PHILOSOPHY, BALAS

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Major in Philosophy

**department website:** http://www.philosophy.illinois.edu/
**department faculty:** Philosophy Faculty (https://philosophy.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/)
**advising:** Philosophy advising (https://philosophy.illinois.edu/academics/undergraduate-studies/advising/)
**email:** phildept@illinois.edu
**overview of college admissions & requirements:** Liberal Arts & Sciences (http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/)
**college website:** https://las.illinois.edu/

Philosophy is the oldest, broadest, and most fundamental form of inquiry. Some philosophical questions have to do with the understanding of ourselves and whatever else there may be. Others focus upon the nature of different forms of knowledge and experience, and upon ethical issues and problems of value. The study of philosophy is one of the most important elements in a good liberal education. It also improves one’s ability to think clearly, and to construct, analyze, and criticize arguments of any kind. The major and minor are sponsored by the Department of Philosophy.

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A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your adviser.

**Departmental distinction:** Students who maintain a GPA ≥ 3.5 in the major and receive a grade of A– in PHIL 499 will graduate with distinction.

Students who maintain a GPA ≥ 3.5 but < 3.7 in the major and receive a grade of A or better in PHIL 499 will graduate with high distinction.

Students who maintain GPA ≥ 3.7 in the major and receive a grade of A or better in PHIL 499 will graduate with highest distinction.

**General education:** Students must complete the Campus General Education (https://courses.illinois.edu/) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.

Minimum required major and supporting course work: normally equates to 44 hours including at least 32 hours of Philosophy courses. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 202</td>
<td>Symbolic Logic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 203</td>
<td>Ancient Philosophy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 206</td>
<td>Early Modern Philosophy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 421</td>
<td>Ethical Theories</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 426</td>
<td>Metaphysics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or PHIL 430</td>
<td>Theory of Knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 499</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
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At least 12 additional hours of coursework in Philosophy, with 9 of those hours being above the 100-level (including at least two 300- or 400-level courses)

A student may select either of two types of programs of supporting course work and should work out a specific program of the type chosen with the help and approval of a departmental adviser.

Twelve hours minimum. Select from:

- **Option I:** Intensive study in another discipline. Courses normally beyond the 100 level in one other discipline. Most approved minors satisfy this requirement. A second major may also be used to satisfy this requirement

- **Option II:** A special program of study built around a unifying theme or topic. Course work outside philosophy in one or more other discipline(s), normally beyond the 100 level.

Total Hours 44