Philosophy

Philosophy is the logical examination of the fundamental issues that people have pondered for more than 2500 years. What is reality and what is beauty? What is knowledge and truth? What is good and just? Philosophy courses are directed toward understanding these and other questions in their historical and cultural contexts, and applying insights to contemporary life. The study of philosophy is a key component in improving one’s critical thinking skills.

PHIL 300  Introduction to Philosophy  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 6
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGW 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This class is an inquiry into the traditional and historical views of Western Civilization’s perennial human problems, e.g., peace, truth, equality, good and happiness, which provides a clarification of the problems as well as ultimate justification of each claim. It focuses on critical thinking techniques and applies them to selected philosophical topics such as human freedom, the nature and limits of knowledge, skepticism, empiricism, rationalism and the application of these to politics. (CAN PHIL 2) AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.

PHIL 310  Introduction to Ethics  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 5
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGW 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This course is a survey of ideas proposed by important philosophers to describe and understand the conceptual foundations of ethical thought and judgment. (CAN PHIL 4) AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.

PHIL 315  Ethics and Morals in Business  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 15
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGW 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
Ever since the Industrial Revolution, there have been problems and issues concerning the moral and ethical nature of various business endeavors. This course will examine most of the important issues of economic activity, e.g., property rights, employee rights, stockholders’ rights and the responsibilities of all of these—all of them with appropriate moral issues and criteria. This course will rely on the great moral philosophers to help address these issues, using the economists to set the issues.

PHIL 320  Logic and Critical Reasoning  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 4
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGW 102 or 103, and ENGRD 116, or ESLW 320 or ESLR 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This course is an introduction to basic principles of good reasoning. It focuses on recognizing arguments and identifying their premises and conclusions. It examines the distinction between inductive and deductive standards of evaluation and includes an overview of types of inductive reasoning, deductive argument patterns, use and misuse of language, and fallacious reasoning. Practical application to everyday life is emphasized. (CAN PHIL 6) AA/AS area 3D; CSU area A3.

PHIL 325  Symbolic Logic (same as Mathematics 320)  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 12
Prerequisite: PHIL 320 or MATH 110; and MATH 120 with a grade of “C” or better.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This course covers an introduction to symbolic logic including the logic of sentences (the statement of calculus) and the logic of classes and relations (the predicate calculus) together with an introduction to the nature and development of deductive systems. Applications include examples of logic used in elementary mathematics and the analysis of verbal arguments. Not open to students who have completed MATH 320. AA/AS area 3D; CSU area B3.

PHIL 330  History of Classical Philosophy  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 20
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGW 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This class addresses the development of philosophical thinking in the West from the pre-Socratic philosophers to Thomas Aquinas, its bearing on some contemporary issues in philosophy, and its influence in shaping philosophy as we know it today. (CAN PHIL 8) AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.
PHIL 331  History of Modern Philosophy  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 21
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This course traces the development of philosophical thinking in the West from the Renaissance to the present, and addresses its bearing on contemporary issues, and its influence in shaping the modern world. AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.

PHIL 350  Philosophy of Religion  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 10
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This course is an introduction to a philosophical examination of religion. This examination typically includes an analysis of basic religious concepts such as God, the afterlife, the soul, faith, karma, good and evil. It also includes an investigation into religious experience as well as arguments for and against various forms of religious belief. AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.

PHIL 353  Religions of the Far East  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 13
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This course covers an introduction to the major religions of the Far East: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Taoism, Confucianism and Shinto. The origins, myths, basic teachings, development and modern forms of each religion will be surveyed through comparison and contrast with each other and with Western tradition in order to clarify concepts and practices. The present influences of these religions on Western change and on the relationship between cultures will be of focal interest. AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.

PHIL 354  Religions of the West  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 14
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
Study of the origins, history, development, important teachings, mythology and modern forms of the major Western religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Zoroastrianism, a forerunner of these, will also be examined in detail. In order to clarify concepts and practices, comparison and contrast with other religions will be used as a basis for discussion. The influences of these religions on the Western world will be identified and examined. AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3.

PHIL 360  Philosophy of Social Sciences  3 Units
Formerly: PHIL 7
Prerequisite: None
Advisory: ENGWR 102 or 103 or ESLW 320 or placement through assessment process.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC
This class is a survey of classic and modern thought on basic problems selected from at least two of the following fields: Theories of reality, political philosophy, philosophy of religion, and aesthetics. The emphasis will be on the application of representative views of modern life. AA/AS area 3B; CSU area C2 & D3;