BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy is traditionally identified with the love of wisdom and the ability to think well about the foundations of human action, the nature of reality, and the purposes and priorities of life. Our department offers the opportunity for a systematic study of the philosophies of past and present and also of East and West, a study that deepens and broadens one's outlook on the world and human affairs.

The enterprise of philosophy requires sharpening the skills necessary for clarifying premises, uncovering presuppositions (one's own and those of others), weighing the pros and cons of conflicting values, and analyzing concepts and issues. Courses in philosophy serve to develop and enhance these skills. Some courses concentrate on specific philosophical issues. Others provide an overview of an entire area of human inquiry or endeavor (such as the sciences, the arts, political theory and law, medicine, social justice, and how our minds, senses, and emotions work) or of the philosophical foundations that characterize a historical period.

The department welcomes students from other majors or programs who wish to examine their personal philosophy, investigate the philosophies of others, or sharpen their skills as independent thinkers.

Many of the courses offered are not only appropriate as part of a philosophy major but are of special interest to students in other fields. These courses are designed to help students understand the theoretical frameworks, methodological presuppositions, and more abstract dimensions of the paramount areas of knowledge. Students interested in either the philosophical understanding of a field of knowledge or in philosophy for self-understanding should feel free to consult the department chairperson or an advisor on appropriate courses.

Undergraduate advisors are authorized by the department to designate units obtained in other departments as satisfying unit requirements in philosophy for application to the philosophy program. Neither students nor advisors should view this as an escape clause which enables a student who has not quite satisfied the major requirements in philosophy to do so. Units outside the department are to be designated for use in the major on the basis of their contribution to the student’s major program. To avoid confusion on this point, students should obtain written approval from an advisor before obtaining non-department units to be utilized in the major.

Students who have not taken PHIL 110 may begin the program but should complete this course or its equivalent at the earliest opportunity. Equivalencies must be approved by a departmental advisor.

The Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy requires a minimum of 40 units, with at least 31 of these units being upper-division. The program culminates in a one unit personalized learning outcomes course in which students reflect philosophically on their development of skills and knowledge. This learning outcomes course, PHIL 696, can be taken in either the first or second semester of the student’s senior year.

The program includes nine units of elective courses in philosophy, permitting individualized emphases in specific areas. Students majoring in philosophy are urged to lay out a tentative program of courses with their advisors early in their tenure at the university. Depending upon the student’s area of specialization, up to six units of courses outside the philosophy department may be approved by a department advisor as elective units for the B.A.

Program Learning Outcomes
1. Gain knowledge of the history or current state of the discipline of philosophy
2. Develop a grasp of representative philosophical issues and ways of dealing with them
3. Develop a capacity to apply philosophical methods to intellectual problems
4. Develop a sense of how philosophy bears on other disciplines
5. Develop a sense of how philosophy bears on human life more generally
6. Develop a critical mind
7. Develop analytic skills
8. Develop interpretive skills
9. Apply philosophical conventions and tools

Philosophy (B.A.) — 40 units

Required Courses (16 units)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 205</td>
<td>Formal Logic I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 303</td>
<td>Modern Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 320GW</td>
<td>Philosophical Analysis - GWAR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 321</td>
<td>Being and Knowing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 450</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 696</td>
<td>Directed Reading: Learning Outcomes</td>
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History (3 units)
Select one:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 301</td>
<td>Ancient Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 302</td>
<td>Medieval Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 516</td>
<td>Islamic Philosophy</td>
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Normative Issues (6 units)
Select two:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 330</td>
<td>Political Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 335</td>
<td>Law and Society</td>
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<td>PHIL 378</td>
<td>Philosophy of Criminal Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 380</td>
<td>Philosophy of Law</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 383</td>
<td>Ethics in Medicine</td>
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<td>PHIL 384</td>
<td>Philosophy of Research Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 395</td>
<td>Ethical Issues: Science and Technology</td>
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<td>PHIL 435</td>
<td>Human Rights in Global Perspective</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 436</td>
<td>Islamic Political Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 451</td>
<td>Feminist Moral Issues</td>
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<td>PHIL 460</td>
<td>Philosophy of Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 494</td>
<td>Philosophy and Personal Development</td>
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</table>
Metaphysics & Epistemology (6 units)
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<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 350</td>
<td>Philosophy of Science</td>
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<td>PHIL 351</td>
<td>Philosophy of Risk</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 605</td>
<td>Metaphysics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 610</td>
<td>Theory of Knowledge</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 611</td>
<td>Philosophy of Perception</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 620</td>
<td>Philosophy of Mind</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 621</td>
<td>Minds, Brains and Computers</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 630</td>
<td>Philosophy of Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 694</td>
<td>Philosophical Logic Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 695</td>
<td>Advanced Logic Workshop</td>
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Electives (9 units)
Three units must be upper-division; the remaining 6 units may be lower- or upper-division.

1 PHIL 320GW satisfies the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR). Students who have satisfied GWAR in a discipline other than philosophy will still be required to complete PHIL 320GW as a requirement of the major.

Complementary Studies for the Philosophy Major
Twelve units of complementary studies are required of all candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degrees in Philosophy. These units must come from courses bearing a prefix other than PHIL, and not cross-listed with PHIL. Philosophy majors are given a multitude of pathways toward completing this requirement, each of which is designed to facilitate graduation in a timely manner and deepen the student’s knowledge and appreciation of a philosophical topic in a multi-disciplinary way. Philosophy majors may, with the approval of a department advisor, elect to apply 12 units in a single foreign language of their choosing or courses taken in an approved study abroad program (e.g., CSU Study Abroad). Otherwise, with the approval of a department advisor, the student may take 12 units of courses that complement an area of philosophical specialization. Philosophy is rich in such specializations. Here are some illustrative philosophical specializations in which studying philosophy and studying other disciplines is complementary: Philosophy of the Arts, Ancient Philosophy, Asian Philosophy, Bioethics/Medical Ethics, Business Ethics, Philosophy of Cinema, Philosophy of Dance, Philosophy of Economics, Environmental Philosophy, Global Justice, Islamic Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Literature, Logic and Philosophy of Mathematics, Philosophy of Music, Philosophy of Mind, Modern European Philosophy, Philosophy of Music, Philosophy of Perception, Philosophy of Photography, Philosophy of Psychology/Cognitive Science, Political Philosophy and Social Justice, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Sexuality, Philosophy of Science and Technology, Philosophy and Society, Philosophy of Social Science, Philosophy of Sport, Philosophy of Under-represented Groups, Philosophy of Women and Gender. To accommodate emerging areas of philosophical study, students are encouraged to design 12 unit modules for the review and approval of the department advisor.

General Education Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Course Level</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Area Designation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral</td>
<td>LD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Written English
Communication
LD 3 A2
Critical Thinking
LD 3 A3
Physical Science
LD 3 B1
Life Science
LD 3 B2
Lab Science
LD 1 B3
Mathematics/
Quantitative
Reasoning
LD 3 B4
Arts
LD 3 C1
Humanities
LD 3 C2
Arts or
Humanities
LD 3 C1 or C2
Social Sciences
LD 3 D1
Social Sciences:
US History
LD 3 D2
Social Sciences:
US & CA
Government
LD 3 E
Lifelong Learning
and Self-
Development
(LLD)
LD 3 UD-B
Physical and/or
Life Science
UD 3
Arts and/or
Humanities
UD 3 UD-C
Social Sciences
UD 3 UD-D

SF State Studies
Courses certified as meeting the SF State Studies requirements may be upper or lower division in General Education (GE), a major or minor, or an elective.

American Ethnic and Racial Minorities
LD or UD 3 AERM
Environmental Sustainability
LD or UD 3 ES
Global Perspectives
LD or UD 3 GP
Social Justice
LD or UD 3 SJ

Note: LD = Lower-Division; UD = Upper-Division.

First-Time Student Roadmap (4 Year)
Find the correct roadmap (A, B, C, or D):
1. Select the row that matches your English Course choice for A2.*
2. Select the column that matches your QR Category (found at your student center under Math Alert).
3. Click the Roadmap that lines up with your row and column.

For example, if you are taking ENG 104 as your first English course and your student center math alert says you are QR Category III, you should choose Roadmap D.
Students who have earned an ADT should seek advising in the major department during the first semester of attendance.

**General Advising Information for Transfer Students**

1. Before transfer, complete as many lower-division requirements or electives for this major as possible.

2. The following courses are not required for admission but are required for graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to complete these units before transfer; doing so will provide more flexibility in course selection after transfer.
   - a course in U.S. History
   - a course in U.S. & California Government

For information about satisfying the requirements described in (1) and (2) above at a California Community College (CCC), please visit [http://www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org). Check any geographically accessible CCCs; sometimes options include more than one college. Use ASSIST to determine:

- Which courses at a CCC satisfy any lower-division major requirements for this major;

Remedial courses are not transferable and do not apply to the minimum 60 units/90 quarters required for admission.

Additional units for courses that are repeated do not apply to the minimum 60 units required for upper-division transfer (for example, if a course was not passed on the first attempt or was taken to earn a better grade).

Before leaving the last California Community College of attendance, obtain a summary of completion of lower-division General Education units (IGETC or CSU GE Breadth). This is often referred to as a GE certification worksheet. SF State does not require delivery of this certification to Admissions, but students should retain this document for verifying degree progress after transfer.

Credit for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or College-Level Examination Program courses: AP/IB/CLEP credit is not automatically transferred from the previous institution. Units are transferred only when an official score report is delivered to SF State. Credit is based on the academic year during which exams were taken. Refer to the University Bulletin in effect during the year of AP/IB/CLEP examination(s) for details regarding the award of credit for AP/IB/CLEP.

Students pursuing majors in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines often defer 6-9 units of lower-division general education in Areas C and D until after transfer to focus on preparation courses for the major. This advice does not apply to students pursuing associate degree completion before transfer.

**Transferring From Institutions Other Than CCCs or CSUs**

Review SF State’s lower-division General Education requirements. Note that, as described below, the four basic skills courses required for admission meet A1, A2, A3, and B4 in the SF State GE pattern. Courses that fulfill the remaining areas of SF State’s lower-division GE pattern are available at most two-year and four-year colleges and universities.
Of the four required basic skills courses, a course in critical thinking (GE A3) may not be widely offered outside the CCC and CSU systems. Students should attempt to identify and take an appropriate course no later than the term of application to the CSU. To review more information about the A3 requirement, please visit [http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/undergraduate-education/general-education/lower-division/#AAEL](http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/undergraduate-education/general-education/lower-division/#AAEL).

Waiting until after transfer to take a single course at SF State that meets both US and CA/local government requirements may be an appropriate option, particularly if transferring from outside of California.

**All Students Must Meet the Transfer Eligibility Requirements Outlined Below for Admission.**

For more information, visit the [Undergraduate Admissions section](http://bulletin.sfsu.edu/undergraduate-education/general-education/lower-division/#AAEL).

- Complete 60 or more transferable semester units or 90 or more quarter units
- Earn a college grade point average of 2.0 or better in all transferable courses. Non-local area residents may be held to a higher GPA standard.
- Be in good standing at the last college or university attended
- Complete 30-semester units (45-quarter units) of general education, including four basic skills courses:
  a. One course in oral communication (same as CSU GE Area A1)
  b. One course in written composition (same as CSU GE Area A2)
  c. One course in critical thinking (same as CSU GE Area A3)
  d. One course in mathematics or quantitative reasoning (same as CSU GE Area B4)
- The four basic skills courses and a minimum of 60 transferable semester units (90-quarter units) must be completed by the spring semester prior to fall admission, or by the fall semester prior to spring admission. Earn a "C-" or better grade in each basic skills course.