

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS), MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY

At a Glance

Faculty

www.kpu.ca/arts (<http://www.kpu.ca/arts/>)

Area of Study:

www.kpu.ca/arts/philosophy (<http://www.kpu.ca/arts/philosophy/>)

Academic Level:

Undergraduate

Credential Granted:

Baccalaureate Degree (Honours)

Start Date:

Fall (September)

Spring (January)

Summer (May)

Intake Type:

- Open

Minimum Credits Required:

120

Description

The Philosophy Major at KPU provides students a broad-based, general education in the principal areas of Western Philosophy. Philosophy majors will complete courses in logic, epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, and history of philosophy. The program is expressly set up to satisfy a variety of additional pedagogical and intellectual objectives, chief among these being the development of critical reasoning and writing skills, both in general and with regard to specialized research in the discipline. Philosophy majors at KPU will experience a learning environment that is supportive and challenging. It is one that prepares students for graduate work in philosophy. It develops effective citizenship, community leadership, and the critical reasoning, writing, and problem-solving skills required for successful careers in any area.

The Bachelor of Arts Major in Philosophy provides students the opportunity to build a sturdy educational foundation in one of the core areas of the Humanities. All Philosophy majors take a course in formal logic at the 1000-level. At the 2000-level, five courses in philosophy are obligatory: Moral Theory (the study of the nature of right and wrong), Metaphysics (the study of the nature of reality), Epistemology (the study of the nature and limits of knowledge), Ancient Greek Philosophy, and Modern Philosophy.

Upper-level students will have the following options: to take smaller, more participatory courses in Special Topics in Philosophy; to pursue an Applied Ethics Stream by taking specially designed courses in Business, Environmental, and Biomedical Ethics; to participate in a Practicum course where research and work skills are enhanced; and to apply to a

selective sequence of honours courses with a focus on researching and writing an honours thesis.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

Students pursuing a major in Philosophy must be admitted to the Faculty of Arts (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/programs-az/arts/admission-requirements/>).

Declaration Requirements

Students intending to graduate with this Faculty of Arts Bachelor's degree must declare the credential by the time they complete 60 credits of undergraduate coursework. At the time of declaration, the student must satisfy all of the following requirements:

- In good academic standing with the University
- Completion of a minimum of 18 credits of undergraduate coursework, including the following with a minimum grade of "C":
 - 3 credits of ENGL at the 1100 level or higher
 - 6 credits at the 1100 level or higher in the Major area

Curricular Requirements

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree must complete all requirements in the Bachelor of Arts framework (<https://calendar.kpu.ca/programs-az/arts/ba-degree-framework/>) in addition to their major or minor program requirements.

Major

Requirements for the major in philosophy include the successful completion of a minimum of 48 credits in philosophy, of which at least 18 credits are at the 3rd year level, and at least 6 credits are at the 4th year level.

As part of the 48 credits in philosophy, majors must complete the following:

Code	Title	Credits
Philosophy Required Courses		
<i>Logic Requirement</i>		
PHIL 1150	Introduction to Formal Logic	3
<i>History of Philosophy Requirement - at least 9 credits</i>		
PHIL 2106	Ancient Greek Philosophy	3
PHIL 2107	Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant	3
Select 3 further credits at the 3rd year or higher in the History of Philosophy (p. 2)		3
<i>Metaphysics and Epistemology Requirement - at least 9 credits</i>		
PHIL 2210	Epistemology	3
PHIL 2215	Metaphysics	3
Select 3 further credits at the 3rd year or higher in Metaphysics or Epistemology (p. 2)		3
<i>Ethics Requirement - at least 9 credits</i>		
PHIL 2110	Moral Theory	3
Select one of the following:		3
PHIL 3109	Foundations in Ethics	
PHIL 3119	Contemporary Moral Theory	
PHIL 4110	Topics in Ethics	

Select 3 further credits at the 3rd year or higher in Value Theory (p. 2)	3
Total Credits	30

Note: Certain pre-requisites must be met in order to gain admission to 3000 and 4000 level PHIL courses.

Applied Ethics Stream

Besides the requirements for the philosophy major, students must complete at least 9 additional credits in Applied Ethics from the following:

Code	Title	Credits
<i>Select 9 credits of the following</i>		
PHIL 3118	Ethics and Public Policy	3
PHIL 3510	Confronting Moral Issues: Bio-medical Ethics	3
PHIL 3512	Confronting Moral Issues: The Natural Environment	3
PHIL 3533	Confronting Moral Issues: Business Ethics	3
Total Credits		9

Honours

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts, Honours in Philosophy degree must complete 120 credits including area requirements as specified in the Bachelor of Arts, Major in Philosophy or the Bachelor of Arts, Major in Philosophy – Applied Ethics Stream. Within these 120 credits, in lieu of 6 credits of Philosophy electives, students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts, Honours in Philosophy degree must complete the following:

Code	Title	Credits
PHIL 3900	Honours Research and Thesis I	3
PHIL 4900	Honours Research and Thesis II	3
Total Credits		6

Enrollment in Philosophy Honours courses requires the permission of the Philosophy department. In order to be considered for Honours courses, students must typically have a record of exceptional academic performance, including the following:

- at least 60 credits of university-level coursework with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- at least 24 of the 60 credits must be university-level Philosophy coursework with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.67.

Please see [kpu.ca/arts/philosophy](http://www.kpu.ca/arts/philosophy/) (<http://www.kpu.ca/arts/philosophy/>) for further information regarding application deadlines and selection criteria.

Students may receive either the Bachelor of Arts Major in Philosophy degree or the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Philosophy Honours degree, but not both.

Other Information

Philosophy Courses by Area

No single course can count for more than one area. Students may take the same 4th year Topics course twice for different credit if and only if the content differs significantly. Students who wish to take the same 4th year

Topics course more than once must obtain the permission of the Chair of the Philosophy Department.

Code	Title	Credits
Logic		
PHIL 1145	Critical Thinking	3
PHIL 1150	Introduction to Formal Logic ¹	3
PHIL 1155	Introduction to Scientific Reasoning	3
PHIL 3150	Intermediate Formal Logic	3
History of Philosophy		
PHIL 2106	Ancient Greek Philosophy ¹	3
PHIL 2107	Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant ¹	3
PHIL 2115	Asian Philosophy	3
PHIL 3100	Great Philosophers of the 20th Century	3
PHIL 3101	20th Century Analytic Philosophy	3
PHIL 3220	Empiricism	3
PHIL 3225	Rationalism	3
Metaphysics and Epistemology		
PHIL 2120	Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 2210	Epistemology ¹	3
PHIL 2215	Metaphysics ¹	3
PHIL 3100	Great Philosophers of the 20th Century	3
PHIL 3101	20th Century Analytic Philosophy	3
PHIL 3105	Life and Death	3
PHIL 3110	The Possibility of Knowledge	3
PHIL 3120	Free Will and Determinism	3
PHIL 3220	Empiricism	3
PHIL 3225	Rationalism	3
PHIL 3320	Personal Identity	3
PHIL 3425	Language and Meaning	3
PHIL 3430	Philosophy of Mind: Consciousness	3
PHIL 4120	Topics in Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 4210	Topics in Epistemology	3
PHIL 4215	Topics in Metaphysics	3
PHIL 4430	Topics in the Philosophy of Mind	3
Ethics and Value Theory		
PHIL 1110	Introduction to Moral Philosophy	3
PHIL 1112	Introduction to Environmental Ethics	3
PHIL 2110	Moral Theory	3
PHIL 2117	Social and Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 3010	Health Care Ethics (not for majors)	3
PHIL 3033	Business Ethics (not for majors)	3
PHIL 3040	Philosophy of Art	3
PHIL 3105	Life and Death	3
PHIL 3109	Foundations in Ethics	3
PHIL 3118	Ethics and Public Policy	3
PHIL 3119	Contemporary Moral Theory	3
PHIL 3510	Confronting Moral Issues: Bio-medical Ethics	3
PHIL 3512	Confronting Moral Issues: The Natural Environment	3
PHIL 3533	Confronting Moral Issues: Business Ethics	3
PHIL 4040	Topics in the Philosophy of Art	3
PHIL 4110	Topics in Ethics	3

PHIL 4117	Topics in Social and Political Philosophy	3
Other		
PHIL 1100	General Introduction to Philosophy	3
PHIL 1101	Philosophy, Culture, and Identity	3
PHIL 1111	Sustainability and Ethics	3
PHIL 3900	Honours Research and Thesis I	3
PHIL 4900	Honours Research and Thesis II	3

¹ Course required for the major.

Credential Awarded

Upon successful completion of the honours program, students are eligible to receive a **Bachelor of Arts (Honours)**. Transcripts will indicate a **Major in Philosophy**.