

PHILOSOPHY

Associate of Arts

The Associate of Arts degree with a field of study in philosophy offers students the opportunity to combine the core curriculum with an emphasis in philosophy. The two-year program is fully transferrable and provides a strong foundation to continue your bachelor's degree studies at a four-year university.

What is philosophy? Philosophy is the intellectual tradition that has guided the attempt to address fundamental questions of life: Is there a God? What is the nature of the soul? How can I live my best life? What are my obligations and relationships to other people, my community, and the environment?

Why study philosophy? You'll learn about the historical attempts to answer these questions and begin to formulate the answers for your own life. While engaged in this endeavor, you'll acquire important, useful, and marketable skills such as problem-solving, writing, distinguishing fact from opinion, thinking rationally and critically, and analyzing and organizing complex information.

What can I do with a Philosophy degree? A lot more than you think! Philosophy majors have built successful careers in computer science, education, business, government and non-profits. If you're considering an advanced degree, philosophy is the perfect background for law school or seminary studies as well as for graduate study in philosophy.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will correctly evaluate the validity of deductive arguments.
2. Graduates will correctly identify and describe selected concepts, arguments, and theories in ethics.
3. Graduates will correctly describe, compare, and contrast different social/political philosophies.
4. Graduates will correctly compare and contrast different religious systems.
5. Graduates will read and correctly respond to selections from key primary texts in philosophical discourse.

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Field of Study - 18 credit hours 18

All Philosophy students (6 credits):

PHIL 2306	Introduction to Ethics
PHIL 2303	Introduction to Formal Logic

Tracks

General Track: (12 Credits)

Select two of the following:

PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions
PHIL 2307	Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 2316	Classical Philosophy
PHIL 2321	Philosophy of Religion
PHIL 2389	Academic Cooperative: Philosophy Capstone

Field of Study Electives

To complete the General Track Field of Study, students must take two 3-credit hour courses listed in any Associate of Arts Field of Study from the following list: Anthropology, Business Administration (transfer plan only), Communication, Criminal Justice, Drama, Education, English, Arts, History, Interdisciplinary Studies, Humanities, Language and Cultural Studies, Mexican-American Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, or Sociology.

Religious Studies Track: (12 Credits)

PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions
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The student is required to take one course from the following list:

PHIL 2316	Classical Philosophy
PHIL 2321	Philosophy of Religion

Field of Study Elective

To complete the Religious Track Field of Study, students must select two of the following:

ANTH 2346	General Anthropology
ANTH 2351	Cultural Anthropology
HIST 2321	World Civilizations I
HIST 2322	World Civilizations II
HUMA 2323	World Cultures

Pre-Law Track: (12 Credits)

PHIL 1301	Introduction to Philosophy
PHIL 2307	Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy

Field of Study Elective

To complete the Pre-Law Track Field of Study, students must select two of the following:

COMM 2315	News Reporting
ECON 2301	Principles of Economics I - Macro
ECON 2302	Principles of Economics II - Micro
ENGL 2321	British Literature
ENGL 2326	American Literature
ENGL 2331	World Literature
SOCI 1306	Social Problems

STC Core Curriculum - 42 credit hours

Complete 42 credit hours of required Core Curriculum. ^{1,2,3} 42

Total Credit Hours 60

¹ Students pursuing the **Religious Studies track** must take SOCI 1301 Introductory Sociology for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum.

² Students pursuing the **General track** must take PSYC 2301 General Psychology for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum.

³ Students who select a 3 credit hour Mathematics course to fulfill the Mathematics component of the Core Curriculum must take 4 credit hours to complete the Component Area Option for the Core Curriculum.

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100% Online

Recommended Course Sequence - General Track

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall		
Language, Philosophy & Culture Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Recommended:		
PHIL 1301	Introduction to Philosophy	
HIST 1301 or HIST 2327	United States History I or Mexican-American History I	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum		3-4
Recommended:		
SPCH 1311	Introduction to Speech Communication	
Credit Hours		12
Spring		
HIST 1302 or HIST 2328	United States History II or Mexican-American History II	3
ENGL 1302	Composition II - Rhetoric	3
Mathematics Elective - Core Curriculum		3-4
Creative Arts Elective - Core Curriculum		3
PHIL 2303	Introduction to Formal Logic	3
Credit Hours		16
Summer		
Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Required:		
PSYC 2301	General Psychology ²	
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum (if required)		1
Philosophy Elective		3
Select one of the following:		
PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions	
PHIL 2307	Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy	
PHIL 2316	Classical Philosophy	
PHIL 2321	Philosophy of Religion	
PHIL 2389	Academic Cooperative: Philosophy Capstone	
Credit Hours		6
Second Year		
Fall		
GOVT 2305	Federal Government	3
PHIL 2306	Introduction to Ethics	3
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Field of Study Elective ¹		3
Credit Hours		13
Spring		
GOVT 2306	Texas Government	3
Field of Study Elective ¹		3
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Philosophy Elective		3
Select one of the following:		
PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions	
PHIL 2307	Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy	
PHIL 2316	Classical Philosophy	
PHIL 2321	Philosophy of Religion	
PHIL 2389	Academic Cooperative: Philosophy Capstone	
Credit Hours		13
Total Credit Hours		60

¹ To complete the Philosophy Field of Study, students must take two 3-credit hour courses listed in any Associate of Arts Field of

Study from the following list: Anthropology, Business Administration (transfer plan only), Communication, Criminal Justice, Drama, Education, English, Arts, History, Interdisciplinary Studies, Humanities, Language and Cultural Studies, Mexican-American Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, or Sociology.

² Students pursuing the **General track** must take PSYC 2301 General Psychology for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum.

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Recommended Course Sequence - Religious Studies Track

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall		
Language, Philosophy & Culture Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Recommended:		
PHIL 1301	Introduction to Philosophy	
HIST 1301 or HIST 2327	United States History I or Mexican-American History I	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum		3-4
Recommended:		
SPCH 1311	Introduction to Speech Communication	
Credit Hours		12
Spring		
HIST 1302 or HIST 2328	United States History II or Mexican-American History II	3
ENGL 1302	Composition II - Rhetoric	3
Mathematics Elective - Core Curriculum		3-4
Creative Arts Elective - Core Curriculum		3
PHIL 2303	Introduction to Formal Logic	3
Credit Hours		16
Summer		
Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Required:		
SOCI 1301	Introductory Sociology ¹	
PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions	3
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum (if required)		1
Credit Hours		6
Second Year		
Fall		
GOVT 2305	Federal Government	3
PHIL 2306	Introduction to Ethics	3
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Religious Studies Field of Study Elective		3
Select one of the following:		
ANTH 2346	General Anthropology	
ANTH 2351	Cultural Anthropology	
HIST 2321	World Civilizations I	
HIST 2322	World Civilizations II	
HUMA 2323	World Cultures	
Credit Hours		13
Spring		
GOVT 2306	Texas Government	3
Religious Studies Field of Study Elective		3
Select one of the following:		
ANTH 2346	General Anthropology	
ANTH 2351	Cultural Anthropology	
HIST 2321	World Civilizations I	
HIST 2322	World Civilizations II	

HUMA 2323	World Cultures	
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
PHIL 2316 or PHIL 2321	Classical Philosophy or Philosophy of Religion	3
Credit Hours		13
Total Credit Hours		60

¹ Students pursuing the Religious Studies track must take SOCI 1301 Introductory Sociology for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective

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Recommended Course Sequence - Pre-Law Track

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall		
Language, Philosophy & Culture Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Recommended:		
PHIL 1304	Introduction to World Religions	
HIST 1301 or HIST 2327 or HIST 2381	United States History I or Mexican-American History I or African American History I	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum		3
Recommended:		
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking	
Credit Hours		12
Spring		
HIST 1302 or HIST 2328 or HIST 2382	United States History II or Mexican-American History II or African American History II	3
ENGL 1302	Composition II - Rhetoric	3
Mathematics Elective - Core Curriculum		3-4
Recommended:		
MATH 1342	Elementary Statistical Methods	
Creative Arts Elective - Core Curriculum		3
PHIL 2303	Introduction to Formal Logic	3
Credit Hours		16
Summer		
Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		3
Recommended:		
CRIJ 1306	Court Systems and Practices	
PHIL 1301	Introduction to Philosophy	3
Component Area Option - Core Curriculum (if required)		1
Credit Hours		6
Second Year		
Fall		
GOVT 2305	Federal Government	3
PHIL 2306	Introduction to Ethics	3
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
Pre-Law Field of Study Elective		3
Select one of the following:		
COMM 2315	News Reporting	
ECON 2301	Principles of Economics I - Macro	
ECON 2302	Principles of Economics II - Micro	
ENGL 2321	British Literature	
ENGL 2326	American Literature	
ENGL 2331	World Literature	

SOCI 1306	Social Problems	
Credit Hours		13
Spring		
GOVT 2306	Texas Government	3
Pre-Law Field of Study Elective		3
Select one of the following:		
COMM 2315	News Reporting	
ECON 2301	Principles of Economics I - Macro	
ECON 2302	Principles of Economics II - Micro	
ENGL 2321	British Literature	
ENGL 2326	American Literature	
ENGL 2331	World Literature	
SOCI 1306	Social Problems	
Life and Physical Sciences Elective - Core Curriculum		4
PHIL 2307	Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy	3
Credit Hours		13
Total Credit Hours		60