

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

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

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).

Code	Title	Credits
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 0-6 credits from the following PHIL 0-level ethics-related courses:		0-6
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:		6
PHIL 103	Ethics	
PHIL 103W	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 118	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):		3
PHIL 403	Seminar in Environmental Ethics	
PHIL 405	Seminar in Philosophy of Law	
PHIL 406		
PHIL 407	Seminar in Philosophy of Technology	
PHIL 408W	Seminar in Social and Political Philosophy	
PHIL 418	Seminar in Ethical Theory	
PHIL 418W	Seminar 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:		0-6
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	

BA 342	Socially Responsible, Sustainable and Ethical Business Practice
BBH 301W	Values and Ethics in Biobehavioral Health Research and Practice
CED 417	Power, Conflict, and Community Decision Making
CMLIT 130	Banned Books: International and Comparative Perspectives
CMLIT 143	Human Rights and World Literature
CMLIT 455	Ethics, Justice, and Rights in World Literature
CNED 432	Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Counseling
COMM 205	Gender, Diversity and the Media
COMM 222N	Social Justice and the Image
COMM 409	News Media Ethics
COMM 417	Ethics and Regulation in Advertising and Public Relations
COMM 458	Media Law and Ethics
COMM 486W	Telecommunications Ethics
CRIMJ 451	Race, Crime, and Justice
CRIMJ 465	Ethics in Criminal Justice
EDTHP 115A	Competing Rights: Issues in American Education
EDTHP 441	Education, Schooling, and Values
EDUC 400	Diversity and Cultural Awareness Practices in the K-12 Classroom
ENGL 135	Alternative Voices in American Literature
ENGL 234	Sports, Ethics, and Literature
ENGL 236N	Inequality: Economics, Philosophy, Literature
FDSC 280	
FDSC 444	Arguing about Food
FIN 476	Financial Ethics
GEOG 130	
GEOG 433	Geographies of Justice
HDFS 108N	Art and Science of Human Flourishing
HDFS 301	Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions
HIST 116	
JST 409Y	Antisemitisms
KINES 345	Meaning, Ethics, and Movement
KINES 439W	
KINES 440	Philosophy and Sport
LER 460	
MGMT 451W	Business, Ethics, and Society
NAVSC 402	Leadership and Ethics
NURS 350	Professional Role Development II: Ethics, Legal and Genetic Issues
NURS 458	Ethical Challenges in Healthcare Informatics
PLSC 17N	Introduction to Political Theory
PLSC 112	
PLSC 430	Selected Works in the History of Political Theory
PLSC 431	Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Political Theories
PLSC 432	Modern and Contemporary Political Theories
PLSC 435	Foundations of American Political Theory

PLSC 477	Sex, Race, & Justice: The U.S. Supreme Court and Equality
PSYCH 243	Introduction to Well-being and Positive Psychology
PSYCH 466	The Psychology of Evil
RLST 130	
SOC 450	Justice and the Environment
WMNST 301N	Sexualities, Gender and Power: Feminist Thought and Politics
WMNST 400N	Debates in Contemporary Feminism

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 Meet the Academic Advisers web page (<https://la.psu.edu/student-services/academic-advising/meet-the-academic-advisers/>) 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 (<https://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 (<https://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/>)

Contact

University Park

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<https://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/ethics-minor/>