Philosophy

Philosophy tackles central questions in human life, such as: What counts as human knowledge? How should I live? What is truth? How is the mind related to the body? What is a just society? These difficult but fundamental questions are rigorously explored in philosophy and worked through by drawing on the historical tradition and utilizing careful reasoning. Because philosophers have shaped many of the central ideas on which Western civilization is based, the study of philosophy plays a vital role in a well-rounded liberal arts education.

Philosophy courses at Washington University provide opportunities to gain deeper knowledge of the history of philosophy, from the work of the ancient philosophers Plato and Aristotle through key thinkers such as Descartes and Kant to the present. Students can study the interface between philosophy and other disciplines (such as psychology, environmental studies, women’s studies, law and political science); they also can examine the methods of inquiry and underlying conceptual frameworks of scientific work itself. Courses in logic equip students to think and argue clearly and rigorously, while courses in analytic philosophy allow for the exploration of fundamental questions about knowledge and metaphysics. The department offers a variety of courses in ethics, where students can consider different theoretical approaches to current political, social, medical and environmental problems.

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E-mail: mdanner@wustl.edu
Departmental website: http://philosophy.artsci.wustl.edu/

Chair
Christopher Wellman
PhD, University of Arizona

Professors
Carl Craver
PhD, University of Pittsburgh

Dennis DesChene
PhD, Stanford University

John Doris
PhD, University of Michigan

Julia Driver
PhD, Johns Hopkins University

J. Claude Evans
PhD, State University of New York–Stony Brook

John Heil
PhD, Vanderbilt University
(Philosophy, Philosophy–Neuroscience–Psychology)

Mark Rollins
PhD, Columbia University

Roy Sorensen
PhD, Michigan State University

Associate Professors
Anne Margaret Baxley
PhD, University of California–San Diego

Eric Brown
PhD, University of Chicago

Brett Hyde
PhD, Rutgers University

Ron Mallon
Associate Professor and Director of Philosophy–Neuroscience–Psychology Program
PhD, Rutgers University

Anya Plutynski
PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Gillian Russell
PhD, Princeton University

Assistant Professors
G. Fay Edwards
PhD, King’s College, London

Charlie Kurth
PhD, University of California–San Diego

Elizabeth Schechter
PhD, University of Maryland

Julia Staffel
PhD, University of Southern California

Postdoctoral Fellows
Brian Fiala
PhD, University of Arizona

Marta Halina
PhD, University of California–San Diego

Adjunct Professors
John Bruer
PhD, Rockefeller University

Linda Nicholson
Susan E. and William P. Stritz Distinguished Professor of Women’s Studies
PhD, Brandeis University

Professors Emeriti
Robert B. Barrett Jr.
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
William H. Gass  
David May Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Humanities  
PhD, Cornell University  

Roger Gibson  
PhD, University of Missouri  

Lucian W. Krukowski  
PhD, Washington University  

Jerome P. Schiller  
PhD, Harvard University  

Joseph S. Ullian  
PhD, Harvard University  

Richard A. Watson  
PhD, University of Iowa  

Carl P. Wellman  
Hortense and Tobias Lewin Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Humanities  
PhD, Harvard University  

The Major in Philosophy  

Total units required: 27 units, of which at least 6 units must be at the 400-level, and an additional 15 units must be at the 300-level or above. 

Majors are encouraged to take more than this minimum number of courses, especially if they are considering graduate work in philosophy. Majors and minors are encouraged to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement by taking Phil 390 Philosophical Writing. All majors are required to complete a capstone experience in philosophy, either an Honors thesis (Phil 499) or the Philosophy Capstone Course (Phil 3991). Majors who are planning to do graduate work in philosophy should attain at least reading proficiency in German, Greek, Latin or French. 

Required courses: 

Majors must complete at least one Core Course in each of the three areas below. Students who do not take Phil 390 will be required to take one additional Core Course. The Core Courses, by area, are: 

**Contemporary/Analytic Philosophy:** 

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<tr>
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<td>Phil 348I</td>
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**History of Philosophy:** 

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On occasion it may be appropriate to substitute a 400-level course in one of these areas for a 300-level core course; individual petitions for substitutions will be considered by the undergraduate director. Generally, for a course to count either as "core" or as partly satisfying the requirement for 6 units at the 400-level, it must be home-based in Philosophy. At most, 3 units of credit in Phil 499 or 500 can be counted toward the required 6 units of 400-level course work. 

Optional tracks: The department offers the following three special tracks through the major: the Philosophy Research Focus, the Law and Policy Track and the Philosophy of Science Track.

**Philosophy Research Track**

The Philosophy Research Track is especially recommended for students who plan to pursue graduate studies and an advanced degree in philosophy — a must for anyone interested in a career as a university or college philosophy teacher. It will give the student a broad background in philosophy, which is a competitive advantage when applying to graduate programs in the field. 

Requirements: 

- At least 36 units total 
- Phil 100 Logic 
- One 100-level class in addition to Phil 100G Logic and Critical Analysis, preferably Phil 120F Problems in Philosophy or Phil 125C Great Philosophers 
- In Contemporary/Analytic: Phil 301G Symbolic Logic; one of either Phil 3113 Theory of Knowledge or Phil 348I Introduction to Metaphysics; and one of either Phil 306G Philosophy of Language, Phil 315 Philosophy of Mind or Phil 321G Philosophy of Science 
- In History: Any two core courses (a 400-level History course may be substituted for a second 300-level course) 
- In Value Theory: Phil 331F Classical Ethical Theories and one of Phil 4315 Theory of Knowledge or Phil 348I Introduction to Metaphysics; and one of either Phil 306G Philosophy of Language, Phil 315 Philosophy of Mind or Phil 321G Philosophy of Science 
- In History: Any two core courses (a 400-level History course may be substituted for a second 300-level course) 
- In Value Theory: Phil 331F Classical Ethical Theories and one of Phil 4315 Theory of Knowledge or Phil 4310 20th-Century Metaethics (these can satisfy a 400-level requirement) 
- Phil 390 Philosophical Writing or another Core course 
- Phil 3991 Philosophy Capstone Course or Phil 499 Study for Honors
At least 30 units at 300-level or above (including core courses)*
At least 6 of those 30 units at 400-level**
Courses taken pass/fail cannot count toward the major.

Contemporary/Analytic Courses

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<td>Kant and 19th-Century Philosophy</td>
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Value Theory Courses

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<td>Philosophy of Law</td>
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Law and Policy Track

This track is especially recommended for students who intend to pursue a career in law or public policy. The track involves taking certain specific courses for the major, and possibly a few extra courses, that will provide the student with additional preparation and a competitive edge when applying to law school, post-graduate programs in public policy, and related jobs.

Requirements:
- At least 27 units total
- Phil 100G Logic and Critical Analysis or Phil 301G Symbolic Logic
- Strongly recommended: a 100-level class in addition to Phil 100G Logic and Critical Analysis
- One core course in Contemporary/Analytic and one core course in History
- Phil 340F Social and Political Philosophy and Phil 346 Philosophy of Law
- Strongly recommended: At least one other Value Theory course
- Strongly recommended: at least one 200-level course
- Phil 390 Writing-Intensive Course in Philosophy or another Core course
- Phil 3991 Philosophy Capstone Course or Phil 499 Study for Honors

Philosophy of Science Track

The Philosophy of Science track is available only as a second major in combination with work in one or more of the sciences. It is intended for those students with a scientific background who have an interest in pursuing philosophical issues relating to the natural and physical sciences.

Requirements:
- At least 27 units total
- In Contemporary/Analytic: Phil 301G Symbolic Logic and Phil 321G Philosophy of Science
- In History: Any one of the core courses listed below
- In Advanced Philosophy of Science: Both core courses Phil 4210 Advanced Philosophy of Science I and Phil 4211 Advanced Philosophy of Science II
- Any three of the Supplementary Courses listed below, which must include Phil 390 Philosophy Writing-Intensive if writing-intensive requirement is to be fulfilled in Philosophy
- Phil 3991 Philosophy Capstone Course or Phil 499 Study for Honors
- At least 27 units at 300-level or above (including core courses)*
- At least 6 of those 27 units at 400-level**
- Courses taken pass/fail cannot count toward the major.
Contemporary/Analytic Courses

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Advanced Philosophy of Science Courses

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<tr>
<td>Phil 390</td>
<td>Philosophical Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 426</td>
<td>Theories of Concepts</td>
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Supplementary Courses:

General Philosophy Courses

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Logic and Method Courses

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<td>Phil 403</td>
<td>Mathematical Logic 1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 404</td>
<td>Mathematical Logic II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 4051</td>
<td>Philosophy of Logic</td>
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Epistemology and Metaphysics Courses

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<td>Phil 307</td>
<td>Metaphysics and Epistemology</td>
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<td>Phil 4142</td>
<td>Advanced Metaphysics</td>
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<td>Phil 4332</td>
<td>Cognition and Computation</td>
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Life and Science Courses

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<tr>
<td>Phil 423</td>
<td>Philosophy of Biological Science</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 452</td>
<td>Aristotle</td>
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Mind and Science Courses

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<tr>
<td>Phil 315</td>
<td>Philosophy of Mind</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 418</td>
<td>Current Controversies in Cognitive Science</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil 419</td>
<td>Philosophy of Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil 4212</td>
<td>Philosophy of Neuroscience</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PNP 495</td>
<td>PNP Seminar (with approval of topic)</td>
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Additional Information

Senior Honors: Eligible majors are encouraged to work toward Senior Honors. To qualify, students must have the agreement of a faculty member to serve as thesis adviser. In addition, they must have, at the end of the junior year, at least a 3.5 GPA in the major, a 3.5 GPA in advanced philosophy courses (300-level and above), and a 3.65 overall GPA. For important additional information regarding Senior Honors, consult the web page.

The Writing-Intensive Seminar: Majors are encouraged to fulfill their Writing-Intensive requirement by taking Phil 390, which is specially designated as Writing-Intensive. It is typically taken in the junior year and is limited to 15 students. Significant attention is devoted to conceiving, researching, writing, revising, critiquing and presenting philosophical essays. A philosophy major who does not take a philosophy writing-intensive seminar must take a fourth core course, in any of the three core areas. Priority is given to Philosophy majors and minors who have not yet completed their Writing-Intensive requirement.

Capstone Experience: All Philosophy majors are required to complete a capstone experience, either by writing an honors thesis or by taking the Philosophy Capstone Course (Phil 3991). PLEASE be aware that the Capstone Course is offered ONLY in the spring semester, so students will need to plan their class schedules accordingly, if they decide not to do an honors thesis. To qualify for doing an honors thesis, students must have, at the end of the junior year, at least a 3.5 GPA in the major, a 3.5 GPA in advanced philosophy courses, and a 3.65 overall GPA. Alternatively, majors should sign up for Phil 3991 (a 3-credit course), which will draw together a variety of different philosophical areas. Only Philosophy majors of senior standing may take this course; preference is given to students not pursuing honors.

* At least 30 units of the required upper-level courses must be completed with a minimum of a C–.

** Three of these credits (one course) must not be from Honors Thesis or Independent Study.

Study Abroad: Students can pursue the philosophy major while studying abroad. The department has special study abroad arrangements with University College, London; Kings College, London; Trinity College, Dublin (Ireland); Sussex University (U.K.); Utrecht University (the Netherlands); and the University of Auckland (New Zealand). Information about study abroad and about specific overseas programs is available from the departmental website and the Study Abroad adviser.

The Minor in Philosophy

Units required: 18

Required courses:

Philosophy minors are required to complete at least 12 units at the 300-level or above, which must include at least one course in each of the following three “core” areas:

Contemporary/Analytic Philosophy:
Phil 301G  Symbolic Logic  3  
Phil 306G  Philosophy of Language  3  
Phil 3113  Theory of Knowledge  3  
Phil 315  Philosophy of Mind  3  
Phil 321G  Philosophy of Science  3  
Phil 3481  Introduction to Metaphysics  3  

History of Philosophy:  
Phil 347C  Ancient Philosophy  3  
Phil 349C  Descartes to Hume  3  
Phil 357C  Kant and 19th-Century Philosophy  3  
Phil 358  Conceptual Foundations of Modern Science  3  

Value theory:  
Phil 331F  Classical Ethical Theories  3  
Phil 339F  Philosophy of the Arts  3  
Phil 340F  Social and Political Philosophy  3  
Phil 346  Philosophy of Law  3  

Additional Information  
Minors are encouraged to take the writing-intensive course Philosophical Writing (Phil 390). A philosophy minor must receive a grade of C– or above in each course. Many philosophy courses also can be taken as part of a History and Philosophy of Science minor or a Legal Studies minor.

The Minor in Philosophy of Science  
Units required: 18  
Required courses:  
Phil 301G  Symbolic Logic  3  
Phil 321G  Philosophy of Science  3  
Phil 4210  Advanced Philosophy of Science I  3  
Phil 4211  Advanced Philosophy of Science II  3  
Total units  12  
Elective courses:  
One course from the following three:  
Phil 347C  Ancient Philosophy  3  
Phil 349C  Descartes to Hume  3  
Phil 358  Conceptual Foundations of Modern Science  3  
One course from the following:  
Phil 307  Metaphysics and Epistemology  3  
Phil 315  Philosophy of Mind  3  
Phil 390  Philosophical Writing  3  
Phil 403  Mathematical Logic I  3  
Phil 404  Mathematical Logic II  3  
Phil 4051  Philosophy of Logic  3  
Phil 4141  Advanced Epistemology  3  
Phil 4142  Advanced Metaphysics  3  
Phil 418  Current Controversies in Cognitive Science  3  
Phil 419  Philosophy of Psychology  3  
Phil 4212  Philosophy of Neuroscience  3  
Phil 423  Philosophy of Biological Science  3  
Phil 426  Theories of Concepts  3  
Phil 4332  Cognition and Computation  3  
Phil 452  Aristotle  3  
PNP 495  PNP Seminar (with approval of topic)  3  

L30 Phil 100G Logic and Critical Analysis  
Introduction to the elementary tools of logic required for constructing and critically evaluating arguments and the claims they support. Topics include: the nature of an argument; argument structure; how arguments can fail both in structure and in content; formal and informal fallacies; propositional logic and predicate calculus; and critical analysis of rhetorical strategies for presenting arguments. Students are encouraged to develop critical reasoning skills that can be applied widely.  
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA, QA A&S: IQ, NSM, AN BU: HUM FA: SSP  

L30 Phil 1061 Introduction to Political Science  
This course offers an undergraduate-level introduction to the field of political theory. We focus on three major themes — social justice; power and freedom; and democracy — reading some canonical texts, such as Bentham’s *Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* and Marx’s *Capital*, but emphasizing contemporary works, such as those of John Rawls, Michael Walzer, Michel Foucault, and Robert Dahl.  
Same as Pol Sci 106  
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS A&S: IQ, SSC BU: BA EN: S FA: SSP  

L30 Phil 120F Problems in Philosophy  
Introduction to philosophical methods and concepts through an investigation of major issues in Western philosophy such as: what counts as knowledge; truth and belief; the existence of God; the mind-body problem; materialism and idealism; moral theory and concepts of justice. A range of historical and contemporary views on these issues is considered. The aim of the course is to prepare students to think and write about philosophical problems on their own.  
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP  

L30 Phil 125C Great Philosophers  
In this course we focus on some of the most important texts in the history of Western philosophy in order to discuss a wide range of central philosophical problems. We typically consider, for example, the existence of God, the justification of claims to
knowledge, and the requirements of a good human life, including
the demands of morality. Among the philosophers most likely
studied are Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Marx,
Nietzsche and Wittgenstein. Our goal is not just to appreciate the
genius of some great philosophers but also to grapple with the
current philosophical problems they have bequeathed to us.

L30 Phil 131F Present Moral Problems
An investigation of a range of contemporary moral issues and
controversies that draws on philosophical ethics and culturewide
moral considerations. Topics may include: racism, world hunger,
war and terrorism, the distribution of income and wealth, gender
discrimination, pornography, lesbian and gay rights, abortion,
euthanasia, and capital punishment. The aim of the course is to
present diverse points of view regarding these topics and to
provide conceptual and theoretical tools that enable the student
to make headway in thinking carefully and critically about the
issues.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

L30 Phil 233F Biomedical Ethics
A critical examination, in the light of contemporary moral
disagreements and traditional ethical theories, of some of the
moral issues arising out of medical practice and experimentation
in our society. Issues that might be discussed include
euthanasia, genetic engineering, organ transplants, medical
malpractice, the allocation of medical resources, and the rights of
the patient.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

L30 Phil 235F Introduction to Environmental Ethics
A general survey of current issues in environmental ethics,
focusing on problems such as the obligation to future
generations, protection of endangered species, animal rights,
problems of energy and pollution, wilderness, global justice,
and business obligations. Students also learn some ethical and
political theory.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

L30 Phil 239 Topics in Philosophy and Environment
Philosophical questions are central to study of the environment.
Such questions span many philosophical fields including
metaethics, value theory, applied ethics, aesthetics, political
philosophy and philosophy of science. Given such a diversity of
important questions, this course focuses on a different
intersection of philosophy and environment each time it runs.
It aims to develop students’ understanding of the complex
philosophical claims and problems that lie behind environmental
values, practices and policies. Examples of topics considered
are: wilderness, food and agriculture, and animals.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L30 Phil 297 Undergraduate Independent Study
Prerequisite: permission of the department.
Credit variable, maximum 6 units.

L30 Phil 299 Internship in Philosophy
Students receive credit for a faculty-directed and approved
internship. Registration requires completion of the Learning
Agreement, which the student obtains from the Career Center
and which must be filled out and signed by the Career Center,
the site supervisor and the faculty sponsor prior to beginning
internship work. Credit should correspond to actual time spent in
work activities, e.g., eight to 10 hours a week for 13 or 14 weeks
to receive 3 units of credit; 1 or 2 credits for fewer hours.
Credit variable, maximum 3 units. FA: SSP

L30 Phil 3001 Philosophy of Medicine: Introduction to
Philosophy of Clinical Medicine
Credit 2 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L30 Phil 301G Symbolic Logic
In the first half of the course we study some features of truth —
functional and first-order classical logics, including studying the
model theory and metatheory for first-order logic in much greater
depth than in Phil 100. In the second half of the course we go
on to study three different styles of proof system — tableaux,
axiomatic and natural deduction. This course continues where
Phil 100 An introduction to Logic and Critical Analysis leaves
off. It is recommended for students who already have taken
that introductory course, or for students who already have a
strong background in mathematics. Priority given to majors in
Philosophy and PNP.
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, NSM, AN BU: HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 306G Philosophy of Language
A survey of major philosophical problems concerning meaning,
reference and truth as they have been addressed within the
analytic tradition. Readings that represent diverse positions
on these focal issues are selected from the work of leading
philosophers in the field, for example: Frege, Russell,
Wittgenstein, Davidson, Quine, Kripke and Putnam. Students
are encouraged to engage critically the ideas and arguments
presented, and to develop and defend their own views on
the core topics. Prerequisites: one 100- or 200-level course
in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to
majors in Philosophy and PNP.
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, HUM BU: HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 308 Introduction to Semantics
Semantics is the branch of linguistics which studies how
speakers assign meaning to words, sentences, and larger units
of discourse. We combine perspectives from both linguistics and
philosophy to explore a variety of topics including polysemy, compositionality, quantification, anaphora, definite descriptions, attitude reports, presupposition and implicature. Prerequisite: Ling 170D or Phil 301G or permission of instructor.

Same as Ling 311
Credit 3 units. A&S: LA A&S: IQ, SSC  EN: S

L30 Phil 309 Topics in the Wilderness
Philosophical questions are central to study of the environment. Such questions span many philosophical fields including metaethics, value theory, applied ethics, aesthetics, political philosophy and philosophy of science. Given such a diversity of important questions, this course focuses on a different intersection of philosophy and environment each time it runs. It aims to develop students' understanding of the complex philosophical claims and problems that lie behind environmental values, practices and policies. Examples of topics considered are: wilderness, food and agriculture, and animals.

Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM

L30 Phil 310 Contemporary Jewish Thought
Same as JINE 310
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: Lit, SSP

L30 Phil 310I Topics in Philosophy of Religion
The question of how God can allow evil to occur to the righteous or innocent has been a perennial dilemma in religion and philosophy. We study the classic statement of the problem in the biblical book of Job, the ancient Near Eastern literature on which Job is based, and traditional Jewish and Christian interpretation of Job. We study the major approach to the problem of evil in Western philosophical and religious thought.

Same as Re St 310I
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH EN: H

L30 Phil 311I Theory of Knowledge
This course focuses on issues in epistemology with the aim of providing a survey of contemporary work. The course begins with a close reading of Descartes' first three Meditations. These should help us set some of the problems that figure in more recent work and provide an introduction to certain fundamental epistemological concepts. No particular background is assumed, but participants are expected to come to class prepared to discuss topics at an advanced level. Readings are taken from original sources and can be challenging. Although most assignments are reasonable short, you should allow time for careful reading and rereading. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP.

Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L30 Phil 315 Philosophy of Mind
An introduction to philosophical analyses of the nature of mind, especially those developed by contemporary philosophers. The focus is on questions such as the following: What is a mind? How does it relate to a person's brain? How does it relate to a person's body and the external world? Can a mind exist in a very different kind of body (e.g., a computer or a robot)? Does thinking require a language-like code? If so, can nonlinguistic species think? What is it to have a mental image or to experience pain? Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP.

Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 316 Mind and Morals
This course explores a number of issues at the intersection of ethics and cognitive science. Possible topics include: Are we rational? Do we know our own thoughts and motivations? Can one believe that one ought to do something without being motivated to do it? Do emotions impair or enhance our ability to reason? How do moral beliefs develop through childhood? Are traits such as intelligence and character changeable, and what implications follow if they are (or are not)? Does retaining my identity over time require having the same mind, and, if so, am I the same person now as I was as a child? Are nonhuman animals worthy of moral consideration? If brain activity is determined by causal laws, can we have free will? Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP.

Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

L30 Phil 321G Philosophy of Science
Pivotal concepts common to empirical sciences are examined and clarified. These include: explanation, confirmation, prediction, systematization, empirical significance and the relationship of all these concepts to the structure of scientific theory. Examples may be drawn from both contemporary and historical science, including the social, biological and physical sciences. Students with a background in science are particularly encouraged to consider this course. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP.

Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH EN: H

L30 Phil 327 Philosophy of Religion
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H

L30 Phil 331F Classical Ethical Theories
Intensive readings of great works in the history of ethics, especially by Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant and Mill. Topics may include: the sources of moral knowledge; the nature of practical moral judgment; the moral role of emotion and desire; weakness of will; moral autonomy; and the universality of moral norms.
Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 100- or 200-level, or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

L30 Phil 3321 Feminist Philosophy
This course focuses on vital normative issues of government, community, culture and interpersonal relationships that bear on women’s lives in distinctive ways. We consider diverse topics from varied feminist perspectives. Probable topics include: race/ethnicity and gender; care and justice; varieties of oppression; lesbianism; sexuality; radical democracy; violence against women; and whether philosophical modes of investigation are biased against women. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH IQ HUM BU ETH FA SSP

L30 Phil 339F Philosophy of the Arts
An examination both of general issues that apply to all types of art and of issues specific to particular art forms. For example, what is art? What are the central artistic values: beauty, truth, emotional expressiveness, representational power or something else? Does art have a moral or political function? How can we account for the history of art and for different artistic styles? In regard to selected forms, there are important questions concerning how pictures represent, whether music and dance are forms of “language,” and the nature of literary interpretation. Some consideration is given to the relation of psychology and theories of the mind to art. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH IQ HUM FA AH SSP

L30 Phil 340F Social and Political Philosophy
Study of certain fundamental issues concerning government, society and culture. For example: what are the nature and limits of legitimate political authority? Are ordinary humans capable of governing themselves justly? Do citizens have a duty to obey the state? If so, to what extent, if at all, is that duty grounded in consent or contract? Should the state limit or regulate the personal relationships of citizens, such as marriage, family and sexuality? How should social institutions rectify a history of political or social injustice against oppressed groups? Readings from historical and contemporary sources. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH IQ HUM BU ETH FA SSP

L30 Phil 345F Issues in Applied Ethics
Advanced study of a selected topic in applied ethics. Abstract ethical theories and methods are brought to bear on the moral problems that arise in an area of social and professional practice such as medicine, business, law, journalism, engineering or scientific and humanistic research. Possible topics include: reproductive health care and policy, the just distribution of medical resources, the social responsibilities of corporations, accountability in the media and public office, and the ethics of research on or affecting human subjects. Prerequisites: one course at the 100- or 200-level in applied ethics; or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH IQ HUM BU ETH FA SSP

L30 Phil 346 Philosophy of Law
This course first focuses on the philosophical foundations of law, examining both the relationship between law and rules, as well as the types of legal reasoning. Second, the course focuses on philosophical issues that arise in the key substantive areas of law: contracts, torts, property, criminal law and constitutional law, as well in specialized areas such as family and employment law. The course ends with a brief discussion of several problems in legal ethics. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH IQ HUM BU ETH FA SSP

L30 Phil 3461 Darwinian Revolution
Examines the scientific, economic, social and political background to the development of evolutionary theory in Europe and the United States from 1750 through the end of the 20th century. How were naturalistic theories of the origin of species crafted out of economic and social metaphors? Why has Darwin’s work generated such controversy for 150 years? What is the consensus on Darwinian theory today? The first part of the course focuses on the historical and philosophical development of ideas about evolution, natural selection, and heredity, including the strong arguments mounted against Darwinian theory through the first two decades of the 20th century. The second part of the course deals with the development of evolutionary theory as it was integrated with Mendelian genetics (as population genetics), ecology, and eventually molecular biology in the period after 1930. The course concludes with an examination of several controversies that have greatly affected the course of evolutionary theory: the conflict between evolution and Christian fundamentalism, the concept of punctuated equilibrium, sociobiology, mass extinctions and the extinction of dinosaurs, and the origin of life. Emphasis is on understanding the process of science as practiced in evolutionary biology. No prerequisites. Same as Biol 346A Credit 3 units. A&S: NS IQ HUM BU SCI FA NSM

L30 Phil 347C Ancient Philosophy
An examination of the high-water marks of philosophy in ancient Greece and Rome, focusing primarily on Plato and Aristotle. A wide range of philosophical problems is discussed, including the nature of the good life, the justification of knowledge, and the ultimate nature of mind and world. Attention is paid to how
these problems unfolded in their historical context and to how the ancient treatments of them compare to contemporary efforts. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 100- or 200-level or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

**L30 Phil 3481 Introduction to Metaphysics**
This course is an introduction to central debates of contemporary analytic metaphysics. Metaphysics is concerned with the nature of the most general kinds of things and the relationship between these things. We discuss the nature of and relationship between properties, material objects, persons, time, space and modality. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: HUM FA: SSP

**L30 Phil 349C Descartes to Hume**
An examination of major philosophical systems and problems in Modern Philosophy as presented in the original writings of the 17th and 18th centuries. Topics may include rationalism and empiricism, idealism, materialism and skepticism, with readings selected from the continental rationalists Descartes, Spinoza and Leibniz, and from the British empiricists Locke, Berkeley and Hume. Central problems include the mind-body problem, representationalism and transcendentalism. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: HUM FA: SSP

**L30 Phil 357C Kant and 19th-Century Philosophy**
Examination of Kant and 19th-century philosophy. We discuss Kant’s “Copernican Turn” in metaphysics and epistemology, as well as his moral philosophy, and we study works of selected 19th-century philosophers such as Hegel, Marx, Mill and Nietzsche. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

**L30 Phil 358 Conceptual Foundations of Modern Science**
The aim of this course is to present some of the basic concepts underlying modern science. Insofar as many of those concepts first appeared or became predominant in the 17th and early 18th centuries, the course concentrates on primary works from that period. Among the concepts studied are: (1) nature and natures: the ontology of matter and force; causal closure; (2) methods: observing and intervening, systematic and organized; (3) explanations: appeal to laws and mechanisms; teleology. Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: ETH FA: SSP

**L30 Phil 366 Art and the Mind-Brain**
In recent years, there has been a growing interest in the bearing of cognitive science on the perception and understanding of art. This interest has roots in tradition: historically, art, aesthetics and vision science have often been linked. But the growth of knowledge in cognitive science has opened up new opportunities for understanding art and addressing philosophical questions. The converse is also true. The production, perception and understanding of art are human capacities that can shed light on the workings of the mind and brain. This course considers questions such as: What is art? How do pictures represent? Does art express emotion? Why does art have a history? Prerequisite: one 100- or 200-level course in philosophy or permission of the instructor. Priority given to majors in Philosophy and PNP. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: AH, SSP

**L30 Phil 375 Existentialism**
The philosophical systems of selected philosophers such as Kierkegaard, Nietzsche and Sartre are examined to determine their historical origins, their ontological and epistemological ramifications, and their relationships to contemporary philosophy. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 100- or 200-level or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM BU: HUM EN: H FA: SSP

**L30 Phil 390 Philosophical Writing**
This seminar has a different topic of central philosophical importance each semester. Significant attention also is devoted to conceiving, researching, writing, revising, critiquing and presenting philosophical essays. Limited to 15 students. Priority is given to philosophy majors and minors who have not yet completed their writing-intensive requirement. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, WI A&S: IQ, HUM, WI BU: HUM EN: H

**L30 Phil 397 Undergraduate Independent Study**
Credit variable, maximum 6 units.

**L30 Phil 3991 Philosophy Capstone Course**
This course focuses either on classic writings from the past century or on contemporary writings that address a major philosophical concern, such as “the meaning of life” or “the concept of self.” In either case, the course draws together a variety of philosophical specializations. Must be taken by all philosophy majors who are not writing an honors project. Work for the course typically consists of one written project, one oral presentation, and one commentary on another student’s oral presentation. Prerequisites: senior standing and major in philosophy; preference given to those majors not pursuing Honors.

Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H
An advanced survey of current debates and controversies regarding global justice. Seminar discussions will be arranged around significant issues in the current literature. For example: What (if anything) do we owe to the distantly needy? Do we have special obligations to our compatriots? Do political borders have normative significance? And so on. This course will be of interest not only to political theorists, but also to students in other fields interested in social justice or international relations generally. Same as Pol Sci 4070
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS A&S: IQ, SSC: EN: S

L30 Phil 4142 Advanced Metaphysics
Through readings from both classical and contemporary sources, a single traditional metaphysical concern is made the subject of careful and detailed analytic attention. Possible topics include such concepts as substance, category, cause, identity, reality and possibility, and such positions as metaphysical realism, idealism, materialism, relativism and irrealism. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4141 Advanced Epistemology
Competing theories of knowledge and belief justification are considered. Careful attention is given to selected problems such as skepticism, certainty, foundations, coherence, perception, induction. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 418 Current Controversies in Cognitive Science
An advanced survey of current debates in cognitive science with an emphasis on the philosophical issues raised by these debates. Topics may include: evolutionary psychology; innateness and neural plasticity; perception and action; consciousness; connectionism; robotics; embodied cognition; moral reason; emergence and artificial life; concepts and content; animal cognition. Prerequisites: one course in Philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing, or permission of the instructor.
Same as PNP 418
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H
L30 Phil 419 Philosophy of Psychology
An investigation of the philosophical presuppositions and implications of various traditions in psychology, including behaviorism, Gestalt and cognitivism, with a special emphasis on the development of the information processing approach of contemporary cognitivism. The conception of psychological phenomena, data and explanation central to each of these traditions are examined, and typical topics include the debates between propositional and imagistic models of representation, different accounts of concepts and categorization, and the relation of psychology to ethics. Prerequisite: one previous course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4202 Contemporary Feminisms
The purpose of this course is to provide a framework, a map, within which students can locate feminist ideas. The course, which may be presented historically, explores and compares different types of feminism selected from, for example, the following feminisms: liberal; Marxist; socialist; radical; lesbian; black; existentialist; postmodern. The class considers how such feminisms analyze the nature and sources of women's oppressions, the worlds they envision, and the means they use to bring about change. Note: This course is in the core curriculum for the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies graduate certificate. Permission of instructor required. Prerequisite: completion of at least one Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course or permission of the instructor.
Same as WGSS 420
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH, SD A&S: IQ, HUM, SD EN: H FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4210 Advanced Philosophy of Science I
This course varies in topics related to philosophy of science from semester to semester. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4212 Philosophy of Neuroscience
This course focuses on the historical roots of neuroscience as well as its contemporary developments. Topics include: (1) the nature of explanatory strategies in neuroscience; (2) the relation between neuroscience research and higher-level disciplines such as psychology; and (3) the epistemology of the investigatory tools of neuroscience. Prerequisite: one previous course in Philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4220 Advanced Philosophy of Science II
Prerequisites: completion of Phil 321 Philosophy of Science, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

L30 Phil 423 Philosophy of Biological Science
This course examines a number of theoretical, conceptual and methodological issues that arise in the attempts of biologists to explain living systems. One sort of problem concerns the relation between biology (and biological descriptions and explanations) and physics and chemistry. Biological phenomena have often seemed very different from ordinary physical phenomena in being teleological or goal oriented. Vitalists, accordingly, resisted the attempt to invoke physics and chemistry in the attempt to explain biological phenomena. But recently biology has come more and more to draw upon physics and chemistry; we examine the conceptual frameworks that underlie these efforts. Another sort of problem concerns the adaptiveness of living organisms. Charles Darwin offered one naturalistic explanation of this feature, an explanation that was further developed in this century as the synthetic theory of evolution. A number of controversial issues have arisen within this context of adaptation, and the range of levels at which selection can occur. The ubiquity of evolution, moreover, has been challenged in recent years, as a number of non-selectionist explanations have recently been put forward. We consider the arguments for the synthetic theory and these alternatives.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 426 Theories of Concepts
Concepts are the building blocks of thought. They are implicated in just about every cognitive task. Beyond that, there is little consensus. What information do concepts encode? How are they acquired? How are they combined to form thoughts? How are they related to perception and imagery? Each of these questions has been answered in numerous ways. In this course, we explore compelling theories of concepts that have been proposed by philosophers, psychologists and other cognitive scientists. No prior acquaintance with these issues is required. Prerequisite: one previous course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 430 Topics in Ethics
Selected advanced topics in ethics. Prerequisite: 6 units of philosophy, or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM

L30 Phil 4310 20th-Century Metaethics
An examination of metaphysical and epistemological issues in ethics. Topics include: the nature of the good and the right, the meaning of ethical terms, the logic of moral argument, and the status of moral knowledge. We consider philosophical works written since 1900 by such authors as Moore, Ross, Stevenson, Ayer, Foot, Hare, Brink, Blackburn and McDowell.
Prerequisite: one previous course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4315 Normative Ethical Theory
An exploration of the three major normative ethical theories debated by philosophers in the past 100 years: Kantian ethics, utilitarianism and virtue theory. Authors covered in the course may include: Henry Sidgwick, R.M. Hare, R.B. Brandt, John Rawls, Bernard Williams, Philippa Foot, Thomas Nagel, Christine Korsgaard, Michael Slote and Barbara Herman. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4320 British Moralists
An investigation of the work of the great British moral philosophers of the 17th to 19th centuries, especially Hobbes, Hume and Mill. Other figures may include Reid, Butler, Hutcheson, Bentham and Sidgwick. In considering these philosophers, we explore the relations between normative ethics, moral psychology and political philosophy, and may include a discussion of legal, social and economic philosophies as well. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4332 Cognition and Computation
Same as PNP 4332
Credit 3 units. A&S: SS A&S: IQ, SSC EN: S

L30 Phil 438 Aesthetics
A careful consideration of selected issues regarding the experience of visual art, architecture, music or literature, as well as the power or beauty of nature, people and artifacts. For example, is there a special form of aesthetic experience or aesthetic attitude? In what do aesthetic power and beauty consist? Are they different in art and nature? Do the artists’ intentions matter? Some central concerns are: how do visual art and literary texts have “meaning,” what role do the viewer’s or reader’s interpretations play, and how might recent work in cognitive science and social theory shed light on these issues? Prerequisites: one course in Philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM EN: H FA: AH, SSP

L30 Phil 4400 Advanced Social and Political Philosophy
A selective investigation of one or two advanced topics in the philosophical understanding of society, government and culture. Readings may include both historical and contemporary materials. Possible topics include: liberalism, socialism, communitarianism, citizenship, nationalism, cosmopolitanism, social contract theory, anarchism and the rights of cultural minorities. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 451 Plato
An examination of some of Plato’s most important dialogues, typically including the Gorgias, Phaedo and Republic, with the aim of grasping the development of Plato’s most influential thoughts in ethics and in metaphysics and epistemology. In order to provide both historical understanding and philosophical evaluation, attention is paid to the context and structure of the dialogues and to the best of recent secondary literature. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 452 Aristotle
This course offers a maximally full and detailed introduction to the works of Aristotle. His logic, natural philosophy, psychology, metaphysics, ethics and political philosophy are discussed, and stress is laid on the interpretive problems facing contemporary philosophers seeking to understand Aristotle’s achievement. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4530 Hellenistic Philosophy
The Hellenistic Age, traditionally dated from the death of Alexander and his (Macedonian) Empire at 323 BCE to the birth of Augustus’ (Roman) Empire in 31 BCE, gave the West three of its most innovative and influential schools of philosophy: Epicureanism, Skepticism and Stoicism. This course investigates the central features of their thought. Special attention is paid to the still-relevant debates between the Stoics and Skeptics about the possibility of knowledge, to the disagreements among all three schools about the issues of freedom, responsibility and determinism, and to their ethical theories. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S: TH A&S: IQ, HUM FA: SSP

L30 Phil 4550 Continental Rationalism
A rationalist is a philosopher for whom at least one certain truth is inborn or comes from reason rather than from empirical or sensory experience. The major systemic writings of Descartes, Spinoza and Leibniz are examined with a focus on the question: does the epistemology determine the ontology of these philosophical systems or vice versa? The lines of development connecting these philosophers are traced, and such enduring problems as the relation of mind to body are examined. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.
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L30 Phil 4563 Marxism After Marx: Philosophy and Radicalism in the 20th Century
As claims around the supposed “post-modernity” of our contemporary situation have ebbed, so scholars have returned once more to perhaps the defining philosophical and political voice of modernity, Karl Marx. This course prepares students to engage in current debates in the humanities over the nature of the political, the dynamics of class, the relative importance of the economy to “culture,” and the historical situatedness of philosophical knowledge, all through close readings of the Western Marxist philosophical tradition. That tradition, developing in Continental Europe and later the United States, sought to revitalize Marx’s account of historical development through attention to art, literature and the broader Western philosophical canon, often with the intention of accounting for the failures of Soviet Communism. The course begins with a condensed primer to Marx’s original ideas, before turning to the extension of Marxist philosophy in the ideas of Lenin, Lukács, the Frankfurt School, Louis Althusser, the British “New Left,” Lucio Colletti and Antonio Negri, before addressing more contemporary authors including Fredric Jameson and Alain Badiou.

Same as IPH 456

Credit 3 units. A&S : TH  A&S : IQ , HUM : EN

L30 Phil 4570 Kant’s “Critique of Pure Reason”
An in-depth investigation of Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason, one of the most important books in the history of Western philosophy. Some supplementary readings from other philosophers are used to situate Kant’s work in a systematic and historical context, to present some Kantian positions in current philosophy, and to bring in some important contrasting views and criticisms. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S : TH A&S : IQ, HUM EN : H

L30 Phil 4575 Kant and Kantian Practical Philosophy
An in-depth examination of Kant’s practical philosophy: his moral and political theory. Readings include the Critique of Practical Reason, parts of the Metaphysics of Morals, Perpetual Peace and other writings. Supplementary readings are used to situate Kant’s work in its systematic and historical context, to provide orientation in the world of Kant scholarship, and to introduce important contrasting views and criticisms. We also discuss recent reformulations of Kantian themes in the works of contemporary philosophers. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S : TH A&S : IQ, HUM FA : SSP

L30 Phil 4577 Advanced Continental Philosophy
A study of selected texts by such major figures of 20th-century continental philosophy as Husserl, Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Sartre, de Beauvoir, Levinas, Habermas, Foucault, Derrida and Irigaray. Such topics as phenomenology, hermeneutics, existentialism, critical theory, structuralism and post-structuralism are investigated. Prerequisite: one course in philosophy at the 300-level, graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S : TH  A&S : IQ, HUM : FA

L30 Phil 4565 Topics in the History of Philosophy
Study of individual philosophers or themes from the ancient, medieval, and/or modern periods. Examples: Spinoza, St. Thomas Aquinas, neo-Platonism, universals in ancient and medieval thought, ancient and modern theories of space and time. Prerequisite: 6 units in philosophy or permission of instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S : TH A&S : IQ, HUM

L30 Phil 4751 Intellectual History of Feminism
We focus on feminist thought in Western culture but also examine non-Western ideas about feminisms. We trace the relationship among emergent feminist ideas and such developments as the rise of scientific methodology, Enlightenment thought, revolutionary movements and the gendering of the political subject, colonialism, romanticism, socialism and global feminisms. Readings are drawn from both primary sources and recent feminist scholarship on the texts under consideration. Note: This course is in the core curriculum for the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies graduate certificate. Permission of instructor required. Prerequisite: Completion of at least one Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies course or permission of the instructor.

Same as WGSS 475

Credit 3 units. A&S : TH A&S : IQ, HUM FA : Lit

L30 Phil 497 Undergraduate Independent Study
Prerequisite: permission of the department.
Credit variable, maximum 6 units.

L30 Phil 499 Study for Honors
Credit 3 units. A&S : TH FA : SSP

L30 Phil 4ABR Advanced Philosophy Course Work Completed Abroad
Credit 3 units.