

## REQUIRED COURSES

**PHIL 2441: Language, Logic, & Scientific Reasoning**

**PHIL 3340: Investigating Nature**

**PHIL 4350: Philosophy of Science**

## ELECTIVE COURSES

Two courses from the below list are required to complete the minor.

**PHIL 3022: Modern Philosophy**

**PHIL 3032: Twentieth Century Analytic Philosophy**

**PHIL 3350: Metaphysics**

**PHIL 3360: Epistemology**

**PHIL 3440: Introduction to Symbolic Logic**

**PHIL 4101: Pragmatism**

**PHIL 4242: Bioethics**

**PHIL 4300: Philosophy of Mind**

**PHIL 4740: Empiricism**

**PHIL 4920: Philosophy of Media and Technology**

**PHIL 4812/4980: Special Topics in Philosophy**

## AFFILIATED FACULTY

**Candice Shelby**

*Ph.D.* Rice University

Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics, Modern Philosophy

303-315-7223 candice.shelby@ucdenver.edu

**Matthew Pike**

*Ph.D.* University of Colorado

Philosophy of Science, Logic, Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Mind

303-315-7223 matthew.pike@ucdenver.edu



University of Colorado Denver  
Philosophy Department



CU Denver Philosophy  
@CUDenverPHIL

# MINOR IN PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

**STRENGTHEN**

your career prospects

**DEEPEN**

your understanding of science

**DEVELOP**

advanced analytical reasoning skills

**For more information  
please contact:**

Dr. Matthew Pike

matthew.pike@ucdenver.edu

303-315-7223

**University of Colorado Denver  
Department of Philosophy**

Campus Box 179, P.O. Box 173364  
Denver, CO 80217-4868

955 Lawrence St. Plaza Building, Room M108

303-315-7223



Department of Philosophy

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER**

Revised  
April 2018

# WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

## WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE?

**It's fun!!** When do you ever get to talk and think about the nature of science, as a whole? Courses provide the opportunity to engage with other smart and interesting folks on campus. "Fun" is strangely a serious matter — because it is the key to avoiding burnout.

**Standout from the pack!!** Good grades and high entrance test scores are important for post-graduate studies. Lots of people have those, however. Pursuing the minor demonstrates a deep interest in science that will be noticed by admissions officers and reviewers.

**Philosophy of Science** concerns the logic of scientific inquiry, raising questions such as:

- What is the best way to use observational evidence to learn about the natural world?
- How can findings be justified as objectively credible reasons to accept a hypothesis or a theory?
- How can we spot biases and procedural errors — and then control for them to enhance the quality of investigation?
- What justifies classifying and grouping observational phenomenon when the world does not come pre-labeled?
- To what degree is truth relevant to the logical grounds to accept a hypothesis?

### Enhance and build up your analytical reasoning skills.

Analytical reasoning skills, the abilities to evaluate evidence critically and problem-solve, are essential skills for career success and are the most sought skills by employers and graduate/professional schools. In surveys, employers report analytic reasoning skills are more important than even the specific background knowledge within a field.



### Career success

depends on your ability to bring smart ideas to the table to solve problems, whether it is a question concerning experimental design or how to treat a patient. A deep understanding of the logic of science only places you in a better position to develop the creative means to generate and evaluate empirical evidence in solving questions about the natural world.



**NEVER FORGET** that scientific method is a creation of human beings — an ongoing project to devise the most logical and rational means to extract information about the natural world. It is that project that is the centerpiece of Philosophy of Science.

Philosophy majors have for decades been in the **top-scoring majors on the GRE.**

Philosophy majors have the highest rate of acceptance to medical school over any other major.

## AND IT REALLY IS FUN