

PHILOSOPHY, B.S.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Philosophy, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	36
Requirements for the Major	39

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, 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 Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

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 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
PHIL 12	Symbolic Logic	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 9 credits in Philosophical Foundations of Science:		9
PHIL 11	Science and Truth	
PHIL 13	Nature and Environment	
PHIL 110	Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 125	Theories of Knowledge	
or PHIL 125V	Theories of Knowledge	
PHIL 126	Metaphysics	
or PHIL 126W	Metaphysics	
PHIL 127	Philosophy of Mind	
PHIL 129	Philosophy of Language	
Select 6 credits in Ethics and Science:		6
PHIL 107	Philosophy of Technology	
PHIL 118	Environmental Philosophy	
PHIL 132	Bioethics	
PHIL 133N	Ethics of Climate Change	
PHIL 134	Food, Values, and Health	
Select 6 credits in Advanced Topics:		6
PHIL 403	Seminar in Environmental Ethics	
PHIL 407	Seminar in Philosophy of Technology	
PHIL 410	Seminar in Philosophy of Science	
PHIL 425W	Seminar in Epistemology	
PHIL 426W	Seminar in Metaphysics	

PHIL 427	Seminar in Philosophy of Mind	
PHIL 432	Medical and Health Care Ethics	
Select 6 credits in Formal Reasoning:		6
CMPSC 111	Logic for Computer Science	
CMPSC 121	Introduction to Programming Techniques	
CMPSC 131	Programming and Computation I: Fundamentals	
CMPSC 360	Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science	
CMPSC 441	Artificial Intelligence	
CMPSC 442	Artificial Intelligence	
ECON 306	Introduction to Econometrics	
ECON 402	Decision Making and Strategy in Economics	
ECON 411	Behavioral Economics	
ECON 414		
ECON 474	Experimental and Behavioral Economics	
IST 230	Language, Logic, and Discrete Mathematics	
IST 240	Introduction to Computer Languages	
MATH 315		
MATH 427	Foundations of Geometry	
MATH 457	Introduction to Mathematical Logic	
MATH 465	Number Theory	
MATH 475Y	History of Mathematics	
MATH 486	Mathematical Theory of Games	
RM 301	Risk and Decisions	
SC 205N	BS: Identifying Bias and Falsehood	
SRA 231	Decision Theory and Analysis	
STAT 318	Elementary Probability	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better

Select 3 credits PHIL elective, unrestricted topic	3
Select 6 credits Advanced Topics supporting program, choose from: Advanced Topics, Formal Reasoning, or by approval	6

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

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. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.