

DIVISION OF  
HUMANITIES

# Philosophy

In addition to the courses below, students in the Philosophy major are also required to take the following General Education courses (see pages 54-58).

- ENG 106 Argumentative Writing  
 ENG 107 Academic Writing  
 ENG 208 Sophomore Core –  
 Social Responsibility  
 CMP 102 Fundamental Computer Literacy I  
 (0.5 c.u.)  
 ECN 200 Introduction to Economics  
 (0.5 c.u.)  
 MTH 103 Understanding our Quantitative  
 World  
 or  
 MTH 105 Abstract Reasoning  
 or  
 MTH 114 Precalculus  
 AAC course Arts as Catalyst (1 c.u.)  
 HUM GELS Humanities GELS (2 c.u.s)  
 CAT/HUM GELS (1 c.u.)  
 Creative Arts & Technology  
 GELS or  
 Humanities GELS  
 NAT SCI GELS Natural Sciences GELS (2 c.u.s)  
 SOC SCI GELS Social Science GELS (2 c.u.s)  
 General Education Electives (2 c.u.s)

Many courses have prerequisites which are listed in the course description. Please be sure that necessary prerequisites have been taken before enrolling in any course.

Students wishing New Jersey Teaching Certification must be admitted into the B.A. in Education and satisfy the courses listed in the Philosophy co-concentration (see page 146). Should a student decide to major in the discipline exclusively, he/she will need to submit a change of major declaration and satisfy all the requirements listed below. Students who wish to double major must complete the requirements of both majors.

The following courses are required for the Philosophy major:

- PHL 100 Introduction to Philosophy  
 An Ethics Course  
 PHL 200 Logic  
 PHL 214 History of Philosophy–  
 Ancient/Medieval  
 PHL 215 History of Philosophy–  
 Modern  
 PHL 216 History of Philosophy–  
 Contemporary  
 PHL 2XX \*  
 PHL 2XX \*  
 PHL 3XX \*  
 PHL 3XX \*  
 PHL 451 Senior Thesis  
 or  
 HON 499 Honors Seminar

\* Selection of courses dependent on a student's special interests in consultation with the Philosophy Advisor.

## MINOR IN PHILOSOPHY

The following courses are required for the Philosophy minor:

PHL 100 Introduction to Philosophy  
or  
PHL 102 Philosophy in Literature  
An Ethics Course

PHL 200 Logic  
or  
PHL 110 Effective Reasoning  
PHL 2XX or over\*  
PHL 2XX or over\*

\* *Dependent on a student's special interest.*

## Philosophy Courses

### ■ General Education Course (Primary Competency Addressed)

#### PHL 100 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

##### ■ (Communication Skills)

A survey of perennial issues and problems of philosophy addressed from historical or contemporary perspectives. Such problems may include: freedom and determinism, personal identity, the existence of God, right and wrong, reason and sensation, problems of knowledge, etc. 1 c.u.

*Corequisite: ENG 106.*

#### PHL 101 CONTEMPORARY MORAL ISSUES

##### ■ (Communication Skills)

Contemporary moral issues in the light of traditional and contemporary philosophical analysis. Racial discrimination, violence, poverty and affluence, changing moral standards, the values of a business society, and the rights, responsibilities and problems of the individual with respect to his society. 1 c.u.

*Corequisite: ENG 106.*

#### PHL 102 PHILOSOPHY IN LITERATURE

##### ■ (Communication Skills)

Examination of the philosophical content of works of both literary and philosophical merit. Writers such as Hesse, Dostoyevsky, Camus, Tolstoy, Kafka, Bellow, Steinbeck, Brecht, Orwell, Murdoch, Charles Johnson, Toni Morrison, among others, will be read and discussed. 1 c.u.

*Corequisite: ENG 106.*

#### PHL 110 EFFECTIVE REASONING

##### ■ (Communication Skills)

Effective Reasoning is a general introduction to the principles of reasoning and logical analysis. The main focus of this course will be on the nature of arguments, the critical evaluation of arguments, and the evaluation of theories. 1 c.u.

*Corequisite: ENG 106.*

#### PHL 200 LOGIC

##### ■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)

The principles of reasoning, both deductive and inductive, immediate inference, the syllogism, fallacies, doctrine of probability and experimental method. The course acquaints the student with the conditions of valid thought and scientific inquiry. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

#### PHL 211 PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

##### ■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)

Changing attitudes and approaches to education in Europe and America in the context of an understanding of philosophical developments. The course includes works from Plato to Sartre, from Mather to Mann, and from Dewey to B. F. Skinner. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 214 HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY:  
ANCIENT/MEDIEVAL**

A representative survey beginning with the pre-Socratics (e.g. Parmenides-Heraclitus, Pythagoras, the Atomists) and, continuing through the major theories of Plato and Aristotle, ending with Plotinus and representative medieval philosophers such as Anselm, Aquinas, Augustine, etc. Typically a focus on issues of metaphysics and epistemology. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 215 HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY:  
MODERN**

Beginning with the early Renaissance, a representative survey of developments in science and philosophy, including the Rationalist philosophical systems of Descartes, Leibnitz and Spinoza, and later the common sense philosophies of the 17th, 18th Century British Empiricists Locke, Berkeley and Hume, culminating in the synthesizing efforts of Kant. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 216 HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY:  
CONTEMPORARY**

Examination of late 19th- and 20th-Century contributions to philosophy through study of one or more of the following styles or schools of philosophy: existentialism, analytic philosophy, phenomenology, American pragmatism, post-modernism, etc. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 225 PHILOSOPHICAL  
PERSPECTIVES ON WOMEN**  
(Also WMS 225)**■ (Problem Solving and Critical  
Thinking Skills)**

A critical analysis of traditional and contemporary conceptions of the nature of women and their social roles and obligations. Readings from classical and contemporary philosophical, psychological and literary sources. Topics include: concepts of sexual equality, natural sex differences, sex roles, self-respect and the reflection of sexual stereotypes in linguistic usage. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 226 AFRICAN/AMERICAN  
PHILOSOPHY****■ (Problem Solving and Critical  
Thinking Skills)**

Philosophical reflection upon African/American social experience, African/American intellectual history, modern and contemporary oppositional discourse. Caribbean presence, Pan-Africanism, African heritage, value systems, aesthetics, political theology.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.* 1 c.u.

**PHL 227 THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE:  
REFLECTIONS ON ART AND SOCIETY****■ (Problem Solving and Critical  
Thinking Skills)**

Broad review of the literary period known as the Harlem Renaissance or the New Negro Movement. An examination of poetry, fiction, critical essays, art and music for social and aesthetic values projected in the artistic production of the day. Highlighting the transnational, transethnic texture of African/American social consciousness. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 228 PHILOSOPHY, TECHNOLOGY  
AND ENVIRONMENT****■ (Problem Solving and Critical  
Thinking Skills)**

Philosophical, ethical and humanistic issues emerging from the impact of modern technology on society. Comparative philosophies of the natural environment and consideration of technology's effects on the environment, human well-being and the future. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 230 BIO-MEDICAL ETHICS****■ (Problem Solving and Critical  
Thinking Skills)**

Moral problems confronted by both the professional and the lay person in health-care institutions and in biological research. Abortion and infanticide, eugenics, euthanasia and suicide, allocation of scarce resources, experimentation, and general criticisms directed at the medical establishment. 1 c.u.  
*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 231 BUSINESS ETHICS****■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)**

Moral issues in business arising from the actions and decisions in production, advertising, marketing, etc. Justification of profit and private property, truth-telling and social responsibility, privacy, the role of the law in competition and trade, and the morality of worker-owner relations. Problems and perspectives raised by the advent of globalization in international enterprise. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: ENG 107 with a final grade of C- or better.*

**PHL 304 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY****■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)**

A study of classical, modern and contemporary theory about social well being. Political obligation, social justice, privacy, collective good, international rights, sovereignty, power. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 305 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION**

(Formerly PHL 206)

**■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)**

The meaning of faith and revelation, reason and faith, types of religious knowledge, proofs for the existence of God, and comparative philosophical study of native American and/or non-western religions. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 306 PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE / SOCIAL SCIENCE**

(Formerly PHL 208)

**■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)**

An examination of the basic presuppositions and methods of physical and/or social sciences, including a historical presentation of major scientific theories in the appropriate areas. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 307 PHILOSOPHY OF MIND****■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)**

Classical theories on the nature of consciousness, on the possible being and nature of the soul, on the relation of mind and matter. Readings include Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Gilbert Ryle followed by selected contemporary theories. Dual purpose to appreciate the great contributions of the classics and to establish a knowledge base for understanding theories of consciousness. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 309 AESTHETICS (PHILOSOPHY OF ART)****■ (Aesthetic Appreciation)**

An analysis of the work of art, of aesthetic experience and judgements of aesthetic value in which representative art works and philosophies of art are studied. May have an historical or contemporary problems orientation. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 313 THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE****■ (Problem Solving and Critical Thinking Skills)**

Study of classical theories of knowledge, including Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume and Kant. Treatment of primary texts both for the sake of themselves as great moments in western thought and for the sake of establishing a knowledge base for understanding contemporary problems of knowledge. 1 c.u.

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 333 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY**

An in-depth study of a major figure, movement, or issue in philosophy. Ethics and meta-ethics; quantification and axiomatic logic, medieval philosophy; 19th century philosophy; recent and contemporary philosophy; Eastern philosophy, etc. 1 c.u.

*Course may be repeated for credit.*

*Prerequisite: 200 level HUM or consent of the Instructor.*

**PHL 451 SENIOR THESIS**

An independent study in a topic chosen in consultation with the philosophy faculty. An extended paper will be developed under the mentorship of a faculty member in philosophy and defended before the entire Humanities Division. Open only to philosophy majors. 1 c.u.