



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The study of philosophy is concerned with the transmission and evaluation of basic beliefs and values about reality, knowledge and logic, morality, and social justice. It provides a fundamental basis for understanding many areas+ of human endeavor, including science, art and literature, religion, communication, education, politics, and technology. It is not an easy field. But for more than 25 centuries philosophy has been judged most rewarding by those who seek self-development, intellectual sophistication, and the happiness of a reflective life.

The philosophy major involves the study of three major periods: ancient, modern and 20th-century philosophy. Classes are discussion-oriented as students are required to read selected texts from a group of major philosophers such as Plato, Nietzsche, Marx, and Foucault. The curriculum also includes extensive coursework in ethical theory and applied ethics, such as bioethics and business ethics. Additionally, students will be introduced to coursework that inquires into the nature of being and knowledge, as well as coursework that approaches major theoretical concepts from feminist perspectives.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a dual-advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030
303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Sam Walker

sam.walker@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

Plaza (PL) Building Mezzanine Level Room 108-M
303-315-7219

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours passed
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all college and major requirements
5. Residency: complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

Credits exceeding the following maximum hour restrictions will not be applied toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study
- 9 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

CAREER RESOURCES

The Philosophy B.A. degree prepares students for diverse fields including law and medicine, as well as a spectrum of entry-level positions in business, public service and more. Philosophy students develop skills in oral and written communication, clear thinking and reasoning, the ability to innovate, and drawing connections among ideas of all kinds. Related occupations for Philosophy graduates include:

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| • City Manager | • Congress Representative | • Diplomat | • FBI or CIA Agent |
| • Government Agency Worker | • Mayor | • Mediator | • Political Analyst |
| • Public Relations Specialist | • Religious Staff Writer | • School Administrator | • Senator |

Some careers and occupations require additional training or education. Interested in learning more about career and occupational options for this major? Visit the CU Denver Career Center located in the Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 267 to speak with a career counselor. The Career Center also provides *Career Briefs*, overviews of careers related to specific CU Denver majors, which include related links and resources to the particular field and show potential jobs related to the major. Access Career Briefs [here](#).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. Students completing the Philosophy B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 36 semester hours in Philosophy with a grade of C (2.0) or better in each course. For those students who qualify for and fulfill the requirements of graduation with Honors, a total of at least 39 hours is required.
2. Complete at least 18 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours.
3. No more than 6 semester hours below the 3000-level will be counted toward the major.
4. Complete a minimum of 18 semester hours in Philosophy with CU Denver faculty.

Courses	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
Required Courses	12	
PHIL 3002 Ancient Philosophy	3	
PHIL 3022 Modern Philosophy	3	<i>*Prerequisite of PHIL 3002 recommended</i>
PHIL 2441 Logic, Language, & Scientific Reasoning or PHIL 3440 Introduction to Symbolic Logic	3	
PHIL3760 Kant	3	
Complete Three (3) Upper Division Semester Hours in each of the following areas:	15	
Social and Political Philosophy	3	<i>*See department for approved courses</i>
Ethics	3	<i>*See department for approved courses</i>
Continental Philosophy	3	<i>*See department for approved courses</i>
American or Analytic Philosophy	3	<i>*See department for approved courses</i>
Focus in History of Philosophy	3	<i>*May be fulfilled by course in a single figure</i>
PHIL Electives	9	<i>*At least one elective (3 hours) must be upper-division</i>
Total Program Hours:	36	<i>18 semester hours must be upper-division</i>

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Year One	Milestones	Fall	CRS	Grade	✓	Spring	CRS	Grade	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet your advisors • Introduce yourself to faculty in your department • Create an academic plan and check your Degree Audit with your advisors • Visit campus resources 	ENGL1020 – Core Composition I	3			ENGL2030 – Core Composition II	3		
		CU Core Mathematics	3			CU Core Social Science	3		
		PHIL1012 or 1020 or 2441	3			PHIL1020 or 1012 or 2441	3		
		CU Core Arts	3			CU Core Behavioral Science	3		
		General Elective	3			General Elective	3		
Year Two	Milestones	Fall	CRS	Grade	✓	Spring	CRS	Grade	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with your advisors to complete a 60-hour check • Join a student club or organization • Begin to research internships • Visit the Career Center • Explore additional major(s) or minors 	PHIL3002	3			PHIL3022	3		
		CLAS Communicative Skills ^M	3			CU Core Science without lab	3		
		CU Core Biol/Phys Science with lab	4			CU Core Cultural Diversity ^M	3		
		General Elective	3			CLAS Behavioral Science	3		
		Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3			Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3		
Year Three	Milestones	Fall	CRS	Grade	✓	Spring	CRS	Grade	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore research opportunities in your major • Apply for internships • Begin to research professional or graduate programs 	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3			Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3		
		CU Core International Perspectives	3			Upper-Division General Elective	3		
		CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5			CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5		
		PHIL3760	3			CLAS Social Science	3		
Year Four	Milestones	Fall	CRS	Grade	✓	Spring	CRS	Grade	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See advisors for a grad check the semester before you plan to graduate • Explore independent studies in your major • Submit professional or graduate program applications 	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3			PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3		
		CLAS Biol/Phys Science with lab	4			General Elective	3		
		PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3			Upper-Division General Elective	3		
		Upper-Division PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3			Upper-Division General Elective	3		
		Upper-Division General Elective	3			General Elective	3		