PHILOSOPHY EMPHASIS (AA) - 60 CREDITS

OVERVIEW

WHAT EXACTLY IS PHILOSOPHY?
Philosophy is the academic discipline that exercises reason and logic in an attempt to understand reality and answer fundamental questions about knowledge, life, morality and human nature.

WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY?
Many students take Philosophy courses to develop personal skills, because of an interest in ethics/ideas/reasoning, or for career enhancement.

Other students take philosophy courses to fulfill requirements for a two-year Associate of Science or Associate of Applied Science degree.

Strong emphasis is placed on comparative philosophies and religions, applied to ethics and symbolic logic.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH AN PHILOSOPHY DEGREE?
Careers related to this major include law, religious vocations and environmental sciences.

In addition, many students majoring in philosophy are well prepared for graduate programs in a variety of fields.

CAREERS IN PHILOSOPHY

Types of Jobs
(from indeed.org)

Individuals who study philosophy often work in the following profession

- College Mathematics Science Teachers
- College Philosophy and Religion Teachers
- Mathematicians
- Natural Sciences Managers

Skills Acquired
(from indeed.org)

Philosophy programs include topics such as:

- Logic
- Ethics
- Aesthetics
- Metaphysics
- History of philosophy

DEGREES & CERTIFICATES IN PHILOSOPHY

Students seeking an Associate of Arts Degree with Emphasis in Philosophy must successfully complete the AA requirements and the specific emphasis requirements. Emphasis requirements may also be used to satisfy the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) Goal requirements.

The Philosophy Department offers a complete selection of lower division courses for a major in philosophy as well as related areas such as religion or humanities.

Careers related to this major include law, religious vocations and environmental sciences. In addition, many students majoring in philosophy are well prepared for graduate programs in a variety of fields.

REQUIREMENTS

The Associate of Arts Degree with Emphasis in Philosophy provides students with the opportunity to reflect on the most fundamental questions that concern human beings. Through the careful study of major figures and traditions within philosophy, courses in this program will help students develop skills for reasoning and critical analysis, and encourage imagination, intellectual curiosity and rigor, personal reflection, and civic engagement.

Since the study of philosophy cultivates intellectual curiosity and imagination, and draws upon all areas of human endeavor, students who complete the emphasis will be prepared to transfer to a four-year institution in pursuit of many different majors. Philosophy majors are prepared for a wide variety of careers, including law, journalism, business-technology, and government and politics. Philosophy courses satisfy 6 of the 10 goals in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.

REQUIRED COURSES

Incorporate the following Required Courses into the General Education/Minnesota Transfer Curriculum or Additional Course Requirements sections below.

COMPLETE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 1101</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 1102</td>
<td>Logic</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 1103</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 1150</td>
<td>Introduction to World Religions</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 1160</td>
<td>Philosophy of Art</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 1170</td>
<td>Business Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 1180</td>
<td>Biomedical Ethics</td>
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GENERAL EDUCATION/MINNESOTA TRANSFER CURRICULUM (MNTC) - 40 CREDITS

*See MnTC Curriculum for specific course options

GOAL 1: COMMUNICATION - 2 COURSES

- ENGC 1101
- COMM 1100 or CCOM 1101 or COMM 1111 or COMM 1121

GOAL 2: CRITICAL THINKING

(required by completion of all 40 credits of the MnTC)

GOAL 3: NATURAL SCIENCES - 2 COURSES (Select from two different departments; at least one must include a lab)

- Course #1
- Course #2

GOAL 4: MATHEMATICAL/LOGICAL REASONING - 1 COURSE

- Course
  (can be met by taking PHIL 1160)

GOAL 5: HISTORY AND SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES - 2 COURSES (Select from two different departments)

- Course #1
- Course #2

GOAL 6: HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS - 2 COURSES (Select from two different departments)

- Course #1 - met by taking required PHIL courses
- Course #2

GOAL 7: HUMAN DIVERSITY - 1 COURSE

- Course

GOAL 8: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE - 1 COURSE

- Course
  (can be met by taking PHIL 1150)

GOAL 9: ETHICAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY - 1 COURSE

- Course
  (can be met by taking PHIL 1163 or PHIL 1140 or PHIL 1170 or PHIL 1180)

GOAL 10: PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT - 1 COURSE

- Course
  (can be met by taking PHIL 1140)

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- One Health (HLTH) course.
- One Exercise Science (EXSC) course.
- Elective credits - additional course(s) numbered 1000 and above, if needed to complete the 60 credit requirement

OTHER DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 for college-level coursework (courses numbered 1000 and above) completed at Normandale.
- Earn a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in the MnTC.
- Earn a minimum of 20 college-level credits at Normandale.

COURSES

PHIL 1101 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY | 3 CR

Recommended: Eligible for READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 6

An introduction to the study of philosophy, with emphasis on developing skills in philosophical modes of inquiry and analysis. Major content areas include epistemology, metaphysics, and value theory, and may also include topics in political philosophy, philosophy of science, philosophy of mind, philosophy of law, philosophy of religion, and philosophy of language. Readings will include both historical and contemporary texts.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

PHIL 1102 LOGIC | 3 CR

MnTC Goals: 4

This course is the study of the deductive analysis of arguments using the tools of contemporary symbolic logic. The course includes the examination of basic logical concepts (logical form, validity, logical truth, consistency), symbolization of arguments expressed in natural language, truth tables, formal proofs or truth trees, and elementary quantification theory.
PHIL 1103 ETHICS | 3 CR

Recommended: Eligible for READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 6, 9

This course is an introduction to the philosophical study of morality. It will examine several important ethical theories concerning virtue and vice, the nature of right action, standards of value, and conceptions of the good life. Contemporary moral issues will be critically examined in light of these theories. Topics may include marriage equality, animal rights, torture, euthanasia, freedom of speech, punishment and the death penalty, globalization and justice, and other issues. The course may also include topics in metaethics, such as ethical relativism. This course will help students to think analytically about the moral judgments we are tempted to make, with the goal of developing well-reasoned positions on important moral issues of personal and social concern.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

PHIL 1105 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION | 3 CR

MnTC Goals: 6, 8

Content will include both classic and contemporary philosophy of religion material including, but not limited to: Proofs for existence of divine beings or God; analysis of the types of proof including mystical experiences, faith, or rational acceptance for religious and spiritual belief. Eastern philosophy from the scriptures of Daoism, Confucianism, Buddhism, and Hinduism: Indigenous religious and mythic traditional understanding of human nature, society and cosmic structure. The course will evaluate alternatives to religious or spiritual beliefs including criticisms of them from perspectives of secular humanism, atheism, agnosticism and contemporary issues associated with our beliefs in modern life.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

PHIL 1140 ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS | 3 CR

Recommended: Eligible for READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 9, 10

Do animals have rights? Do we have moral obligations to preserve endangered species? What is sustainable development and do we have an ethical obligation to promote it? Do people, including future generations, have a right to environmental protection? What is environmental racism? Do we have a duty to preserve biodiversity?

Does nature have value, and if so, what kind of value? These are just a few of the questions addressed in environmental ethics. Environmental ethics is the study of the moral relationship between humans and the rest of nature. In this course, we will examine various efforts to understand the nature and extent of our duties to the nonhuman world. After a general introduction to a few major ethical theories and concepts in moral philosophy, we will investigate a variety of environmental issues through the lens of these theories and concepts.

At the same time, we will critically reflect on the shortcomings of traditional moral theories and investigate new concepts, theories, and perspectives as ways of understanding the moral relationship between humans and nature.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

PHIL 1150 INTRODUCTION TO WORLD RELIGIONS | 3 CR

MnTC Goals: 6, 8

A comparative course which examines the fundamental beliefs, practices, and traditions of world religious traditions. The origins, major figures, sacred scriptures and creeds will be reviewed and compared. Topics may include justification for beliefs, cosmology, practices of the faithful, and the role of women, artistic expression, and contemporary issues. Major religious traditions including Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam will be studied. Additionally, alternative spirituality, paganism, Egyptian religions, Native American traditions, atheism, secularism and other religious movements may be covered.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

PHIL 1160 PHILOSOPHY OF ART | 3 CR

Prereq: Eligible for ENGC 1101, and READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 6

The study of the nature of art, the character of our experience of works of art, and standards for the interpretation and evaluation of works of art. May include examination of the nature of beauty, culturally bounded conceptions of art, the nature of artistic expressiveness and imagination, and the possibility that there are objective criteria for the evaluation of works of art. Readings will be primarily contemporary.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

PHIL 1170 BUSINESS ETHICS | 3 CR

Recommended: Eligible for READ 0960 MnTC Goals: 6, 9

Should companies that employ sweatshop labor be boycotted? Who should take responsibility for the financial crisis of 2008? Is bribery morally acceptable if everyone is doing it? Is corporate downsizing morally wrong? Do corporations have any social responsibilities other than maximizing profits? Is capitalism an unjust economic system? These are just a few of the questions addressed in business ethics. In this course, we will examine various efforts to understand the ethical dimensions of capitalism and the conduct of business in society. After an introduction to several major ethical theories and concepts in moral philosophy, we will investigate a variety of ethical issues that arise in the conduct of business.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

PHIL 1180 BIOMEDICAL ETHICS | 3 CR

MnTC Goals: 6, 9

Should physician-assisted suicide be legalized? Is there a right to health care? Should genetic technologies be used for enhancing human capabilities? What ethical ideals ought to govern the patient-provider relationship? These are just a few of the questions addressed in biomedical ethics. Biomedical ethics is the study of the ethical issues that arise in the practice of medicine and health care. In this course, we will begin by examining several major ethical theories, including critiques of these theories that have lead to alternative approaches to ethical decision-making. We will then investigate a range of specific ethical issues through the lens of these theories and approaches.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring