ETHICS, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

This interdisciplinary minor, housed in the Department of Philosophy, is designed to provide students with training in ethical reasoning, frameworks, and methods, as well as offer the opportunity to work in various fields of applied ethics. In addition to the requirements for the student’s major department the minor consists of 18 credits selected from a wide range of disciplines (e.g., philosophy, communication, engineering, law, psychology, sociology, anthropology, public policy, international studies, and environmental studies). Courses deal with ethics from various perspectives, for example research ethics, media ethics, environmental ethics, bioethics, and business ethics.

Students in the minor will choose from a broad range of 0-, 100-, and 400-level ethics-related courses offered in the Philosophy Department, and will have the chance to take up to two ethics-related courses outside the department. Some Philosophy ethics-related courses cover prominent and powerful historical and contemporary approaches to ethical decision-making and leadership; others cover specific problems in ethical thinking or applications to concrete areas of life. The minor will be suitable for students in almost any major, especially students going on to further academic work or careers in medicine, teaching and education, communication, business, law, the health or life sciences, health administration, public policy, politics, computer science, or engineering.

What is Ethics?

The interdisciplinary Ethics minor at Penn State University includes fields such as philosophy, communication, engineering, law, psychology, sociology, anthropology, public policy, international studies, and environmental studies. Students will have the opportunity to learn about various ethical perspectives and challenges that relate to research ethics, business ethics, bioethics, media ethics, and more.

You Might Like This Program If...

• You want to learn about ethical frameworks and methods to guide successful execution of both professional and personal endeavors.
• You want to understand ethical issues involved in global situations such as the collapse of the stock market and global financial systems.

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student’s major(s).

Additionally, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the requirements for undergraduate students (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10. In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student’s major(s).

Additional Courses

Select 0-6 credits from the following PHIL 0-level ethics-related courses:

- PHIL 2: Individuals in Society
- PHIL 3: Ethical Life
- PHIL 8: Gender Matters
- PHIL 9: Race, Racism, and Diversity
- PHIL 14: Love and Sex

Select at least 6 credits from the following PHIL 100- or 200-level ethics-related courses:

- PHIL 103: Ethics
- PHIL 105: Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 106: Business Ethics
- PHIL 108: Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 108W: Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 115: Philosophy and Education
- PHIL 117: Environmental Philosophy
- PHIL 119: Ethical Leadership
- PHIL 120N: Knowing Right from Wrong
- PHIL 123: Media Ethics
- PHIL 132: Bioethics
- PHIL 133N: Ethics of Climate Change
- PHIL 134: Food, Values, and Health
- PHIL 135: Ethics in Jewish Tradition and Thought
- PHIL 242N: Happiness and Well-Being

Select at least 3 credits from the following PHIL 400-level ethics-related courses (Students need at least one other 400-level ethics-related course, from PHIL or another department):

- PHIL 403: Seminar in Environmental Ethics
- PHIL 405: Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 406: Seminar in Business Ethics
- PHIL 407: Technology and Human Values
- PHIL 408W: Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 418: Seminar in Ethical Theory
- PHIL 418W: Topics in Ethical Theory
- PHIL 432: Medical and Health Care Ethics
- PHIL 460: African American Philosophy
- PHIL 478: Ethics After the Holocaust

Select 0-6 credits from the following non-PHIL ethics-related courses:

- AFAM 103: Racism and Sexism
- AFAM 409: Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America
- AFAM 445Y: Politics of Affirmative Action
- AG 160: Introduction into Ethics and Issues in Agriculture
- ANTH 45N: Cultural Diversity: A Global Perspective
- APLNG 310: Language Rights, Policy, and Planning
- AYFCE 438: Living in an Increasingly Diverse Society
- ASIA 418: Confucius and the Great Books of China
- BA 242: Social and Ethical Environment of Business
- BA 243: Social, Legal, and Ethical Environment of Business

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 0-6 credits from the following PHIL 0-level ethics-related courses:

- PHIL 2: Individuals in Society
- PHIL 3: Ethical Life
- PHIL 8: Gender Matters
- PHIL 9: Race, Racism, and Diversity
- PHIL 14: Love and Sex

Select at least 6 credits from the following PHIL 100- or 200-level ethics-related courses:

- PHIL 103: Ethics
- PHIL 105: Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 106: Business Ethics
- PHIL 108: Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 108W: Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 115: Philosophy and Education
- PHIL 117: Environmental Philosophy
- PHIL 119: Ethical Leadership
- PHIL 120N: Knowing Right from Wrong
- PHIL 123: Media Ethics
- PHIL 132: Bioethics
- PHIL 133N: Ethics of Climate Change
- PHIL 134: Food, Values, and Health
- PHIL 135: Ethics in Jewish Tradition and Thought
- PHIL 242N: Happiness and Well-Being

Select at least 3 credits from the following PHIL 400-level ethics-related courses (Students need at least one other 400-level ethics-related course, from PHIL or another department):

- PHIL 403: Seminar in Environmental Ethics
- PHIL 405: Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 406: Seminar in Business Ethics
- PHIL 407: Technology and Human Values
- PHIL 408W: Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 418: Seminar in Ethical Theory
- PHIL 418W: Topics in Ethical Theory
- PHIL 432: Medical and Health Care Ethics
- PHIL 460: African American Philosophy
- PHIL 478: Ethics After the Holocaust

Select 0-6 credits from the following non-PHIL ethics-related courses:

- AFAM 103: Racism and Sexism
- AFAM 409: Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America
- AFAM 445Y: Politics of Affirmative Action
- AG 160: Introduction into Ethics and Issues in Agriculture
- ANTH 45N: Cultural Diversity: A Global Perspective
- APLNG 310: Language Rights, Policy, and Planning
- AYFCE 438: Living in an Increasingly Diverse Society
- ASIA 418: Confucius and the Great Books of China
- BA 242: Social and Ethical Environment of Business
- BA 243: Social, Legal, and Ethical Environment of Business
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA 342</td>
<td>Socially Responsible, Sustainable and Ethical Business Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBH 301W</td>
<td>Values and Ethics in Biobehavioral Health Research and Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CED 417</td>
<td>Power, Conflict, and Community Decision Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMLIT 130</td>
<td>Banned Books: International and Comparative Perspectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMLIT 143</td>
<td>Human Rights and World Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMLIT 455</td>
<td>Ethics, Justice, and Rights in World Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNED 432</td>
<td>Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Counseling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 205</td>
<td>Gender, Diversity and the Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 222N</td>
<td>Social Justice and the Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 409</td>
<td>News Media Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 417</td>
<td>Ethics and Regulation in Advertising and Public Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 458</td>
<td>Media Law and Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 486W</td>
<td>Telecommunications Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIMJ 451</td>
<td>Race, Crime, and Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIMJ 465</td>
<td>Ethics in Criminal Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 101</td>
<td>Competing Rights: Issues in American Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 400</td>
<td>Education, Schooling, and Values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 135</td>
<td>Alternative Voices in American Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 234</td>
<td>Sports, Ethics, and Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 236N</td>
<td>Inequality: Economics, Philosophy, Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDSC 280</td>
<td>Media Law and Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDSC 444</td>
<td>Arguing about Food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIN 476</td>
<td>Financial Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 130</td>
<td>Geographies of Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 433</td>
<td>Geographies of Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 108N</td>
<td>Art and Science of Human Flourishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 301</td>
<td>Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 116</td>
<td>Antisemitisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JST 409Y</td>
<td>Meaning, Ethics, and Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 345</td>
<td>Meaning, Ethics, and Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 439W</td>
<td>Ethics in Sport and Sport Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KINES 440</td>
<td>Philosophy and Sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LER 460</td>
<td>Ethics in the Workplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGMT 451W</td>
<td>Business, Ethics, and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAVSC 402</td>
<td>Leadership and Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 350</td>
<td>Professional Role Development II: Ethics, Legal and Genetic Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 458</td>
<td>Ethical Challenges in Healthcare Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 17N</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 112</td>
<td>Selected Works in the History of Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 430</td>
<td>Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Political Theories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 431</td>
<td>Modern and Contemporary Political Theories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 435</td>
<td>Foundations of American Political Theory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of-class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

**READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY** (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

### University Park

**Liberal Arts Academic Advising**

814-865-2545

Use the Liberal Arts Majors and Minors web page (https://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors/) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program.

### Career Paths

Philosophy students learn the kinds of critical, interpretive, analytical, and argumentative skills highly prized by employers in a wide variety of fields, including publishing, non-profit work, consulting, information technology, law, business, education, journalism, medicine, and public service.

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES WITH A MINOR IN ETHICS** (http://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/)

### Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Philosophy students score consistently higher than other majors on LSAT, MCAT, and GMAT exams. The study of philosophy provides students with an outstanding preparation for law school, medical school, and other advanced degrees.

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES** (http://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/)

### Contact

**University Park**

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

234 Sparks Building

University Park, PA 16802
814-865-6397
npr109@psu.edu

http://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/ethics-minor (http://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/ethics-minor/)