

# PHILOSOPHY (PHIL-UA)

## PHIL-UA 1 Central Problems in Philosophy (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

An introduction to philosophy through the study of selected central problems. Topics may include: free will; the existence of God; skepticism and knowledge; the mind-body problem.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 2 Great Works in Philosophy (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

An introduction to philosophy through the study of some of the most important and influential writings in its history. Authors studied may include Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Nietzsche, Wittgenstein.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 3 Ethics and Society (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

An introduction to philosophy through the study of selected moral, social, and political issues. Topics may include criminal justice and punishment; political authority and civil disobedience; toleration and free speech; racial justice.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 4 Life and Death (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

An introduction to philosophy through the study of issues bearing on life and death. Topics may include: definition and value of life; grounds for creating, preserving, and taking life; personal identity; ideas of death and immortality; abortion and euthanasia.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 5 Minds and Machines (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

Introduction to philosophy through the study of issues in cognitive science. Topics may include: conflicts between computational and biological approaches to the mind; whether a machine could think; the reduction of the mind to the brain; connectionism and neural nets.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 6 Global Ethics (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

Introduces three broad traditions of normative thinking: one Confucian tradition, one based in Islamic law, and one derived from European liberalism. Addresses three current areas of normative debate: global economic inequality, gender justice, and human rights. Explores these first-order questions against the background of the three broad traditions.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 7 Consciousness (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every other year*

Examines conceptual and empirical issues about consciousness. Issues covered may include the explanatory gap, the hard and harder problems of consciousness, concepts of consciousness, phenomenal concepts, the mind-body problem and neural correlates of consciousness, higher-order thought theories of consciousness, the inverted spectrum, views of phenomenality as representation, and arguments for dualism.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 8 Philosophical Approaches to Race and Racism (4 Credits)

*Typically offered every year*

A philosophical exploration of race and racism. Explores the concept of race, and examines normative and conceptual issues surrounding the most morally significant of the ways in which "race" has mattered for social life. Asks what racism is, what sorts of things can be racist, and what makes racism wrong. Considers some possible responses to racism: for example, should the state, or we in our private lives, be colorblind?

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

## PHIL-UA 20 Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy (4 Credits)

*Typically offered Fall*

Examines some of the most important philosophical ideas and developments in Ancient Greece and Rome. Covers major writings by Plato and Aristotle, and a selection of writings by such thinkers as the Presocratics, Stoics, Epicureans, and Skeptics.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

## PHIL-UA 21 Early Modern European Philosophy (4 Credits)

*Typically offered Spring*

Examines some of the most important philosophical ideas and developments in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe. Covers some of the major writings of Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, and Hume, and concludes with a brief examination of some aspects of Kant's philosophy. (Kant is examined in more detail in PHIL-UA 30.) May also include writings of Hobbes, Malebranche, Elisabeth of Bohemia, Conway, Berkeley, and Shepherd, among others.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

## PHIL-UA 22 Plato (4 Credits)

*Typically offered occasionally*

Examines various aspects of Plato's philosophy: ethics, metaphysics, epistemology, psychology, and political philosophy. Aims to understand Plato's ideas and to engage with them philosophically through careful readings of selected dialogues.

**Grading:** CAS Graded

**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 24 Aristotle (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Examines various aspects of Aristotle's philosophy: ethics, psychology, physics, metaphysics, and epistemology. Aims to understand Aristotle's ideas and to engage with them philosophically through careful reading of his works

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 25 Medieval Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Examines some of the most important philosophical ideas and developments of the medieval period. Authors discussed may include, among others, Augustine, Ibn Sina, Anselm, Ibn Rushd, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus, and William of Ockham.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 30 Kant (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Study of some of Immanuel Kant's major works, including the Critique of Pure Reason, the Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics, the Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals, and the Critique of Practical Reason.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 32 Nineteenth-Century European Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Examines some of the most important philosophical ideas and developments in Europe in the nineteenth century, preceded by a brief examination of some aspects of Kant's philosophy. (Kant is examined in more detail in PHIL-UA 30.) Covers major writings by Hegel, and a selection of writings, determined by the special focus of the particular version of the course, from such thinkers as Fichte, Schelling, Feuerbach, Schopenhauer, Mill, Comte, Marx, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 39 Twentieth-Century Continental Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Examines some of the most important philosophical ideas and developments in the "Continental" tradition in Europe in the twentieth century. After a review of some nineteenth-century developments, covers major works by Heidegger and Sartre, and some selection, determined by the instructor's particular focus, of writings by such figures as Husserl, Gadamer, Arendt, Beauvoir, Merleau-Ponty, Foucault, and Deleuze.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 40 Ethics (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Examines fundamental questions of moral philosophy: What are our most basic values, and which of them are specifically moral values? What are the ethical principles, if any, by which we should judge our actions, ourselves, and our lives?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 41 The Nature of Values (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

Examines the nature and grounds of judgments about moral and/or nonmoral values. Are such judgments true or false? Can they be more or less justified? Are the values of which they speak objective or subjective?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 42 Applied Ethics (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Explores contemporary debates regarding contentious ethical issues. It has two aims: (1) to identify the moral theories and concepts shaping these debates and (2) to use these debates to refine and evaluate these theories and concepts. Topics may be drawn from areas such as environmental ethics, business ethics, and medical ethics.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 43 Empirical Moral Psychology (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Surveys recent empirical studies of how humans make moral judgments and decisions, and assesses the significance of this work for some of the traditional concerns of moral philosophy. Readings are drawn from social psychology, evolutionary biology, cognitive neuroscience, and philosophical texts from the Western ethical tradition.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 45 Political Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

Examines fundamental issues concerning the justification of political institutions. Topics may include democratic theory, political obligation and liberty, criteria of a just society, human rights, and civil disobedience.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 50 Medical Ethics (4 Credits)***Typically offered Fall and Spring*

Examines moral issues in medical practice and research. Topics include euthanasia and quality of life; deception, hope, and paternalism; malpractice and unpredictability; patient rights, virtues, and vices; animal, fetal, and clinical research; criteria for rationing medical care; ethical principles, professional codes, and case analysis (for example, Quinlan, Willowbrook, Baby Jane Doe).

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 52 Philosophy of Law (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Examines the nature of law, its relations to morality, and its limits. Topics: positivism and natural law theory, theories of criminal justice and punishment; concepts of liberty, responsibility, and rights. Considers the views of such thinkers as Austin, Bentham, Dworkin, Fuller, Hart, Rawls, and others.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 53 Ethics & The Environment (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Environmental philosophy is a large subject that involves questions in metaphysics, philosophy of science, and history of philosophy, as well as in such normative areas as ethics, aesthetics, and political philosophy. This class is primarily devoted to these normative areas. Beginning with some basic concepts in value theory, the goal is not to arrive at definite solutions to specific environmental problems, but rather (i) to improve your ability to think critically, read closely, and to argue well about environmental issues; (ii) to introduce you to some major controversies in environmental philosophy; and (iii) to aid you in arriving at your own rational and clear-minded views about the matters under discussion.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 55 Philosophical Perspective On Feminism & Gender (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

A survey and analysis of social, political, and epistemological issues concerning sex and gender.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 60 Aesthetics (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Introduces problems raised by the nature of art, artworks, and aesthetic judgment. Considers the expressive and representational properties of artworks, aesthetic attention, and appreciation, as well as the creation, interpretation, and criticism of artworks. Readings from classical and contemporary sources.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 70 Logic (4 Credits)***Typically offered Fall and Spring*

An introduction to the basic techniques of sentential and predicate logic. Students learn how to put arguments from ordinary language into symbols, how to construct derivations within a formal system, and how to ascertain validity using truth tables or models.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 72 Metalogic (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

An introduction to the basic concepts, methods, and results of metalogic, including rigorous definitions of provability and model-theoretic consequence and the soundness and completeness theorems for first-order logic. The course may also cover further topics such as the compactness theorem, the Löwenheim-Skolem theorems, and applications of non-standard models.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR PHIL-UH 1810 OR MATH-UA 120).

**PHIL-UA 73 Set Theory (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

An introduction to the basic concepts and results of set theory.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR PHIL-UH 1810 OR MATH-UA 120).**PHIL-UA 74 Systems of Logic (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

An introduction to the comparative study of systems of logic, with a focus in any year on a chosen set of logics, discussing their technical foundations, philosophical motivations, and applications. Examples include modal logics, higher-order logics, and weakenings of classical logic.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR PHIL-UH 1810 OR MATH-UA 120).**PHIL-UA 75 Computability and Incompleteness (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

An introduction to the theory of computability and to the major limitative results of mathematical logic, including the undecidability of first-order logic, Gödel's incompleteness theorems, and Tarski's theorem on the non-definability of truth.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR PHIL-UH 1810 OR MATH-UA 120).**PHIL-UA 76 Epistemology (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Considers such questions as: Can I have knowledge of anything outside my own mind—for example, physical objects or other minds? Or is the skeptic's attack on my commonplace claims to know unanswerable? What is knowledge, and how does it differ from belief?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.**PHIL-UA 78 Metaphysics (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Discusses general questions concerning the nature of reality and truth.

What kind of things exist? Are there minds or material bodies? Is change illusory? Are human actions free or causally determined? What is a person, and what, if anything, makes someone one and the same person?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR equivalents) AND PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR MATH-UA 120.**PHIL-UA 80 Philosophy of Mind (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Examination of the relationship between the mind and the brain, of the nature of the mental, and of personal identity. Can consciousness be reconciled with a scientific view of the world?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.**PHIL-UA 85 Philosophy of Language (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Examines various philosophical and psychological approaches to language and meaning and their consequences for traditional philosophical problems in metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics.

Discusses primarily 20th-century authors, including Russell, Wittgenstein, and Quine.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR equivalents) AND PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR MATH-UA 120.**PHIL-UA 88 How Science Works (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

What is science? Is there a scientific method? How do experiments provide evidence for theories? Which aspects of scientific argument and reasoning are subjective and which are objective? What role do aesthetic considerations play in scientific thinking? How does the social organization of science contribute to its success? How should politicians and public policy makers "follow the science"? Investigates these questions using logical argument, sociological methods, and historical contexts.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 90 Philosophy of Science (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Examination of philosophical issues about the natural sciences.

Central questions include the following: What is the nature of scientific explanation? How does science differ from pseudoscience? What is a scientific law? How do experiments work?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.**PHIL-UA 91 Philosophy of Biology (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Examines the conceptual issues that arise in and about biology, including: the proper role, if any, of teleology in biology; analysis of biological functions; structure of the theory of evolution by natural selection and the sense of its key concepts, such as fitness and adaptation; the unit of selection; essentialism and the nature of species.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 93 Philosoph Applications of Cognitive Science (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

The relevance of recent discoveries about the mind to philosophical questions about metaphysics, logic, and ethics. Questions include: What is causation? Is there a right way to “carve up” the world into categories? Why do we see the world as consisting of objects in places? Are the rules of logic objective or just the way we happen to think? Is there such a thing as objective right and wrong?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 94 Philosophy of Physics (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

Different approaches to understanding space and time, including the debates between Newton and Leibniz and Einstein’s special and general theories of relativity. Mathematics above the level of algebra is neither used nor required.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 96 Philosophy of Religion (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Among the topics discussed are the nature of religion, the concept of God, the grounds of belief in God, the immortality of the soul, and faith, revelation, and problems of religious language. Readings from both classic and contemporary sources

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 98 Philosophy of Math (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Critical discussion of alternative philosophical views as to what mathematics is, such as Platonism, empiricism, constructivism, intuitionism, formalism, logicism, and various combinations thereof.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR equivalents) AND PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR MATH-UA 120.

**PHIL-UA 101 Topics in The History of Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Careful study of a few topics in the history of philosophy—either one philosopher’s treatment of several philosophical problems, or several philosophers’ treatments of one or two closely related problems. Examples: Confucianism; ancient skepticism; theories of causation in early modern philosophy; Indian and Buddhist philosophy of mind; existentialism.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** Yes

**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 20 OR PHIL-UA 21 OR PHIL-UA 22 OR PHIL-UA 24 OR PHIL-UA 25 OR PHIL-UA 30 OR PHIL-UA 32 OR PHIL-UA 39 OR PHIL-UA 122 OR PHIL-UA 123.

**PHIL-UA 102 Topics in Ethics & Pol Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Thorough study of various concepts and issues in current theory and debate. Examples: moral and political rights; virtues and vices; equality; moral objectivity; the development of moral character; the variety of ethical obligations; ethics and public policy.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** Yes**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 40 or PHIL-UA 41 OR PHIL-UA 45).**PHIL-UA 103 Topics in Metaphysics & Epistemology (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Careful study of a few current issues in epistemology and metaphysics. Examples: skepticism, necessity, causality, personal identity, and possible worlds.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** Yes**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 76 OR PHIL-UA 78 OR PHIL-UA 90).**PHIL-UA 104 Topics in Language & Mind (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Careful study of a few current issues in language and mind. Examples: theory of reference, analyticity, intentionality, theory of mental content and attitudes, emergence and supervenience of mental states.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** Yes**PHIL-UA 122 The Greek Thinkers (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

The origins of nonmythical speculation among the Greeks and the main patterns of philosophical thought, from Thales and other early speculators about the physical nature of the world through Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics, the Epicureans, and the Neoplatonists

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 123 Readings in Chinese Philosophy and Culture (4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

Basic introduction to the writings of Confucius, his adversaries, and his successors, followed by a reading of several novels regarded as national classics.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 201 Honors Proseminar (4 Credits)***Typically offered Spring*

Prerequisite: admission to the department’s honors program (contact the director of undergraduate studies). To be taken by honors program students in the spring of junior year. Students study a variety of potential topics for honors theses, determined in part by the interests of those enrolled. Students then present and discuss their own original work, leading toward the development of an honors thesis prospectus. At the end of the semester students submit a prospectus; approval by the course instructor and a faculty advisor is required to pass the course.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No



**PHIL-UA 202 Senior Honors Thesis Workshop (4 Credits)***Typically offered Fall*

Prerequisite: admission to the department's honors program and completion of Junior Honors Proseminar (PHIL-UA 201). To be taken by honors program students in the fall of their senior year. Students write an honors thesis under the direction of an approved faculty advisor while participating in a weekly thesis-writing discussion workshop. The final thesis should be 7,000-10,000 words. The honors thesis is due by the end of the day before the start of spring semester classes. Extensions to this deadline are not generally possible. An oral thesis examination administered by the faculty advisor and another appointed faculty member follows submission of the final thesis; this should be held during the first two weeks of the spring semester.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 301 Independent Study (2-4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

A student may register for an independent study course (PHIL-UA 301, 302; 2 or 4 credits per term) if he or she obtains the consent of a faculty member who approves the study project and agrees to serve as adviser. The student must also obtain the approval of the director of undergraduate studies. The student may take no more than one such course in any given semester and no more than two such courses in total, unless granted special permission by the director of undergraduate studies. Available only for study of subjects not covered in regularly offered courses. This course may be used in connection with an internship or practical training, but must also include substantial philosophical reading and writing. Only one Independent Study in connection with an internship may count toward the program requirements. If you are interested in pursuing an independent study, you may write to faculty member(s) who specialize in the relevant area with your proposed course of study and a brief justification for pursuing it. If a faculty member agrees to supervise the independent study, please write to the director of undergraduate studies with the proposal for approval, CC-ing the faculty member who has agreed to supervise you.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** Yes**PHIL-UA 302 Independent Study (2-4 Credits)***Typically offered occasionally*

A student may register for an independent study course (PHIL-UA 301, 302; 2 or 4 credits per term) if he or she obtains the consent of a faculty member who approves the study project and agrees to serve as adviser. The student must also obtain the approval of the director of undergraduate studies. The student may take no more than one such course in any given semester and no more than two such courses in total, unless granted special permission by the director of undergraduate studies. Available only for study of subjects not covered in regularly offered courses. This course may be used in connection with an internship or practical training, but must also include substantial philosophical reading and writing. Only one Independent Study in connection with an internship may count toward the program requirements. If you are interested in pursuing an independent study, you may write to faculty member(s) who specialize in the relevant area with your proposed course of study and a brief justification for pursuing it. If a faculty member agrees to supervise the independent study, please write to the director of undergraduate studies with the proposal for approval, CC-ing the faculty member who has agreed to supervise you.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** Yes**PHIL-UA 420 A Philosophical Path to Spiritual Awakenings (4 Credits)***Typically offered Fall of even numbered years*

An intellectual and experiential exploration of an ancient Jewish spiritual path that melds philosophy with spiritual awakening. Topics we'll cover include: how to live with equanimity and joy, how to cultivate positive character traits, how to work with difficult emotions, how to contemplate God, how to cultivate a kind heart.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 422 Living a Good Life: Greek and Jewish Perspectives (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

What makes a life well-lived? Central questions to be explored include: Does living well require acquiring knowledge and wisdom? What is the place of moral responsibility in the good life? Is the good life a happy life or does it require sacrificing happiness? Does religion lead to living well or does it hinder it? What is friendship and how does it contribute to the good life? Thinkers to be studied may include: Aristotle, Seneca, Maimonides, Glikl, Spinoza, and Levinas.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 428 Creating a Good Society: Christian and Jewish Perspectives (4 Credits)***Typically offered every other year*

This course explores Greek, Christian and Jewish responses to the problem: How does one create a good society? Central questions to be explored include: What is the best form of government? What economic system is ideal? Should the government actively promote a vision of the good life or leave it to individual to decide the good for themselves? Should the government prioritize the freedom, equality, or happiness of its inhabitants? What role should religion and nationhood play in society? What models of education should the government promote? How does gender inform these considerations? The course will focus on careful analysis of primary texts. Thinkers to be studied include: Plato, Maimonides, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Wollstonecraft, Mendelssohn, Marx, Hess. Having first taken the course: Living a Good Life: Greek and Jewish Perspectives is highly desirable.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 9003 Ethics and Society (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Offered only at NYU Paris. An introduction to philosophy through the study of selected moral, social, and political issues. Topics may include criminal justice and punishment; political authority and civil disobedience; toleration and free speech; racial justice.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 9005 Minds and Machines (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Offered only at NYU Paris. An introduction to philosophy through the study of issues in cognitive science. Topics may include the conflict between computational and biological approaches to the mind; whether a machine could think; the reduction of the mind to the brain; connectionism and neural nets. Gives training in philosophical argument and writing.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**PHIL-UA 9026 History of French Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Offered only at NYU Paris. An overview of important developments in French philosophy from the 16th century to the 1950s. We will look at the epistemological and metaphysical debates that followed the rediscovery of Ancient philosophy and the Copernican revolution, with Montaigne's skepticism, Descartes' rationalist theory of knowledge, and Condillac's empiricism. We will then focus on developments in French political philosophy in the 18th and 19th centuries, closely intertwined with political events. We will read Rousseau, an important influence on the French revolutionaries, before turning to 19th-century debates about equality, with Proudhon's anarchist criticism of property rights, and Tocqueville's cautious liberal perspective on the political consequences of equality. Finally, we will look at two key movements in French philosophy in the first half of the 20th century, Bergson's attempt at understanding the temporal duration conscious beings inhabit, and Sartre and de Beauvoir's distinctive development of existentialism, a philosophy that grapples with the consequences of human freedom.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**PHIL-UA 9045 Political Philosophy (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Offered only at NYU Paris. A survey of important issues in contemporary political philosophy, with a particular focus on the questions of social justice and political legitimacy. How should a just society be organized? Does justice require citizens and governments to follow some procedures, and/or does it involve reaching particular outcomes – for example particular patterns of wealth distribution? How should important social and political decisions be taken for them to be (and not just appear) legitimate? Is the majority always right? Should we elect representatives or practice a more direct form of democracy? What are the rights of minorities? Is there a right to civil disobedience when you disagree with a legitimately reached political decision? How should states interact with cultural minorities and particular identity groups?

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 9060 Aesthetics (4 Credits)***Typically offered Fall of even numbered years*

Offered only at NYU Paris. Introduces problems raised by the nature of art, artworks, and aesthetic judgment. Considers the expressive and representational properties of artworks, aesthetic attention, and appreciation, as well as the creation, interpretation, and criticism of artworks. Readings from classical and contemporary sources.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR PHIL-SHU 101 OR PHIL-SHU 107 OR PHIL-SHU 115 OR PHIL-UH 1101 OR PHIL-UH 1110 OR PHIL-UH 1115 OR PHIL-UH 1117 OR PHIL-UH 1118.

**PHIL-UA 9085 Philosophy of Language (4 Credits)***Typically offered every year*

Offered only at NYU Paris. Examines various philosophical and psychological approaches to language and meaning, as well as their consequences for traditional philosophical problems in metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics. Discusses primarily 20th-century authors, including Russell, Wittgenstein, and Quine.

**Grading:** CAS Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** (PHIL-UA 1 OR PHIL-UA 2 OR PHIL-UA 3 OR PHIL-UA 4 OR PHIL-UA 5 OR PHIL-UA 6 OR PHIL-UA 7 OR PHIL-UA 8 OR equivalents) AND PHIL-UA 70 OR PHIL-SHU 70 OR MATH-UA 120.