

Philosophy Major

Bachelor of Arts, BA

The Department of Religion and Philosophy offers a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in philosophy. Students majoring in philosophy should develop some knowledge of the history and current state of the discipline, a grasp of representative philosophical issues and ways of dealing with them, a capacity to apply philosophical methods to intellectual problems, and a sense of how philosophy bears on other disciplines and on human life more generally. Studies leading to a philosophy major should also develop a critical mind, a balance of analytic and interpretive abilities, and a capacity for the imaginative development of abstract formulations and their concrete applications.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate a well-developed ability to make and recognize conceptual definitions and distinctions and be capable of identifying assumptions (explicit or otherwise), conclusions, and inferences in both formal and informal arguments.
2. Creatively and charitably juxtapose different perspectives.
3. Engage in professional research at the level of an advanced undergraduate in a way that effectively communicates their ideas.
4. Recognize and negotiate at an intermediate level major debates and theoretic positions in academic philosophy.
5. Proficiently integrate famous epochs, movements, and individuals within the history of philosophy.
6. Accurately contextualize an individual thinker within his or her cultural and historical milieu, and develop sensitivity to the methods, assumptions, and perspectives of different societies.

Major and Minor GPA calculation for Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

To earn a major or minor in philosophy, students must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 across all of their philosophy courses. Minor and major GPAs are based on the grades earned in all PHI courses that count in the Converse GPA. Transfer credits from other institutions do not figure into the calculation for major or minor GPAs; approved philosophy courses taken at Wofford do count within the major and minor GPA, under the Converse-Wofford program.

- Up to six semester hours in philosophy taken at Wofford may also count toward the major, with the approval of the Program Coordinator. Transfer credit in philosophy from other accredited institutions must be approved by the Office of the Registrar as well as the Program Coordinator.

The major consists of 30 credit hours and the successful completion of the following courses:

Logic or Critical Thinking

- Complete one course in logic or critical thinking, e.g. PHI 100

Sub-Total Credits

3

History of Philosophy

- Complete two courses in the history of philosophy, e.g. Greek Philosophy (PHI 215), Chinese Philosophy (PHI 265), Early Modern Philosophy (PHI 220), German Intellectual History (PHI 230), etc.

Sub-Total Credits

6

Ethics or Value Theory

- Complete one course in ethics or value theory, e.g. Ethical Theory (PHI 200), Contemporary Moral Issues (PHI 201), Biomedical Ethics (PHI 205), Business Ethics (PHI 210), Aesthetics (PHI 315), Metaethics (PHI 311), Philosophy and Law (PHI 320), etc.

Sub-Total Credits

3

Electives

- Complete three additional electives at any level.

Sub-Total Credits

9

Upper Division Electives

- Complete two additional courses at the 300 or 400 level.

Sub-Total Credits

6

Seminar

Item #	Title	Credits
PHI 400	SENIOR CAPSTONE	3
Sub-Total Credits		3
Total Credits		30