PHILOSOPHY, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Program Description
This major provides in-depth study of fundamental issues that inescapably confront all persons. Topics include ethics, social and political philosophy, and aesthetics—study of the good life, justice, and beauty; metaphysics, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of religion—study of the nature of reality, mind, body, and the meaning of life and death; epistemology, philosophy of science, and logic—study of the nature of knowledge, truth, objectivity, and principles of sound reasoning; and subjects such as comparative philosophies and world cultures, feminist theory, and philosophical issues in technology, language, education, and the professions of law, business, medicine, communications, engineering, and agriculture. These studies enhance imaginative, interpretive, analytical, critical, and communicative capacities. Majors thus may acquire intellectual abilities crucial for self-fulfillment, responsible participation in public life, and success in a wide range of careers—including law, business, education, journalism, medicine, and public service.

Majors pursued concentration in history of philosophy; humanities and arts; philosophy of science and mathematics; social sciences; the professions; or justice, law, and values. This is combined easily with minors, area studies, and concurrent majors. Qualified students participate in honors study and internships.

General Philosophy Option
This option provides students with a concentration in the history of western philosophy and the historical development and impact of philosophical ideas and issues—from the ancient to the contemporary period. It is designed for all students who seek a broad liberal education, including students interested in graduate study in philosophy.

Humanities and Arts Option
This option provides students with a concentration in philosophical issues in the arts, art history, literature, languages, history and religion. It is designed for all students primarily interested in the philosophical dimensions of the arts, humanities, and cultural studies, including students with career or further educational goals in these fields.

Philosophy of Science and Mathematics Option
This option provides students with a concentration in philosophical issues in the life sciences, the physical sciences, mathematics, engineering, and technology. It is designed for all students primarily interested in the philosophical dimensions of the natural sciences, technology, and mathematics, including students with career or further educational goals in these fields.

Social Sciences Option
This option provides students with a concentration in philosophical issues in the social sciences, social and political theory, and education. It is designed for all students primarily interested in the philosophical dimensions of social thought and methodological and normative issues in the social sciences, educational theory, and public policy, including students with career or further educational goals in these fields.

Professional Studies Option
This option provides students with a concentration in philosophical issues and dimensions in the theory and practice of the professions of agriculture, business, engineering, journalism, law, and medicine and health care. It is designed for all students seeking a foundation in the philosophical dimensions of these professions, including students who wish to combine humanistic study with career or further educational goals in these fields.

Justice, Law, and Values Option
This option provides students with a concentration in philosophical issues in aesthetics, ethics, jurisprudence, and social and political theory, and everyday life. It is designed for students primarily interested in moral, social, political, and legal questions concerning value and is especially appropriate for those anticipating future educational work in law school.

What is Philosophy?
Philosophy is the oldest of the liberal arts, and is often defined simply as the love of wisdom. Philosophy is at the core of the liberal arts tradition and provided the foundation for the modern university, yet it remains highly relevant to life in technologically complex, diverse, global, information driven societies such as our own. The Philosophy major provides in-depth study of fundamental issues that inescapably confront all persons, such as ethics, social and political philosophy, aesthetics, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, philosophy of religion, epistemology, philosophy of science, and logic. These studies enhance imaginative, interpretive, analytical, critical, and communicative capacities. Majors thus may acquire intellectual abilities crucial for self-fulfillment, responsible participation in public life, and success in a wide range of careers—including law, business, education, journalism, medicine, and public service.

You Might Like This Program If...
- You want to develop critical thinking skills, including constructing, interpreting, and critically analyzing philosophical arguments.
- You want to learn about major thinkers, schools, and trends of the Western philosophical tradition, and to appreciate the importance and value of other thought.
- You want to compose clear, coherent written expressions of complex philosophical ideas, theories, and arguments.
- You have enthusiasm for inquiry and want engage in philosophical discussions about ethics, social and political philosophy, metaphysics, and aesthetics.

Entrance to Major
In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/semester-classification.cfm)

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major/)

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy, a minimum of 124 credits is required:
First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

### Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

### Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

### Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

### Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

### Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for your intended program.

### B.A. Degree Requirements

#### Foreign Language
(0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

#### B.A. Fields
(9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

#### Other Cultures
(0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

### Requirements for the Major
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).
### Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

**Code** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---
**Additional Courses**
Select 9 credits in philosophy at the 200 level | 9

**Requirements for the Option**
Select an option | 21

### Requirements for the Option

#### General Philosophy Option (21 credits)

**Prescribed Courses**
Select 9 credits in philosophy at the 200 level | 9

**Additional Courses**
Select 6 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level | 6
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 200 Ancient Philosophy | 3
- PHIL 201 Medieval Philosophy
- PHIL 202 Modern Philosophy: 1600-1800
- PHIL 203 Nineteenth Century Philosophy
- PHIL 204 Twentieth Century Philosophy

#### Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 9 credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 9

#### Humanities and Arts Option (21 credits)

**Prescribed Courses**
Select 9 credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 9

**Additional Courses**
Select 6 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level | 6
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 401 American Philosophy | 3
- PHIL 402 European Philosophy
- PHIL 409 Seminar in Aesthetics
- PHIL 413 Philosophy of Literature
- PHIL 424 Seminar in Philosophy of Religion
- PHIL 435 The Interrelation of Science, Philosophy, and Religion

#### Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 6 additional credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 6
Select 3 credits at the 400 level in a mathematics or natural science discipline, in consultation with adviser | 3

#### Social Sciences Option (21 credits)

**Prescribed Courses**
Select 6 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level | 6
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 401 American Philosophy | 3
- PHIL 408W Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 416 Philosophy of Social Science
- PHIL 425W Epistemology
- PHIL 438 Feminist Philosophy

#### Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 6 additional credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 6
Select 3 credits at the 400 level in social science, in consultation with adviser | 3

#### Professional Studies Option (21 credits)

**Prescribed Courses**
Select 6 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level | 6
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 405 Philosophy of Law | 3
- PHIL 406 Seminar in Business Ethics
- PHIL 418 Seminar in Ethical Theory
- PHIL 432 Medical and Health Care Ethics
- PHIL 433 Ethics in Science and Engineering
- PHIL 435 The Interrelation of Science, Philosophy, and Religion

#### Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 6 additional credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 6
Select 3 credits at the 400 level in a related arts or humanities discipline, in consultation with adviser | 3

### Philosophy of Science and Mathematics Option (21 credits)

**Prescribed Courses**
Select 6 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level | 6
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 405 Philosophy of Law | 3
- PHIL 406 Seminar in Business Ethics
- PHIL 418 Seminar in Ethical Theory
- PHIL 432 Medical and Health Care Ethics
- PHIL 433 Ethics in Science and Engineering
- PHIL 435 The Interrelation of Science, Philosophy, and Religion

#### Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 6 additional credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 6
Select 3 credits at the 400 level in a related arts or humanities discipline, in consultation with adviser | 3

### Philosophy, B.A.

**PHIL 12** Symbolic Logic | 3

**Additional Courses**
Select 6 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level | 6
Select one of the following:
- PHIL 407 Technology and Human Values
- PHIL 410 Philosophy of Science
- PHIL 425W Epistemology
- PHIL 426W Metaphysics
- PHIL 427 Philosophy of Mind

#### Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 6 additional credits in philosophy at the 400 level, in consultation with adviser | 6
Select 3 credits at the 400 level in a mathematics or natural science discipline, in consultation with adviser | 3
Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better
Select 9 credits at the 400 level in a professional area outside philosophy, in consultation with adviser  9

Justice, Law, and Values Option (21 credits)

Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
PHIL 105 Philosophy of Law  3

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better
PHIL 10 Critical Thinking  3
or PHIL 12 Symbolic Logic
Select 3 credits in philosophy at the 00 or 100 level  3
Select 3 credits in philosophy at the 400 level  3
Select one of the following:  3
  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 425W Epistemology
  PHIL 432 Medical and Health Care Ethics
  PHIL 433 Ethics in Science and Engineering
  PHIL 438 Feminist Philosophy
Select two of the following:  6
  AFAM 409 Racial and Ethnic Inequality in America
  AFAM 465 The Post-World War II Civil Rights Movement
  CAS 321 Rhetoric and Law
  COMM 403 Law of Mass Communications
  HIST 449 Constitutional History of the United States to 1877
  HIST 450 Constitutional History of the United States since 1877
  LST 370 Research Methods for Law and Government Information Resources
  PLSC 403 The Legislative Process
  PLSC 412 International Political Economy
  PLSC 424 Topics in Comparative Government and Institutions
  PLSC 431 Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Political Theories
  PLSC 432 Modern and Contemporary Political Theories
  PLSC 470W Legal Brief Writing
  PLSC 471 American Constitutional Law
  PLSC 472 The American Legal Process
  PLSC 474 Civil Liberties and Due Process
  WMNST 423 Sexual and Domestic Violence
  WMNST 453 Women and the Criminal Justice System

Program Learning Objectives
- The development of critical thinking skills, including the ability to construct, interpret, and critically analyze complex philosophical arguments.
- A developed understanding of several of the major thinkers, schools and trends of the Western philosophical tradition, as well as an appreciation of the importance and value of thought emanating from outside that tradition.
- The ability to compose clear and coherent written expressions of complex philosophical ideas, theories, and arguments.
- An enthusiasm for inquiry and a willingness to engage in philosophical discussions, including those concerning the major thematic areas of philosophy such as ethics, social and political philosophy, metaphysics, and aesthetics.

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.

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.

Suggested Academic plan
The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2021-22 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

General Philosophy Option: Philosophy, B.A. at University Park Campus
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
ENGL 15, 30H, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H† 3 1-100 level PHIL Course  3
First Year Seminar  |  3 General Education Course  |  3  
World Language Level 1  |  4 General Education Course  |  3  
1-100 level PHIL Course  |  3 World Language Level 2  |  4  
General Education Quantification Course  |  3 General Education Quantification Course  |  3  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T  |  3 PHIL 12*  |  3  
| Concentration Course*  |  3 Concentration Course*  |  3  
| General Education Course  |  3 General Education Course  |  3  
| World Language Level 3  |  4 General Education Course  |  3  
| General Education Course  |  3 BA Knowledge Domain Course  |  3  

| 16  | 16  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Concentration Course*  |  3 Concentration Course*  |  3  
| General Education Course  |  3 ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D†  |  3  
| BA Knowledge Domain Course  |  3 General Education Course  |  3  
| Elective  |  3 Elective  |  3  
| Elective  |  3 Elective  |  3  

| 16  | 15  |

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<tr>
<th>Fourth Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Concentration Course*  |  3 Concentration Course*  |  3  
| Concentration Course  |  3 Elective  |  3  
| BA Other Cultures  |  3 Elective  |  3  
| BA Knowledge Domain Course  |  3 Elective  |  3  
| Elective  |  3 General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)  |  1.5  

| 1.5  |

| General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)  |  16.5  |  13.5  |

Total Credits 123

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major  
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education  
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement  
‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).  
W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.  
GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of “C” or better.  
Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.  
All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.  
Bachelor of Arts Requirements:  
Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.  
Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).  
Advising Note:  
All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.
Humanities and Arts Option: Philosophy, B.A. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15, 30H, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H†</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Year Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Language Level 1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>World Language Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
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<td>General Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantification Course‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Quantification Course‡</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**First Year**

**Second Year**

**Third Year**

**Fourth Year**

Total Credits 123

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

- W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this bulletin.

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Advising Note:

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Philosophy of Science and Mathematics Option: Philosophy, B.A. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

### First Year

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15, 30H, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-100 level PHIL Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Year Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Language Level 1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>World Language Level 2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Quantification Course‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Quantification Course‡</td>
<td>3</td>
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### Second Year

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<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PHIL 12*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Language Level 3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
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### Third Year

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<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PHIL 407, 410, 425W, 426W, or 427*</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D†</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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### Fourth Year

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<th>Fall</th>
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<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
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<td>Concentration Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4xx level in Mathematics and Science*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Other Cultures</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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| General Education Health and Wellness (GHW) | 1.5 |
| 16 | 13.5 |

**Total Credits 123**

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
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Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

**Bachelor of Arts Requirements:**

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures.

See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

**Advising Note:**

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) requirement. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.
Social Sciences Option: Philosophy, B.A. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

Academic Requirements

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/138H and CAS 100 in the fall, and ENGL 30H and CAS 137H in the spring. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

Advising Note:

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Fall</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 15, 30H, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-100 level PHIL Course</td>
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<td>First Year Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Quantification Course‡</td>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<th>Fall</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T‡</td>
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<td>PHIL 12*</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Language Level 3</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Year</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<th>Fall</th>
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<td>Concentration Course*</td>
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<td>PHIL 401, 408W, 416, 425W, or 438‡</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
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<table>
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<th>Credits</th>
<th>Fall</th>
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<td>4xx level in Social Sciences*</td>
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<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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</table>

| General Education Health and Wellness (GHW) | 1.5 |

| Total Credits | 123 |
Professional Studies Option: Philosophy, B.A. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
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<td>World Language Level 1</td>
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<td>General Education Quantification Course‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Quantification Course‡</td>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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<td><strong>16</strong></td>
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**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
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<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T‡</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Language Level 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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**Third Year**

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<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
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<td>PHIL 405, 406, 418, 432, 433, or 435*</td>
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<td>ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D‡</td>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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**Fourth Year**

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<th>Fall</th>
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<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
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<td>Concentration Course*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concentration Course*</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Other Cultures</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain Course</td>
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<td>General Education Health and Wellness</td>
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<td>General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)</td>
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University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures/).

Advising Note:

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.
Justice, Law, and Values Option: Philosophy, B.A. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

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<th>Spring</th>
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<td>World Language Level 2</td>
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<td>General Education</td>
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<td>General Education Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantification Course ‡</td>
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<td>Quantification Course ‡</td>
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Second Year

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<th>Fall</th>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138 †</td>
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<td>PHIL 12 or 10 *</td>
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Third Year

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<th>Fall</th>
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<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course *</td>
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<td>PHIL 403, 405, 406, 407, 408W, 418, 425W, 432, 433, or 438 *</td>
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<td>ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D †</td>
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Fourth Year

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<td>BA Other Cultures</td>
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| General Education Health and Wellness (GHW) | 1.5 General Education Health and Wellness | 1.5 |
| AFAM 409, 465, CAS 321, COMM 402, HIST 449, HIST 450, LST 370, PLSC 403, PLSC 412, PLSC 431, PLSC 432, PLSC 471, PLSC 472, PLSC 473, PLSC 474, WMNST 423, or WMNST 453 † | | |
| | 3 | |
| Total Credits 123 |

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
‡ Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
# Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

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W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

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### Career Paths

Students in the Philosophy major may choose to pursue one of several areas of concentration, including the history of philosophy, humanities and arts, natural sciences and mathematics, social sciences, professional studies, or justice, law and values. Each option is designed to prepare students to reach career or educational goals in its associated field.

### Careers

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 OF THE PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM (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. For those students interested in pursuing graduate work in philosophy, our department has a strong record of placing its graduates into top-notch doctoral programs.

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

### Professional Resources

- Phi Sigma Tau (http://philosophy.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/phisigma-tau/)
- American Philosophical Association (http://www.apaonline.org/)
- Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (http://www.spep.org/about/mission/)

### Contact

**University Park**

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

234 Sparks Building

University Park, PA 16802

814-865-6397

npr109@psu.edu

http://philosophy.la.psu.edu/