

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

About This Program

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy majors study many of the most fundamental questions of our existence and how to think more effectively about them. Through exploring the history of ideas and the structures of good argumentation, philosophy majors develop high-level reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Competencies

1. Upon completion, students will be able to construct and critically assess complex philosophical arguments.
2. Upon completion, students will demonstrate an understanding of the central figures and main problems in the history of philosophy.
3. Upon completion, students will demonstrate an understanding of the central figures and main problems in "systematic" areas of philosophy — such as, ethics, metaphysics, epistemology, etc.
4. Upon completion, students will display knowledge of philosophical methods of analysis.
5. Upon completion, students will be able to read philosophical texts with care and comprehension.
6. Upon completion, students will be able to write clear, effective, and thoughtful philosophical prose.
7. Upon completion, students will demonstrate proficiency in the research skills necessary for successfully completing the philosophy degree.

Admissions Criteria

Students should have completed 30 hours of core with 30 hours at UT Arlington, or 40 hours of core with 12 hours at UT Arlington with an overall GPA greater than 2.0. Before being accepted into the major in philosophy, students must also have passed a course in symbolic logic or critical thinking (PHIL 2311 (<https://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2025-2026/search/?P=PHIL%202311>) Logic or PHIL 1301 (<https://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2025-2026/search/?P=PHIL%201301>) Fundamentals of Reasoning or the equivalent). Students may be accepted as pre-philosophy majors if the above standards are not met.

Curriculum

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy students are required to take Introduction to Philosophy and either Logic or Fundamentals of Reasoning. They must also take at least one course in the area of Metaphysics & Epistemology, one course in the area of Value Theory, and two courses in the History of Philosophy. Students have a wide variety of options so that they can study the areas of philosophy they find most fascinating.

Foundations

General Core Requirements (<https://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/degree requirements/generalcore requirements/>) 42

Students are required to complete specific courses in certain core areas.

For Communications select:

ENGL 1301	RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION I
ENGL 1302	RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION II

College of Liberal Arts Core

UNIV 1131	STUDENT SUCCESS	1
or UNIV 1101	CAREER PREPARATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS	

Select 1441, 1442 in any modern or classical language 8

Philosophy Specialization

PHIL 2300	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY	3
PHIL 2311	LOGIC	3
or PHIL 1301	FUNDAMENTALS OF REASONING	

Select 21 hours of PHIL courses at least 15 of which must be at the 3000/4000-level. 21

For Metaphysics & Epistemology select at least one from the following:

PHIL 3316	PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION
PHIL 3317	PHILOSOPHICAL LOGIC
PHIL 3321	PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE
PHIL 4383	PHILOSOPHY OF MIND
PHIL 4385	THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE
PHIL 4386	METAPHYSICS
PHIL 4389	TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

For Value and Theory select at least one from the following:

PHIL 3319	BIOMEDICAL ETHICS
PHIL 3320	PHILOSOPHY OF LAW
PHIL 3322	DISABILITY ETHICS
PHIL 3324	BUSINESS ETHICS
PHIL 3330	SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 3340	TOPICS IN APPLIED ETHICS
PHIL 3341	TOPICS IN BIOETHICS
PHIL 4318	PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE
PHIL 4387	TOPICS IN VALUE THEORY
PHIL 4392	CONFERENCE COURSE IN BIOETHICS

For History of Philosophy select at least two from the following:

PHIL 3301	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 3302	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: ROMAN AND MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 3303	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: RENAISSANCE AND EARLY MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 3304	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: NINETEENTH AND EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 3305	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY: CLASSICAL INDIAN & BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 3315	EXISTENTIALISM
PHIL 3350	TOPICS IN ANCIENT GREEK PHILOSOPHY
PHIL 4380	PHENOMENOLOGY
PHIL 4388	TOPICS IN THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY As the topic changes, PHIL 4388 may be repeated to meet the two-course (6 hr) History of Philosophy requirement.

With advisor approval, select electives sufficient to complete 120 hours ¹ 42

Total Hours 120

¹ In consultation with the undergraduate philosophy advisor and in light of individual aims and interests, students are to select electives concentrated primarily in one or two areas of *secondary emphasis*: for example, business, classical studies, cognitive science, computer science engineering, history, humanities/liberal arts, mathematics, or political science.

Program Completion

Philosophy majors must take at least one course from the Metaphysics & Epistemology list of courses, one course from the Value Theory list of courses, and two courses from the History of Philosophy list of courses.

Advising Resources

Students should meet with their advisor prior to enrolling in classes every semester. Walk in advising sessions are available during posted office hours. Emailing the advising office is recommended for many advising issues.

Location:

307 Carlisle Hall

Email:

philosophyadvising@bookings.uta.edu

Phone:

817-272-3207

Web:

Advising Information (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/philosophy/advising/>)