

MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY

Since it deals mainly with issues that have no simple solutions, philosophy emphasizes the exchange of ideas and debate, and thus cultivates an appetite for deep and serious reflection. By reading and discussing the works of the world's great thinkers on fundamental topics like truth, justice, morality and existence, you sharpen your own ability to think clearly, critically and independently. The Department's curriculum has a twin approach, historical and analytical, and covers political and social philosophy, ethics, philosophy of science, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind and logic.

The Department of Philosophy also offers programs in Ethics and Political Philosophy, and a minor in Applied Ethics.

This program is offered in English and in French.

Learn more about this program (<https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-arts/philosophy/undergraduate-philosophy/>)

Program Requirements

The table below includes only the discipline-specific courses. Please refer to the Academic Regulations (<https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/policies-regulations/academic-regulations/b-2-program-studies/>) for information on the Honours bachelor's with double major and the Honours bachelor's with major and minor.

The French immersion stream is available when taken as part of an honours degree.

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2024-2025 calendars (<http://catalogue.uottawa.ca/en/archives/>) for the previous requirements.

Basic skills

3 course units from: 3 Units

PHI 1101 Reasoning and Critical Thinking

PHI 1301 Philosophy: Ideas and Arguments

3 course units from: 3 Units

PHI 1102 Moral Reasoning

PHI 1103 Fundamental Philosophical Questions

PHI 1104 Great Philosophers

PHI 1302 Philosophy: Themes and Texts

Compulsory Courses

PHI 2170 Logic I 3 Units

Optional Courses

3 course units from: 3 Units

PHI 2174 Ethics

PHI 2183 Political Philosophy

6 course units from: 6 Units

PHI 2380 Greek Philosophy

PHI 2382 Medieval Philosophy

PHI 2383 Modern Philosophy

3 optional course units in philosophy (PHI) from List A 3 Units

3 optional course units in philosophy (PHI) from List C 3 Units

3 optional course units in philosophy (PHI) from List A at the 3000 or 4000 level 3 Units

6 optional course units in philosophy (PHI) from List B at the 3000 or 4000 level 6 Units

3 optional course units in philosophy (PHI) from List C at the 3000 or 4000 level 3 Units

6 optional course units in philosophy (PHI) at the 4000 level 6 Units

Total: 42 Units

List of Optional Courses

List A - History of Philosophy

PHI 2122 Ancient Wisdoms 3 Units

PHI 2380 Greek Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 2381 Arabic Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 2382 Medieval Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 2383 Modern Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 2386 Existentialism 3 Units

PHI 2387 Philosophy of the Enlightenment 3 Units

PHI 2389 Asian Philosophy ¹ 3 Units

PHI 3108 Texts in Modern Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 3375 The Great Figures of Ancient Greek Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 3377 Continental Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 3386 19th Century Philosophy ¹ 3 Units

PHI 3398 Analytic Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 4301 Seminar in the History of Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 4302 Texts in the History of Philosophy 3 Units

List B - Metaphysics, Logic, and Theory of Knowledge

PHI 2125 Philosophy of Cognitive Science 3 Units

PHI 2172 Philosophy of Mind 3 Units

PHI 2186 Philosophy of the Social Sciences 3 Units

PHI 2190 Philosophy of Religion 3 Units

PHI 2197 Philosophy of History 3 Units

PHI 2391 Philosophy of Science 3 Units

PHI 2392 Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art 3 Units

PHI 3170 Theory of Knowledge 3 Units

PHI 3171 Logic II ¹ 3 Units

PHI 3174 Topics in Metaphysics 3 Units

PHI 3391 Philosophy of Language 3 Units

PHI 4101 Special Topics ¹ 3 Units

PHI 4103 Texts in Metaphysics and Epistemology ¹ 3 Units

List C - Ethics and Political Philosophy

PHI 2100 Animal Ethics 3 Units

PHI 2174 Ethics 3 Units

PHI 2183 Political Philosophy 3 Units

PHI 2385 Ethical Questions 3 Units

PHI 2390 Philosophy of Feminism and Gender 3 Units

PHI 2393 Philosophy of Culture 3 Units

PHI 2394 Scientific Thought and Social Values 3 Units

PHI 2395 Philosophy of Law 3 Units

PHI 2396 Bioethics 3 Units

PHI 2397 Business Ethics 3 Units

PHI 2398 Environmental Ethics 3 Units

This is a copy of the 2026-2027 catalog.

PHI 2399	Questions in Political Philosophy	3 Units
PHI 3164	Contemporary Ethical Theories	3 Units
PHI 3165	Contemporary Political Philosophy	3 Units
PHI 4164	Texts in Ethics and Political Philosophy	3 Units
PHI 4311	Problems in Contemporary Political Philosophy	3 Units
PHI 4312	Problems in Contemporary Ethics	3 Units

Note(s)

¹ Variable theme course which may be taken more than once provided that the themes differ.