

PHILOSOPHY, B.A.

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

Program of Study

| Requirements | Credit Hours |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Carolina Core | 32-44 |
| 2. College Requirements | 15-18 |
| 3. Program Requirements | 34-49 |
| 4. Major Requirements | 24 |

Founding Documents Requirement

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective. Courses that meet this requirement are listed here (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/founding-document-courses/>).

1. Carolina Core Requirements (32-44 hours)

CMW – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written (6 hours)

must be passed with a grade of C or higher

- any CC-CMW courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

ARP – Analytical Reasoning and Problem Solving (6-7 hours)

- PHIL 114*
- Any CC-ARP course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

SCI – Scientific Literacy (8 hours)

- Two 4-credit hour CC-SCI (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)laboratory science courses

GFL – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language (0-6 hours)

Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course. **The foreign languages recommended for students majoring in philosophy are French, German, Greek, and Latin.**

- CC-GFL courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

It is strongly recommended that students continuing the study of a foreign language begin college-level study of that language in their first semester and

continue in that language until their particular foreign language requirement is completed.

GHS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Historical Thinking (3 hours)

- any CC-GHS course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

GSS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Social Sciences (3 hours)

- any CC-GSS course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

AIU – Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding (3 hours)

- any CC-AIU course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

CMS – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component ¹ (0-3 hours)

- any overlay or stand-alone CC-CMS course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

INF – Information Literacy ¹ (0-3 hours)

- any overlay or stand-alone CC-INF course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

VSR – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility ¹ (0-3 hours)

- any overlay or stand-alone CC-VSR course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

¹ **Carolina Core Stand Alone or Overlay Eligible Requirements** – Overlay-approved courses offer students the option of meeting two Carolina Core components in a single course. A maximum of two overlays is allowed. The total Carolina Core credit hours must add up to a minimum of 31 hours. Some programs may have a higher number of minimum Carolina Core hours due to specified requirements.

2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)

Foreign Language (0-3 hours)

- only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency

History (3 hours)

The College of Arts and Sciences requires one additional GHS course beyond the Carolina Core GHS requirement.

- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a **U.S. history** course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a **non-U.S. history** course.
- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a **non-U.S. history** course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a **U.S. history** course.

Please select the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement from the approved list of U.S. and non-U.S. history courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/history-requirement/>).

Social Science and Fine Arts or Humanities (12 hours)

- **Social Science (3 hours)**
 - The College of Arts and Science requires one 3- hour Social Science Course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-social-science/>)
- **Fine Arts/Humanities (9 Hours)**
 - A Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences requires three 3-hour Fine Arts/Humanities Courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-fine-arts-humanities/>)

3. Program Requirements (34-49 hours)

Cognate or Minor (12-18 hours)

Students must complete a cognate (12 hours) or a minor as part of this program. In lieu of a cognate or minor, an additional major may be added to a student's program of study. **Additional majors must include all major courses as well as any prescribed courses noted (*) in the bulletin.**

Prescribed courses noted in the bulletin may be shared with Carolina Core, College requirements, and Program requirements in the primary program.

Cognate (12 hours)

The cognate must consist of twelve (12) hours of courses at the advanced level, outside of but related to the major. The cognate may be taken in one or more departments or programs.

Courses offered by departments and programs that are acceptable for cognate credit are outlined in the section titled Courses Acceptable for Cognate Credit in Degree Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-cognate/>). Some major programs have specific cognate requirements. It should be emphasized that the cognate is not a second set of elective courses to be chosen at random by the student. Students are urged to consult their major advisors for specific requirements in their major.

For Bachelor of Arts degrees, all cognate courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher.

Minor (18 hours)

In place of the cognate a student in the College of Arts and Sciences may choose a minor consisting of at least 18 credit hours of prescribed courses.

The minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. It differs from the cognate inasmuch as the courses must follow a structured sequence.

Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. **All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher.** At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/>).

Electives (16-37 hours)

120 (or 128) degree applicable credits are required to complete any degree at USC. After the cognate, minor or second major is complete, any additional credits needed to reach 120 (or 128) total credits can

be fulfilled by electives. No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Note: 13-34 hours of electives will be needed to reach hours to graduate and Program Requirements will range from 31-46 hours, if completing the B.A. with Distinction in Philosophy.

4. Major Requirements (24 hours)

A minimum grade of C is required in all major courses.

Major Courses (12 hours)

| Course | Title | Credits |
|--|---|-----------|
| PHIL 390 | Junior Seminar in Philosophy ¹ | 3 |
| PHIL 490 | Senior Seminar in Philosophy | 3 |
| Select one course from each of the following groups: | | |
| Ancient Philosophy: | | 3 |
| PHIL 301 | Ancient Philosophy | |
| PHIL 302 | Greek and Roman Philosophy after Aristotle | |
| PHIL 303 | History of Medieval Philosophy | |
| PHIL 312 | Classical Origins of Western Medical Ethics | |
| PHIL 313 | Between Magic and Method: Ancient Medicine | |
| PHIL 371 | Writing-Intensive: Ancient Philosophy | |
| Modern Philosophy: | | 3 |
| PHIL 304 | Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 305 | Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 310 | American Philosophy | |
| PHIL 311 | Existentialism | |
| PHIL 372 | Writing-Intensive: Modern Philosophy | |
| Writing-Intensive ² | | |
| PHIL 371 | Writing-Intensive: Ancient Philosophy | |
| PHIL 372 | Writing-Intensive: Modern Philosophy | |
| PHIL 373 | Writing-Intensive: Field of Philosophy | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 12 |

¹ Students majoring in philosophy are encouraged to take PHIL 390 during the junior year, or before the final 30 hours of study.

² The course that fulfills this requirement will be used elsewhere in the major. Students majoring in Philosophy are encouraged to take a writing-intensive course prior to taking PHIL 390.

Major Electives (12 hours)

- Two courses in Philosophy at the 500-level
- Two courses in Philosophy numbered 201 or above

Major Concentration in Society, Ethics, and Law (24 hours) *optional*

Students may choose to complete a concentration in Society, Ethics, and Law instead of the general Philosophy major requirements.

| Course | Title | Credits |
|--|--|-----------|
| PHIL 390 | Junior Seminar in Philosophy ¹ | 3 |
| PHIL 490 | Senior Seminar in Philosophy | 3 |
| Select one course from each of the following groups: | | |
| Ancient Philosophy | | 3 |
| PHIL 301 | Ancient Philosophy | |
| PHIL 302 | Greek and Roman Philosophy after Aristotle | |
| PHIL 303 | History of Medieval Philosophy | |
| PHIL 312 | Classical Origins of Western Medical Ethics | |
| PHIL 313 | Between Magic and Method: Ancient Medicine | |
| PHIL 371 | Writing-Intensive: Ancient Philosophy | |
| Modern Philosophy | | 3 |
| PHIL 304 | Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 305 | Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Philosophy | |
| PHIL 310 | American Philosophy | |
| PHIL 311 | Existentialism | |
| PHIL 372 | Writing-Intensive: Modern Philosophy | |
| Writing-Intensive ² | | |
| PHIL 371 | Writing-Intensive: Ancient Philosophy | |
| PHIL 372 | Writing-Intensive: Modern Philosophy | |
| PHIL 373 | Writing-Intensive: Field of Philosophy | |
| Ethics | | 3 |
| PHIL 103 | Special Topics in Ethics and Values ³ | |
| PHIL 211 | Contemporary Moral Issues ³ | |
| PHIL 213 | Communicating Moral Issues ³ | |
| PHIL 320 | Ethics ³ | |
| PHIL 321 | Medical Ethics ³ | |
| PHIL 322 | Environmental Ethics ³ | |
| PHIL 323 | Ethics of Science and Technology | |
| PHIL 324 | Business Ethics ³ | |
| PHIL 325 | Engineering Ethics ³ | |
| PHIL 514 | Ethical Theory | |
| PHIL 527 | Virtues, Acts, and Consequences | |
| Social, Political, or Legal Philosophy | | 6 |
| Select two of the following: | | |
| PHIL 329 | Law and Religion | |
| PHIL 330 | Social and Political Philosophy | |
| PHIL 331 | Crime and Justice | |
| PHIL 334 | Feminist Philosophy | |
| PHIL 335 | Disobedience, Dissent, and Revolution ³ | |
| PHIL 370 | Special Topics in Philosophy ⁴ | |
| PHIL 390 | Junior Seminar in Philosophy ⁴ | |
| PHIL 531 | Jurisprudence | |
| PHIL 532 | Social Justice | |
| Select one course in Philosophy numbered 201 or above | | 3 |
| Select two courses in Philosophy at the 500-level ⁵ | | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 24 |

³ Courses used to fulfill Carolina Core requirements may not also be used to fulfill major requirements.

⁴ The Undergraduate Committee of the Philosophy Department, in consultation with the faculty member teaching the class, will determine whether PHIL 370 Special Topics and PHIL 390 Junior Seminar courses can be used in the Social, Political, or Legal Philosophy requirement.

⁵ The courses that fulfill this requirement may be used elsewhere in the major.

B.A. with Distinction (27 hours)

The Departmental Undergraduate Research Track is available to students majoring in philosophy who wish to participate in significant research activities in collaboration with, or under the supervision of, a faculty mentor.

In addition to the Major Requirements, students must complete the following:

- PHIL 495
- A minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30
- A public presentation of the Senior Thesis in one of the following venues:
 - Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Society for Philosophy (or another appropriate meeting)
 - A regular or special session of the Philosophy Department Colloquium Series
 - USC Discovery Day
 - Submission to an undergraduate or a professional journal
- A written sponsorship agreement with the supervising faculty member will be placed on file in the Department of Philosophy office.

¹ Students majoring in Philosophy are encouraged to take PHIL 390 during the junior year, or before the final 30 hours of study.

² The course that fulfills this requirement will be used elsewhere in the major. Students majoring in Philosophy are encouraged to take a writing-intensive course prior to taking PHIL 390.