

# BACHELOR OF ARTS, MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY

## At a Glance

### Faculty

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

### Area of Study:

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

### Academic Level:

Undergraduate

### Credential Granted:

Baccalaureate Degree

### 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.

### Philosophy 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 |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Philosophy Required Courses</b>   |                                      |         |
| <i>Logic Requirement - at least 3 credits</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

### Applied Ethics Stream

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

|           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
| PHIL 3118 | Ethics and Public Policy                          |  |
| PHIL 3510 | Confronting Moral Issues: Bio-medical Ethics      |  |
| PHIL 3512 | Confronting Moral Issues: The Natural Environment |  |
| PHIL 3533 | Confronting Moral Issues: Business Ethics         |  |

**Total Credits** 39

### 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 |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------|
| <b>Logic</b>                        |   |         |
| PHIL 1145                           | Critical Thinking                                 | 3       |
| PHIL 1150                           | Introduction to Formal Logic <sup>1</sup>         | 3       |
| PHIL 1155                           | Introduction to Scientific Reasoning              | 3       |
| PHIL 3150                           | Intermediate Formal Logic                         | 3       |
| <b>History of Philosophy</b>        |   |         |
| PHIL 2106                           | Ancient Greek Philosophy <sup>1</sup>             | 3       |
| PHIL 2107                           | Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant <sup>1</sup> | 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       |
| <b>Metaphysics and Epistemology</b> |   |         |
| PHIL 2120                           | Philosophy of Religion                            | 3       |
| PHIL 2210                           | Epistemology <sup>1</sup>                         | 3       |
| PHIL 2215                           | Metaphysics <sup>1</sup>                          | 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       |
| <b>Ethics and Value Theory</b>      |   |         |

|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| 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 |

<sup>1</sup> Course required for the major.

## Credential Awarded

Upon successful completion of the major program students are eligible to receive a **Bachelor of Arts**. Transcripts will indicate a **Major in Philosophy**.