UN3551 Philosophy of Science and PHIL UN3960 Epistemology both satisfy this requirement, as do various other courses offered by the Department from time to time. Consult with the Philosophy adviser if you are in any doubt here.)
- PHIL GU4561 Probability and Decision Theory.
- ECPH UN4950 Senior Seminar in Economics and Philosophy.

Please read *Guidelines for all Economics Majors, Concentrators, and Interdepartmental Majors* in the *Economics* section of this Bulletin.

Economics-Philosophy is an interdisciplinary major that, while introducing students to the basic methodologies of economics and philosophy, stresses areas of particular concern to both. These include subjects such as rationality and decision making, justice and efficiency, freedom and collective choice, and the logic of empirical theories and their testing. Many of the issues are dealt with historically, and classic texts of Plato, Kant, Mill, Marx, and Smith are reviewed.

Two advisers are assigned for the interdepartmental major, one in the Department of Economics and one in the Department of Philosophy. Please note that the Economics adviser can only advise on the Economics requirements and the Philosophy adviser can only advise on the Philosophy requirements.

The Economics-Philosophy major requires a total minimum of 54 points: 25 points in Economics, 16 points in Philosophy, 6 points in Mathematics, 3 points in Statistics, and 4 points in the interdisciplinary seminar as follows:

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Economics Core Courses

ECON UN1105	PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS
ECON UN3211	INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS
ECON UN3213	INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS
ECON UN3412	INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMETRICS

Mathematics Sequence

Select a mathematics sequence

Statistics

Select a statistics course

Economics Electives

Three electives are required; refer to the Economics section of this bulletin.

Philosophy Courses

PHIL UN1010	METHDS/PROB OF PHILOS THOUGHT
PHIL UN3411	SYMBOLIC LOGIC

PHIL UN3701 ETHICS (a social or political philosophy course may be substituted, please consult the Philosophy DUS)

PHIL UN3551 or PHIL UN3960 PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE EPISTEMOLOGY

PHIL GU4561 PROBABILITY # DECISION THEORY

Seminar

ECPH GU4950 ECONOMICS # PHILOSOPHY (or another seminar in philosophy or economics approved by advisers in both department)

For students who entered Columbia in or before the 2023-24 academic year

Concentration in Philosophy

Philosophy, as an academic discipline, has significant points of contact with a wide range of other subjects—in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. A concentration in philosophy thus can be an attractive option for many students. Those considering becoming concentrators are strongly encouraged to meet with the director of undergraduate studies early in their sophomore year, in order to discuss their specific interests and to plan their programs of study. All concentrators should consult with the director of undergraduate studies each term before registering for courses.

The concentration requires a minimum of 24 points in philosophy, chosen from courses prefixed with UN or GU. There are no specific courses required for the concentration.

Students may choose courses prefixed with *GR* only with the instructor's permission.

PHIL UN3912 is open to junior and senior concentrators who have taken at least four courses in philosophy.

Fall 2024

PHIL UN1001 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY. 3.00 points.

Survey of some of the central problems, key figures, and great works in both traditional and contemporary philosophy. Topics and texts will vary with instructor and semester

Spring 2025: PHIL UN1001

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 1001	001/00220	M W 10:10am - 11:25am 302 Barnard Hall	Taylor Carman	3.00	12/20
PHIL 1001	002/00221	T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm 237 Milbank Hall	Christopher Prodoehl	3.00	18/25

Fall 2025: PHIL UN1001

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 1001	001/00027	T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm 328 Milbank Hall	Christopher Prodoehl	3.00	0/25
PHIL 1001	002/00286	M W 10:10am - 11:25am Room TBA		3.00	0/10
PHIL 1001	003/00287	M W 4:10pm - 5:25pm Room TBA		3.00	0/27

PHIL UN1010 METHDS/PROB OF PHILOS THOUGHT. 3.00 points.

Critical introduction to philosophical problems, ideas and methods

PHIL UN2101 HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY I. 4.00 points.

Corequisites: PHIL V2111 Required Discussion Section (0 points). Exposition and analysis of the positions of the major philosophers from the pre-Socratics through Augustine. This course has unrestricted enrollment

Fall 2025: PHIL UN2101

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 2101	001/11986	T Th 11:25am - 12:55pm Room TBA	Dhananjay Jagannathan	4.00	0/60

PHIL UN2110 PHILOSOPHY # FEMINISM. 3.00 points.

Is there an essential difference between women and men? How do questions about race conflict or overlap with those about gender? Is there a normal way of being queer? Introduction to philosophy and feminism through a critical discussion of these and other questions using historical and contemporary texts, art, and public lectures. Focus includes essentialism, difference, identity, knowledge, objectivity, and queerness

Fall 2025: PHIL UN2110

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 2110	001/11988	T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm Room TBA	Christia Mercer	3.00	0/60

PHIL UN2685 INTRO TO PHIL OF LANGUAGE. 4.00 points.

This course gives students an introduction to various topics in the Philosophy of Language

Fall 2025: PHIL UN2685

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 2685	001/00032	M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm 323 Milbank Hall	Karen Lewis	4.00	0/35

PHIL UN3000 BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY. 3.00 points.

Buddhist philosophers generally agree about what doesn't exist: an enduring, unitary, and independent self. But there is surprisingly little consensus across Buddhist traditions about what does exist and what it's like. In this course, we will examine several Buddhist theories about the nature and structure of reality and consider the epistemological and ethical implications of these radically different pictures of the world. We will analyze and evaluate arguments from some of the most influential Indian Buddhist philosophers from the second to the eleventh centuries, including Nāgārjuna, Vasubandhu, Dignāga, Candrakīrti, Śāntarakṣita, Śāntideva, and Ratnakīrti. Topics will include the existence and nature of the external world, the mind, and the self; practical and epistemological implications of the Buddhist no-self principle; personal identity; the problem of other minds; and causal determinism and moral responsibility

PHIL UN3264 19TH CENTURY PHILOSOPHY: HEGEL. 3.00 points.

Prerequisites: Phil UN2201 or PHIL UN3251 Examines major themes of Hegels philosophy, with emphasis on social and political thought. Topics include Hegels critique of Kant, the possibility of metaphysics, the master-slave dialectic, and the role of freedom in a rational society. Readings from Kant's Third Critique help explain how Hegels project develops out of Kants transcendental idealism. Some knowledge of Kants moral theory and his Critique of Pure Reason is presupposed. Prerequisite: at least one of PHIL UN2201, PHIL UN2301, or PHIL UN3251

PHIL UN3353 EUROPEAN SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY. 3.00 points.

Prerequisites: one philosophy course.

Prerequisites: one philosophy course. A survey of European social philosophy from the 18th to the 20th century, with special attention to theories of capitalism and the normative concepts (freedom, alienation, human flourishing) that inform them. Also: the relationship between civil society and the state

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3353

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3353	001/11991	T Th 10:10am - 11:25am Room TBA	Axel Honneth	3.00	0/60

PHIL UN3411 SYMBOLIC LOGIC. 4.00 points.

Corequisites: PHILV3413 Required Discussion Section (0 points).

Advanced introduction to classical sentential and predicate logic. No previous acquaintance with logic is required; nonetheless a willingness to master technicalities and to work at a certain level of abstraction is desirable

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3411

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3411	001/14173	M W 10:10am - 11:25am 402 Chandler	Achille Varzi	4.00	98/90

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3411

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3411	001/11993	M W 10:10am - 11:25am Room TBA	Tamar Lando	4.00	0/90

PHIL UN3551 PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE. 3.00 points.

Enrollment limited to 40.

Prerequisites: one philosophy course or the instructor's permission. Philosophical problems within science and about the nature of scientific knowledge in the 17th-20th centuries. Sample problems: causation and scientific explanation; induction and real kinds; verification and falsification; models, analogies and simulations; the historical origins of the modern sciences; scientific revolutions; reductionism and supervenience; differences between physics, biology and the social sciences; the nature of life; cultural evolution; human nature; philosophical issues in cosmology

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3551

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3551	001/14175	M W 4:10pm - 5:25pm 330 Uris Hall	David Albert	3.00	30/60

PHIL UN3601 METAPHYSICS. 4.00 points.

Corequisites: PHIL V3611 Required Discussion Section (0 points).

Systematic treatment of some major topics in metaphysics (e.g. modality, causation, identity through time, particulars and universals). Readings from contemporary authors

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3601

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3601	001/11998	T Th 11:25am - 12:55pm Room TBA	Achille Varzi	4.00	0/60

PHIL UN3701 ETHICS. 4.00 points.

Prerequisites: one course in philosophy.

Corequisites: *PHIL V3711* Required Discussion Section (0 points).

Prerequisites: one course in philosophy. Corequisites: PHIL V3711 Required Discussion Section (0 points). This course is mainly an introduction to three influential approaches to normative ethics: utilitarianism, deontological views, and virtue ethics. We also consider the ethics of care, and selected topics in meta-ethics

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3701

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3701	001/00163	M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm 405 Milbank Hall	Francey Russell	4.00	50/80

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3701

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3701	001/00225	M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm Room TBA		4.00	0/90

PHIL UN3751 POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY. 3.00 points.

Six major concepts of political philosophy including authority, rights, equality, justice, liberty and democracy are examined in three different ways. First the conceptual issues are analyzed through contemporary essays on these topics by authors like Peters, Hart, Williams, Berlin, Rawls and Schumpeter. Second the classical sources on these topics are discussed through readings from Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Marx, Plato, Mill and Rousseau. Third some attention is paid to relevant contexts of application of these concepts in political society, including such political movements as anarchism, international human rights, conservative, liberal, and Marxist economic policies as well as competing models of democracy

PHIL UN3756 Critical Philosophy of Race: What is Race?. 3.00 points.

This course is a philosophical examination of the meaning and significance of the concept of race. The course will chiefly aim to answer: What do we mean by the term "race"? And why is it often tied to the existence of racism? From where does the concept come? And what role did "race" play in the philosophical thought and the culture of Western modernity? Among the questions that can be asked are, How do concepts of race contribute to the formation and justification of various economic, political, and social institutions and practices, such as slavery, colonialism, and segregation? However, we will also inquire at the end of the course whether "race" is always a destructive concept, or whether it can be re-defined as part of a liberation project centered on racial identity: the appreciation and celebration of racial difference and solidarity

PHIL UN3858 CULTIVATING INDIVIDUALITY. 3.00 points.

Talk about "individuality", about being (or becoming) "yourself" is all around us. But what exactly does this mean? What is genuine individuality, and how can we develop it, in ourselves (though self-development) and in others (by designing appropriate educational institutions)? What is the relationship between being an individual and being a part of society? Is there a tension between the non-conformism often associated with genuine individuality on the one hand, and the demands of community and good citizenship, on the other? Can educational institutions be designed to fulfill both those demands (to the extent they are distinct)? And how might oppressive social institutions hinder the development of "individuality"? In this course, we will explore these and related questions by drawing on both the classics of philosophy of education (Plato, Rousseau, Nietzsche, Dewey, Du Bois), and on relevant literary material that is in conversation with the philosophical texts (Rilke, Tolstoy, Woolf)

PHIL UN3768 ALLIES, ADVOCATES, ADVERSARIES. 3.00 points.

This course will survey political and epistemological questions that are centered around living in a society with oppression, including: What is oppression? What does it mean to be an ally? When is it right to speak for others and advocate for their interests? Do we have a duty to dissent and protest under certain circumstances? What is solidarity and how can we act in solidarity with others?

PHIL UN3863 HAPPINESS AND WELL-BEING. 3.00 points.

“What is it to be happy?” Philosophers have passionately debated this question from antiquity until now. Especially in times when happiness seems difficult to find, we naturally want to know what happiness is and how best to secure it. In this course, we will consider happiness in relation to well-being, examining four major theories of well-being (hedonism, desire-fulfillment theories, objective list theories, and eudaimonism/perfectionism). We will gain a nuanced understanding of each view by juxtaposing their ancient and modern advocates and opponents

PHIL UN3912 SEMINAR. 3.00 points.

Required of senior majors, but also open to junior majors, and junior and senior concentrators who have taken at least four philosophy courses. This exploration will typically involve writing a substantial research paper. Capped at 20 students with preference to philosophy majors

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3912

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3912	001/14184	M 6:10pm - 8:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Lydia Goehr	3.00	18/20
PHIL 3912	002/14185	M 10:10am - 12:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Wolfgang Mann	3.00	7/20

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3912

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3912	001/11999	M 2:10pm - 4:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Michele Moody-Adams	3.00	0/20
PHIL 3912	002/12000	Th 2:10pm - 4:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Melissa Fusco	3.00	0/20

PHIL UN3960 EPISTEMOLOGY. 4.00 points.

Corequisites: PHIL UN3963

Corequisites: PHIL W3963 Required Discussion Section (0 points).

What can we know? What is knowledge? What are the different kinds of knowledge? We will read classic and contemporary texts for insight into these questions

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3960

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3960	001/14186	T Th 8:40am - 9:55am 141 Uris Hall	Jessica Collins	4.00	33/60

PHIL UN3996 SUPERVISED SENIOR RESEARCH. 3.00 points.

PHIL UN3997 SUPERVISED SENIOR RESEARCH,Supervised Senior Research. 3.00,3 points.

Supervised research usually with the goal of writing a senior thesis, under the direction of individual members of the department .

Supervised research under the direction of individual members of the department.

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3997

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3997	001/14188		Allison Aitken	3	1/5
PHIL 3997	002/14189		David Albert	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	003/14191		Akeel Bilgrami	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	004/14192		Justin Clarke-Doane	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	005/14193		Jessica Collins	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	006/14194		Melissa Fusco	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	007/14196		Haim Gaifman	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	008/14197		Lydia Goehr	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	009/14198		Axel Honneth	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	010/14199		Dhananjay Jagannathan	3	2/5
PHIL 3997	011/14201		Tamar Lando	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	012/14202		Michele Moody-Adams	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	013/14203		Christopher Peacocke	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	014/14204		Carol Rovane	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	015/14205		Wolfgang Mann	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	016/14206		Christia Mercer	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	017/14207		Achille Varzi	3	1/5
PHIL 3997	018/14208		Katja Vogt	3	2/5
PHIL 3997	019/00738		Taylor Carman	3	1/5
PHIL 3997	020/00739		Karen Lewis	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	021/00740		John Morrison	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	022/00741		Frederick Neuhauser	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	023/00742		Francey Russell	3	0/5

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3997

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3997	001/12001		Allison Aitken	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	002/12003		David Albert	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	003/12004		Akeel Bilgrami	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	004/12006		Justin Clarke-Doane	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	005/12007		Jessica Collins	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	006/12008		Melissa Fusco	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	007/12010		Haim Gaifman	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	008/12011		Lydia Goehr	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	009/12016		Axel Honneth	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	010/12017		Dhananjay Jagannathan	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	011/12018		Tamar Lando	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	012/12019		Michele Moody-Adams	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	013/12020		Christopher Peacocke	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	014/12021		Carol Rovane	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	015/12022		Wolfgang Mann	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	016/12023		Christia Mercer	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	017/12024		Achille Varzi	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	018/12025		Katja Vogt	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	019/00861		Caroline Bowman	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	020/00862		Taylor Carman	3	0/5
PHIL 3997	021/00863		Karen Lewis	3	0/5

PHIL GU4424 MODAL LOGIC. 3.00 points.

CC/GS: Partial Fulfillment of Science Requirement

Fall 2025: PHIL GU4424

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 4424	001/12048	M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm Room TBA	Tamar Lando	3.00	0/20

PHIL GU4495 PERCEPTION. 3.00 points.

This course addresses the fabulously rich range of issues about the nature of perception, including: perceptual mental representation and its content; computational explanation; justifying beliefs; knowledge and thought about perception; and perception of music. Perception is an interdisciplinary subject par excellence. Readings will be drawn from philosophy and psychology, aesthetics, and artificial intelligence

PHIL GU4561 PROBABILITY # DECISION THEORY. 3.00 points.

Examines interpretations and applications of the calculus of probability including applications as a measure of degree of belief, degree of confirmation, relative frequency, a theoretical property of systems, and other notions of objective probability or chance. Attention to epistemological questions such as Hume's problem of induction, Goodman's problem of projectibility, and the paradox of confirmation

Fall 2025: PHIL GU4561

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 4561	001/12049	M W 6:10pm - 7:25pm Room TBA	Jessica Collins	3.00	0/20

PHIL GU4602 PHILOSOPHICAL TEXTS IN GREEK. 3.00 points.

Careful reading and translation of a major philosophical text in ancient Greek to be chosen by the course participants in consultation with the instructor. Special attention is to be paid to the linguistic and conceptual problems of translating ancient Greek philosophical texts. Prerequisite: equivalent of at least two years of study of ancient Greek at university level

PHIL GU4675 THE DIRECTION OF TIME. 3.00 points.

A survey of the various attempts to reconcile the macroscopic directionality of time with the time-reversibility of the fundamental laws of physics. The second law of thermodynamics and the concept of entropy, statistical mechanics, cosmological problems, the problems of memory, the possibility of multiple time direction

Spring 2025: PHIL GU4675

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 4675	001/14233	T 12:10pm - 2:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	David Albert	3.00	15/20

Spring 2024

PHIL UN1010 METHDS/PROB OF PHILOS THOUGHT. 3.00 points.

Critical introduction to philosophical problems, ideas and methods

PHIL UN1401 INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC. 3.00 points.

Explicit criteria for recognizing valid and fallacious arguments, together with various methods for schematizing discourse for the purpose of logical analysis. Illustrative material taken from science and everyday life

Spring 2025: PHIL UN1401

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 1401	001/00207	T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm 408 Zankel	Christopher Prodoehl	3.00	60/80

PHIL UN2201 HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY II. 4.00 points.

Prerequisites: PHIL UN2211 Required Discussion Section (0 points). PHIL UN2101 is not a prerequisite for this course. Exposition and analysis of the metaphysics, epistemology, and natural philosophy of the major philosophers from Aquinas through Kant. Authors include Aquinas, Galileo, Gassendi, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Berkeley, Hume, and Kant. This course has unrestricted enrollment

Spring 2025: PHIL UN2201

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 2201	001/00165	T Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm 405 Milbank Hall	Caroline Bowman	4.00	69/80

PHIL UN3131 ARISTOTLE. 3.00 points.

Prerequisites: One philosophy course or permission of the instructor. Introduction to Aristotle's philosophy through analysis of selected texts.

PHIL UN3411 SYMBOLIC LOGIC. 4.00 points.

Corequisites: PHILV3413 Required Discussion Section (0 points). Advanced introduction to classical sentential and predicate logic. No previous acquaintance with logic is required; nonetheless a willingness to master technicalities and to work at a certain level of abstraction is desirable

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3411

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3411	001/14173	M W 10:10am - 11:25am 402 Chandler	Achille Varzi	4.00	98/90

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3411

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3411	001/11993	M W 10:10am - 11:25am Room TBA	Tamar Lando	4.00	0/90

PHIL UN3685 PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE. 3.00 points.

This course is a survey of analytic philosophy of language. It addresses central issues about the nature of meaning, including: sense and reference, speech acts, pragmatics, and the relationship between meaning and use, meaning and context, and meaning and truth

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3685

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3685	001/14176	T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm 330 Uris Hall	Melissa Fusco	3.00	20/60

PHIL UN3912 SEMINAR. 3.00 points.

Required of senior majors, but also open to junior majors, and junior and senior concentrators who have taken at least four philosophy courses. This exploration will typically involve writing a substantial research paper. Capped at 20 students with preference to philosophy majors

Spring 2025: PHIL UN3912

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3912	001/14184	M 6:10pm - 8:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Lydia Goehr	3.00	18/20
PHIL 3912	002/14185	M 10:10am - 12:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Wolfgang Mann	3.00	7/20

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3912

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3912	001/11999	M 2:10pm - 4:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Michele Moody-Adams	3.00	0/20
PHIL 3912	002/12000	Th 2:10pm - 4:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Melissa Fusco	3.00	0/20

PHIL UN3996 SUPERVISED SENIOR RESEARCH. 3.00 points.**PHIL UN3998 SUPERVISED INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH. 1.00-3.00 points.****Spring 2025: PHIL UN3998**

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3998	001/14209		Allison Aitken	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	002/14210		David Albert	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	003/14211		Akeel Bilgrami	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	004/14212		Justin Clarke-Doane	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	005/14213		Jessica Collins	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	006/14214		Melissa Fusco	1.00-3.00	1/5
PHIL 3998	007/14215		Haim Gaifman	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	008/14216		Lydia Goehr	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	009/14217		Axel Honneth	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	010/14218		Dhananjay Jagannathan	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	011/14220		Tamar Lando	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	012/14221		Michele Moody-Adams	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	013/14222		Christopher Peacocke	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	014/14223		Carol Rovane	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	015/14225		Wolfgang Mann	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	016/14226		Christia Mercer	1.00-3.00	1/5
PHIL 3998	017/14227		Achille Varzi	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	018/14228		Katja Vogt	1.00-3.00	0/5

Fall 2025: PHIL UN3998

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 3998	001/12027		Allison Aitken	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	002/12029		David Albert	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	003/12030		Akeel Bilgrami	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	004/12031		Justin Clarke-Doane	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	005/12032		Jessica Collins	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	006/12033		Melissa Fusco	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	007/12034		Haim Gaifman	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	008/12035		Lydia Goehr	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	009/12036		Axel Honneth	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	010/12037		Dhananjay Jagannathan	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	011/12038		Tamar Lando	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	012/12039		Michele Moody-Adams	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	013/12040		Christopher Peacocke	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	014/12041		Carol Rovane	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	015/12042		Wolfgang Mann	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	016/12043		Christia Mercer	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	017/12044		Achille Varzi	1.00-3.00	0/5
PHIL 3998	018/12045		Katja Vogt	1.00-3.00	0/5

PHIL GU4170 MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY. 3.00 points.**PHIL GU4431 INTRODUCTION TO SET THEORY. 3.00 points.**

Basic set-theoretic operations and constructions. The axiom of choice. Infinitary arithmetic, ordinal and cardinal. Russell's paradox, Cantor's paradoxes, and other set-theoretic paradoxes. The continuum hypothesis. Axiomatic set theory. Other topics as time permits.

PHIL GU4337 EARLY TWENTIETH CENT PHILOS. 3.00 points.**Fall 2025: PHIL GU4337**

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 4337	001/12046	M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm Room TBA	Jessica Collins	3.00	0/20
PHIL 4337	002/12047	M W 6:10pm - 7:25pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Haim Gaifman	3.00	0/20

PHIL GU4810 LATTICES AND BOOLEAN ALGEBRA. 3.00 points.

Prerequisites: PHIL UN3411 or 4801

Prerequisites: PHIL UN3411 or 4801 This course is designed as an introduction to lattices and Boolean algebras. In the first part of the course, we study partial orders and view lattices both as partial orders and as algebraic structures. We study some basic constructions involving sublattices, products of lattices, and homomorphic images of lattices. In the second part of the course, we study Boolean algebras, with an aim to proving several representation theorems: first, a representation theorem for finite Boolean algebras, and toward the end of the course, the famous Stone Representation Theorem. We end the course with a look at the connection between classical mereology (or the theory of parthood) and complete Boolean algebras

Spring 2025: PHIL GU4810

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
PHIL 4810	001/17225	T 6:10pm - 8:00pm 507 Philosophy Hall	Tamar Lando	3.00	11/20

PHIL GU4481 PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE. 3.00 points.**PHIL GU4501 EPISTEMOLOGY. 3.00 points.****PHIL GU4900 TOPICS IN EARLY MODERN PHILOSOPHY. 3.00 points.**

Open to undergraduates with previous work in the history of philosophy and to graduate students. Focuses either on an important topic in the history of early modern philosophy (e.g. skepticism, causation, mind, body) or on the philosophy of a major figure in the period (e.g. Descartes, Leibniz, Spinoza, Gassendi, Conway)

ECPH GU4950 ECONOMICS # PHILOSOPHY. 4.00 points.

Open only to economics-philosophy majors who are in their senior year.

Prerequisites: *ECON W3211*, *ECON W3213*, *ECON W3412*. Students will be contacted by the Economics department for pre-enrollment.

Prerequisites: *ECON W3211*, *ECON W3213*, *ECON W3412*. Students will be contacted by the Economics department for pre-enrollment. Explores topics in the philosophy of economics such as welfare, social choice, and the history of political economy. Sometimes the emphasis is primarily historical and sometimes on analysis of contemporary economic concepts and theories

Spring 2025: ECPH GU4950

Course Number	Section/Call Number	Times/Location	Instructor	Points	Enrollment
ECPH 4950	002/17528	T 10:10am - 12:00pm 716 Philosophy Hall	Jessica Collins, Brendan O'Flaherty	4.00	4/16