

PHILOSOPHY

Departmental Notes

Subject Code for Philosophy: PHIL

World Wide Web Address: www.queensu.ca/philosophy (<http://www.queensu.ca/philosophy/>)

Head of Department: Christine Sypnowich
(philhead@queensu.ca)

Departmental Office: Watson Hall, Room 312

Departmental Telephone: 613-533-2182

Departmental Fax: 613-533-6545

Undergraduate Office E-Mail Address: philug@queensu.ca

Chair of Undergraduate Studies: Kerah Gordon-Solmon
(kg59@queensu.ca)

Coordinator of Graduate Studies: Rahul Kumar
(rahul.kumar@queensu.ca)

Overview

Philosophy will help you develop critical reasoning, as well as effective written and oral communication skills. You will be able to read critically so that you can find hidden assumptions, identify core premises, and evaluate arguments. You will study a range of key ideas and look closely at the work of a number of central philosophers from Plato to the present.

Courses become more focused and go into more depth as you move through your upper years of the program. You will be able to choose from a range of types of courses: from historical to contemporary, and from broad, theoretical investigations to more specifically problem-based inquiries.

Our classes create many opportunities for discussion, whether in small break-out groups or in our senior seminars. Students taking our Major (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/philosophy/philosophy-ba-honours/>) or Joint Honours (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/philosophy/philosophy-medial-ba-honours/>) Plans will be well prepared for graduate work in Philosophy or in other professional programs.

Advice to Students

Not all Philosophy courses are offered every year, so it is important to check the course offerings for the upcoming year on the department website at <https://www.queensu.ca/philosophy/undergraduate> (<https://www.queensu.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/>).

No more than 6.00 units in PHIL courses at the 100-level may be used toward the requirements of any PHIL Plan.

Upper-level courses in PHIL have prerequisites, including minimum GPA requirements. Please consult the course descriptions in the Faculty of Arts and Science Calendar (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/philosophy/#coursestext>) or our website (<https://www.queensu.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/courses/400-level/>).

For admission to all 500-level courses, students need the consent of a supervising faculty member of the Department and permission of the Undergraduate Chair based on the submission proposal.

Philosophy Courses as Electives

The department provides several options for students who wish to take one or more courses in Philosophy as electives. Many of our electives have no PHIL prerequisites, but are open to students with second-year or third-year standing. Please consult the course offerings to find courses suitable for you.

Timelines for Completing a Philosophy Plan

YEAR 1 - 6.00 units in PHIL at the 100-level (all Plans).

YEAR 2 - PHIL 250 and PHIL 257 (Major and Joint Honours Plans), and PHIL 260 (Major Plans).

YEAR 3 - 3.00 units from: PHIL 328; PHIL 329; PHIL 330; PHIL 335; PHIL 373; PHIL 374 (Major and Joint Honours Plans).

YEAR 4 - 6.00 units in PHIL at the 400- or 500-level (Major and Joint Honours Plans).

All other required 200-level and 300-level units may be taken in years 2, 3, and 4 (subject to prerequisites, if any), though students are urged to take courses at the level that matches their year. Students who, through late decision or change of Plan, cannot adhere to the recommended pattern, should seek advice from the Undergraduate Chair.