PHILOSOPHY

Departmental Notes

**Subject Code for Philosophy:** PHIL

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

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**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/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/philosophy/philosophy-ba-honours/) or Medial (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/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 6.0 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 (p. 2) 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** - 6.0 units in PHIL at the 100-level (all Plans)

**YEAR 2** - PHIL 250 Epistemology and Metaphysics and PHIL 257 Ethics (Major and Medial Plans), and PHIL 260 Philosophy of Logic and Language (Major Plans).

**YEAR 3** - 3.0 units from: PHIL 328 Ancient Philosophy; PHIL 329 Early Modern Philosophy; PHIL 330 Investigations in the History of Philosophy; PHIL 335 Introduction to Kant; PHIL 373 Continental Philosophy, 1900-1960; PHIL 374 Continental Philosophy 1960-present (Major and Medial Plans)

**YEAR 4** - 6.0 units in PHIL at the 400 or 500 level (Major and Medial 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.

**Faculty**


Programs

• Politics, Philosophy and Economics – Specialization (Arts) – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/philosophy/politics-philosophy-economics-specialization-arts-ba-honours/)
• Philosophy – Major (Arts) – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/philosophy/philosophy-major-arts-ba-honours/)
• Philosophy – Minor (Arts) (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/philosophy/philosophy-minor/)

Courses

PHIL P15 Metaphysics Units: 6.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 111 What is Philosophy? Units: 6.00
An introduction to philosophy through the examination of a number of classic philosophical works, with an evaluation of the positions and arguments offered in each.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 240 (72L;168P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None. Exclusion PHIL 151. Note Students considering a Major or Medial Plan in PHIL are strongly urged to take PHIL 111 or PHIL 115 in their first year of study.
Course Equivalencies: PHIL111; PHIL111B
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 115 Fundamental Questions Units: 6.00
Representative basic philosophical issues will be explored, such as: good and bad arguments, the source of moral obligation, the justification of knowledge claims, free will and determinism, the social enforcement of gender roles, taking responsibility for the environment, and the meaning of life.
LEARNING HOURS 240 (48L;24T;168P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None. Note Students considering a Major or Medial Plan in PHIL are strongly urged to take PHIL 111 or PHIL 115 in their first year of study.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 151 Great Works of Philosophy Units: 3.00
An examination of some major milestones in the development of philosophical thought. The course will involve both the exposition of texts and discussion of the philosophical issues which they raise.
NOTE Also offered at the Bader International Studies Centre, Herstmonceux. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;12T;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None. Exclusion PHIL 111.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 153 The State and the Citizen Units: 3.00
An introduction to political philosophy which explores the relationship between state and citizen. Issues include: civil disobedience, nationalism, the welfare state, anarchism and the capitalist state.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 157 Moral Issues Units: 3.00
An introduction to ethics via an examination of controversial moral issues. Special topics: abortion; animal rights; euthanasia.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;12G;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 201 Philosophy and Medicine Units: 3.00
The relationship between philosophical traditions and medical theory will be explored, as will the impact on philosophy of medical discoveries (such as anaesthesia and antibiotics) and diseases (such as the Black Death and AIDS). Emphasis is on concepts of disease from antiquity to the present.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 204 Life, Death, and Meaning Units: 3.00
An examination of whether life has ‘meaning’, and a consideration of different philosophical interpretations of the meaning of life, the significance of death for the meaning of life, and whether it even makes sense to speak of life as having meaning.
LEARNING HOURS: Learning hours may vary
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 205 Bioethics: An Introduction Units: 3.00
This is a bioethics introductory course. It requires no prerequisites because students will use the first four weeks of the course to get a better understanding of what ethics is, we take a closer look at various influential competing ethical theories, zoom in on bioethics itself, and get clarity on common mistake people make in bioethical argument.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;96P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 206 Philosophy in Science Fiction Units: 3.00
This course explores philosophical ideas through science fiction. Possible topics include personal identity, time and memory, robot rights, machine intelligence, scientists’ moral responsibilities, privacy and autonomy, race and gender, eco-justice. Course materials will be a mix of canonical and non-canonical novels, films, graphic novels, games.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;96P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 207 Philosophy of Science Units: 3.00
This course will survey central works of Ancient Greek Philosophy from Thales and the other Pre-Socratics through the seminal works of Plato and Aristotle, and may include examples of later works by Post-Hellenic Philosophers including Plotinus, the Stoics, and the Skeptics.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL. Exclusion No more than 1 course from PHIL232; PHIL233.
Course Equivalencies: PHIL232B; PHIL233
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 224 Africana Philosophy I Units: 3.00

PHIL 233 Greek Philosophy Units: 3.00
This course will survey central works of Ancient Greek Philosophy from Thales and the other Pre-Socratics through the seminal works of Plato and Aristotle, and may include examples of later works by Post-Hellenic Philosophers including Plotinus, the Stoics, and the Skeptics.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL. Exclusion No more than 1 course from PHIL232; PHIL233.
Course Equivalencies: PHIL232B; PHIL233
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

queensu.ca/academic-calendar
PHIL 240 Philosophy of Education Units: 3.00
An examination of key issues and texts in the philosophy of education. Possible topics include the nature and aims of the learning process, progressive and conservative education, the politics of education, and contemporary debates regarding the canon.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 247 Practical Ethics Units: 3.00
This course will subject a range of issues in practical ethics to philosophical scrutiny. Topics may include obligations to future generations, the ethics of war and self-defence, whether torture is ever permissible, the ethics of deception, the morality of genetic enhancement, the nature of exploitation, and moral objections to organ sales.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 250 Epistemology and Metaphysics Units: 6.00
An examination of the development of central debates in epistemology and metaphysics from the early modern period to the present. Focusing on the work of thinkers like Descartes, Kant, Wittgenstein and Quine, such questions as the nature and justification of knowledge, mind and body, personhood and community, truth and meaning will be discussed.
LEARNING HOURS 240 (72L;168P).
Requirements: Prerequisite (A minimum GPA of 2.0 in 6.0 units in PHIL) or a (minimum grade of a B- in 3.0 units in PHIL and registration in a COGS Plan).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 256 Existentialism Units: 3.00
Representative figures from Kierkegaard to de Beauvoir will be the focus of attention in this overview of the main ideas of existentialism, a vital movement in contemporary philosophy. The foundations of existential thought, its distinctive style of argumentation and its relationship to the perennial concerns of philosophy will be explored.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 257 Ethics Units: 6.00
A study of problems in moral and/or political philosophy from the ancient or early modern period to the present.
LEARNING HOURS 240 (76L;168P).
Requirements: Prerequisite A minimum GPA of 2.0 in 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 259 Critical Thinking Units: 3.00
A discussion of the general principles of reasonable discourse, with a focus on persuasive and cogent writing.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online. Learning Hours may vary.
NOTE Also offered at the Bader International Studies Centre, Herstmonceux. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P)
Requirements: excl 3 units fr PHIL158;259
Course Equivalencies: PHIL158; PHIL259
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 260 Philosophy of Logic and Language Units: 3.00
The nature of the subject matter of logic; relations between formal logic and natural language, e.g., grammar and truth in logic and language; ontological commitments; the work of Russell and Quine.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 261 Philosophy of Mathematics Units: 3.00
A discussion of some ontological and epistemological problems associated with mathematics.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 263 Philosophy of Religion Units: 3.00
A consideration of traditional and/or contemporary religious conceptions and arguments. Possible topics include: the nature and existence of God, and bases of religious claims.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 270 Minds and Machines Units: 3.00
A survey of the contribution of philosophy to the cognitive sciences. The focus will be on providing a synthesis of the different perspectives brought by each of the disciplines, in particular, cognitive psychology, computer science, neurophysics, and linguistics, through an investigation of how the various approaches ultimately frame and answer our questions about the mind.
NOTE Each week, students will be assigned a number of articles or chapters for reading and will be expected to be able to discuss the readings in class.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Course Equivalencies: PHIL270; PHIL170
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 271 Philosophy and Literature Units: 3.00
A broad introduction to philosophical method and the nature of philosophical issues through a consideration of philosophic assumptions and theses present in important literary works.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 273 Continental Philosophy, 1800-1900 Units: 3.00
This lecture course provides an analysis of key figures and texts in nineteenth-century continental European philosophy. Possible figures include Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, Soren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Wilhelm Dilthey. Possible topics include post-Kantian idealism, existentialism, and hermeneutics.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 275 Thinking Gender, Sex and Love Units: 3.00
What is at stake in how we think about gender, sex, and love? How do these concepts inform each other? What else defines them? Using classic and contemporary philosophical texts we examine presuppositions and alternative possibilities. Old and new insights are explored. Emphasis is on careful reading and critical thinking skills.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 276 Critical Perspective on Social Diversity Units: 3.00
An introduction to philosophical issues regarding sexism, racism, ageism, homophobia, classism, imperialism and other forms of oppression.
NOTE The course is intended to prepare students for upper level courses in feminist philosophy and the philosophy of culture.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 279 Humans and the Natural World Units: 3.00
An introduction to environmental philosophy through a study of readings that have exercised a formative influence on Western thinking about the relationship between humans and the rest of nature, and hence also about human nature itself. The course will offer an environmental perspective on the history of philosophy from ancient to recent times.
NOTE Bus fare and entrance fee: estimate cost $20.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 293 Animals and Society Units: 3.00
This course introduces students to historical and contemporary debates regarding the treatment of nonhuman animals within Western societies, and explores our ethical responsibilities toward them. The course examines a range of human-animal relations, involving domesticated, working, research subjects and wild animals.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or completed 6.0 units in PHIL.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 301 Bioethics Units: 3.00
An investigation of some moral issues arising in connection with health care, including: the relationship between patient and health care provider; reproductive decision-making; euthanasia and the nature of death; and the development of health care policy.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 303 Ethics and Business Units: 3.00
An examination of the moral principles involved in the evaluation of business institutions, practices and decisions. Sample topics include: liberty, efficiency and the free market ideal; the market and justice in distribution.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above. Exclusion COMM 338.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 307 Latin America and Caribbean Philosophy Units: 3.00
Specific topics in or traditions within Latin American and Caribbean Philosophy.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and 12.0 units in PHIL, ENGL, HIST or POLS.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 310 Development Ethics Units: 3.00
This course examines philosophical issues in the field of Global Development, such as what is meant by 'development', 'freedom' and 'quality of life'.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and 12.0 units in PHIL, ENGL, HIST or POLS.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 311 Philosophy of Psychology Units: 3.00
A philosophical understanding of the background to psychology. Topics may include the nature of mental representation, the place of 'folk psychology,' individualism in psychology, the nature of mental causation and explanation.
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or 12.0 units in PSYC or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 314 Creativity Units: 3.00
This course will be concerned with questions such as these: What is creativity? Is there a general structure to the creative process? In what sense, if any, does creativity involve freedom? Could a computer program be creative? What role, if any, does creativity play in living well, or in moral thought or action? Is there any truth to the popular idea that mental illness is linked to creative genius? Can creativity be measured? Can it be explained? Can it be learned? Can it be taught? Readings will be drawn from philosophy as well as cognitive science.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 316 Philosophy of Art Units: 3.00
A study of what is involved in enjoying, understanding and interpreting works of art, and of the place of the arts in human culture. Writings of artists and critics, as well as those of philosophers, will be used.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 318 Philosophy of Law Units: 3.00
A survey of the central issues in the philosophy of law including a consideration of current jurisprudential controversies about the nature of law and philosophical treatments of problems arising from within the law such as paternalism, privacy, responsibility, and civil liberties.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 324 African Philosophy Units: 3.00
This course offers an introduction to African philosophical thought. After dealing with metatheoretical questions about the nature of philosophy and the philosophical inquirer, the focus will shift to African views on topics such as truth, the concept of a person, art, morality, slavery and colonialism.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 328 Ancient Philosophy Units: 3.00
A study of selected topics in ancient philosophy.
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or PHIL 257 or registration in a CLST Major or Medial Plan and 6.0 units in PHIL or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 329 Early Modern Philosophy Units: 3.00
A study of selected topics in early modern philosophy.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or PHIL 257 or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 330 Investigations in the History of Philosophy Units: 3.00
An examination of perennial topics and/or important authors and schools of thought within the History of Philosophy. While the course will target material that has proven important to contemporary thinking, the emphasis will be on understanding the topics/authors/movements within their historical milieu.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or PHIL 257 or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 332 Comparative Classical Philosophies Units: 3.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 335 Introduction to Kant  
Units: 3.00  
An examination of the Critique of Pure Reason.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 343 Social and Political Philosophy  
Units: 3.00  
An examination of some of the principles and theories to which appeal is commonly made when social institutions and practices (and the policies associated with their establishment and maintenance) are subjected to critical scrutiny.  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 257 or (POLS 250 and 6.0 units in PHIL).  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 347 Contemporary Moral Philosophy  
Units: 3.00  
A critical survey of some recent trends in moral philosophy. Study will begin with the emotive theory of ethics, and end with very recent works of importance in the field.  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 257 or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 348 Freedom of the Will  
Units: 3.00  
An examination of the concept of freedom of the will, with emphasis on the problems generated by causation and the notion of responsibility.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or PHIL 257 or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 351 Philosophy of Mind  
Units: 3.00  
A discussion of concepts and issues in the philosophy of mind. Sample topics include identity, action, emotion, intention, belief and desire.  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 352 Metaphysics  
Units: 3.00  
The nature and varieties of metaphysics, including rationalistic 'Platonic' and empirical/descriptive 'Aristotelian' approaches. Positivistic and pragmatic anti-metaphysical 'critiques' and verificationism. Contemporary analytical metaphysics after Quine and Strawson.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 359 Philosophy of Language  
Units: 3.00  
Central issues include: the distinction between language and speech; the syntax/semantics/pragmatics trio; reference, denoting, names and descriptions; meaning, truth and verifiability; realism and anti-realism; linguistic forms of pragmatism, behaviourism, idealism, etc.  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 250 or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 361 Further Studies in Logic  
Units: 3.00  
From first-order monadic predicate calculus to polyadic predicate calculus with identity. Symbolization, rules of inference, derivation and refutation of arguments. Introduction to modal logics.  
Requirements: Prerequisite PHIL 260 or PHIL 361 or ELEC 270.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 367 Jewish Philosophy  
Units: 3.00  
An examination of key Jewish thought from Philo to Fackenheim, exploring such themes as the relationship between philosophy, literature, law, and religion; developments within Jewish philosophy; non-Jewish influences on Jewish thought and vice-versa. Contributions to contemporary philosophical work such as those in bioethics and postmodernism may also be considered.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite (6.0 units in PHIL or JWST) or permission of the Department.  
Course Equivalencies: PHIL267, PHIL367  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 373 Continental Philosophy, 1900-1960  
Units: 3.00  
This lecture course provides an analysis of key figures and texts in continental European philosophy between 1900 and 1960. Possible figures include Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, Karl Jaspers, Gabriel Marcel, Hannah Arendt, and Hans-Georg Gadamer. Possible topics include phenomenology, existentialism, and hermeneutics.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 374 Continental Philosophy 1960-present  
Units: 3.00  
This lecture course provides an analysis of key figures and texts in continental European philosophy from 1960 to the present. Possible figures include Michel Foucault, Jacques Derrida, Jurgen Habermas, Emmanuel Levinas, Jean-Francois Lyotard, and Julia Kristeva. Possible topics include hermeneutics, postmodernism, critical theory and feminism.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 376 Philosophy and Feminism  Units: 3.00  
An introduction to topics and issues in feminist philosophy. The influence of feminist perspectives on the framing and study of philosophical problems, and the contribution of philosophy to the development of feminist theory and practice will be central concerns. This course can be counted towards a minor, major or medial concentration in Gender Studies.  
Requirements: Prerequisite (6.0 units in PHIL or GNDS at the 200-level or above) and (6.0 units in PHIL or GNDS) or permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 378 Philosophy & Intersectionality  Units: 3.00  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 381 Philosophy of the Natural Sciences  Units: 3.00  
Topics may include the nature of scientific method; the meaning of laws of nature; theoretical entities; scientific explanation; causality, induction, and probability.  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 382 Space-Time, Matter and Reality  Units: 3.00  
Contemporary physics has revolutionized our understanding of space, time, and matter. This has raised many fascinating philosophical issues, such as: Is time real? Is time travel possible? Is reality determinate, or does it depend on human observation? We will examine these and other questions in the context of physical theory.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 383 Philosophy of Computing  Units: 3.00  
What is computation? What has computer science taught us about ourselves and the world? Topics to be addressed include: the relationship between computability, logic, and mathematics; computation and cognition; the simulation hypothesis; infinity and paradox; natural computation; the nature of information; artificial intelligence; and more.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 384 Consciousness  Units: 3.00  
A theoretical and applied inquiry into the nature of consciousness from a variety of perspectives including any or all of Buddhism, Stoicism, phenomenology, and embodied cognitive science. Alongside readings, discussion, and writing, students will develop a regular meditation practice, guided by both instruction and practice.  
LEARNING HOURS 114 (24L;12Lb;78P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 390 Philosophical Practice  Units: 6.00  
This is a skills course. The first term provides intensive training in reading, discussing, and writing in philosophy. The syllabus will focus on one (or more) of the department's core areas: metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, political philosophy, and/or history. The second term is a practicum: students will serve as writing tutors for PHIL 111 or 115.  
NOTE Students are admitted by application: 1 letter of reference, preferably from a Philosophy faculty member.  
LEARNING HOURS 228 (36S;42Pc;144P)  
Requirements: Prerequisite Registration in a Philosophy Major Plan and (a GPA of 2.4 in each of PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and permission of the Department.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 402 Current Issues in Moral Philosophy I  Units: 3.00  
An examination of major issues in contemporary moral philosophy. Topics to be studied may include contractualism, objectivity, practical reason, relativism and value realism.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and (a minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Course Equivalencies: PHIL402, PHIL456  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 403 Current Issues in Moral Philosophy II  Units: 3.00  
An examination of major issues in contemporary moral philosophy. Topics to be studied may include contractualism, objectivity, practical reason, relativism and value realism.  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and (a minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science  

PHIL 405 Current Issues in Social and Political Philosophy  Units: 3.00  
An examination of major issues in contemporary social and political philosophy. Possible topics to be studied include communitarianism, liberalism, multi-culturalism, the nation-state, and utopias.  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and (a minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Course Equivalencies: PHIL405, PHIL453  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 406  Walls to Bridges - Socio-Legal Issues  Units: 3.00  
This is an experiential learning course based on the Walls to Bridges program model, which brings together students from Queen's University ('outside students') with students from a local federal prison ('inside students') to learn and share knowledge based on their lived experience and critical analysis of academic scholarship. Topics may vary.  
NOTE This course will take place off campus at a local federal prison, as part of the Walls to Bridges prison education program - http://wallstobridges.ca/.  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and ([registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level] or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]). Exclusion SOCY 406.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 407  Walls to Bridges - Philosophical Issues  Units: 3.00  
This is an experiential learning course based on the Walls to Bridges program model, which brings together students from Queen's University ('outside students') with students in a local federal prison ('inside students') to learn and share knowledge based on their lived experience and critical analysis of academic scholarship. Topics may vary.  
NOTE This course will take place off campus at a local federal prison, as part of the Walls to Bridges prison education program - http://wallstobridges.ca/  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and ([registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level] or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]). Exclusion SOCY 406.  
Note Interested students (both inside and outside) will need to submit an expression of interest followed by an interview with the course instructor. Students register for the course with instructor permission.  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 408  Topics in Philosophy of Law  Units: 3.00  
An examination of major issues in the philosophy of law. Possible topics to be studied include definitional questions, interpretivism, positivism, punishment and the relationship between law and morality.  
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and ([registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level] or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Course Equivalencies: PHIL408, PHIL458  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 410  Topics in the History of Philosophy  Units: 3.00  
This course examines issues and theorists in the History of Philosophy. Possible topics include the nature of substance, explanation, causality, rights and obligations, primary and secondary qualities. Possible theorists include, Descartes, Spinoza, Hegel, Frege.  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and ([registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level] or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 412  Topics in Philosophy of Culture  Units: 3.00  
An examination of major issues in the philosophy of culture. Possible topics to be studied include: the history of the philosophy of culture; the relationship between culture and identity or the self; the relationship between culture and progress; and various forms of cultural relativism.  
 Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and ([registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level] or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Course Equivalencies: PHIL412, PHIL461  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 420  Ethical Issues  Units: 3.00  
An examination of major issues in ethics. Possible topics to be considered include political violence, coercion, punishment, immigration, suicide, drug policy, leisure and akrasia.  
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and ([registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level] or [registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level]).  
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 421 Ethical Issues II Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in ethics. Possible topics to be considered include political violence, coercion, punishment, immigration, suicide, drug policy, leisure and akrasia.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 431 Ancient Philosophy Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in ancient philosophy. Possible topics to be considered include the appearance/reality distinction, causation, the emotions, happiness (eudaimonia) and substance.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 441 20th Century Philosophy Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in 20th century philosophy. Possible topics to be studied include debates about modality, the development of logic, the natural language movement, pragmatism and verificationalism.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 444 Philosophy in the Community Units: 3.00
unique experiential course for 3rd and 4th year Philosophy concentrators involving a volunteer internship in such fields as rehabilitation healthcare, local government, prisoners’ advocacy, LGBTQ cultural activities, immigrant support, animal rescue, or speech therapy. The course also involves class meetings, regular reports, and a final essay.
NOTE Students are admitted by application: Admission is at the discretion of the instructor. Interested students will need to complete an application form, obtain a reference, and if shortlisted, come for interview.
LEARNING HOURS 120(9S;27Pc;84P)
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 445 Major Figures Units: 3.00
An examination of the key ideas from a major figure in the history of philosophy. Philosophers studied will vary from offering-to-offering, including Aristotle, Aquinas, Kant, Mill and Rawls.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 446 Major Figures II Units: 3.00
An examination of the key ideas from a major figure in the history of philosophy. Philosophers studied will vary from offering-to-offering, including Aristotle, Aquinas, Kant, Mill and Rawls.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 451  Current Issues in Epistemology  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in contemporary epistemology. Possible topics include justification, internalism and externalism, foundationalism and coherentism, and social epistemology.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 452  Current Issues in Metaphysics  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in contemporary metaphysics. Possible topics include causation, properties, time, modal theory, and induction.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 454  Topics in Feminist Philosophy  Units: 3.00
This course examines issues in Feminist Philosophy. Possible topics may include gender and sex; feminist ethics, epistemologies and metaphysics; disputes about essentialism; the intersections of gender, sexuality, racialization, imperialism, and class.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)] or [(registration in a GNDS Major Plan)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 456  Current Issues Metaphysics II  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in contemporary metaphysics. Possible topics include causation, properties, time, modal theory, and induction.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 459  Current Issues in the Philosophy of Language  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in contemporary philosophy of language. Possible topics to be studied include: the nature of meaning; the relationship between language and the mind, as well as language and the world; and the syntax, semantics and pragmatics of natural language.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a LING Major Plan)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 466  Topics in the Philosophy of Art  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in the philosophy of art. Possible topics include: the definition of art, art and the emotions, art and interpretation, art and the aesthetic, and the philosophy of particular artforms (i.e., literature, film).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 467  Hermeneutics  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in hermeneutics or the theory of interpretation. Possible topics to be studied include the history of hermeneutics, objectivity and relativism, critiques of ideology, semiotics, and pragmatism.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and [(registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level)].
Course Equivalencies: PHIL416, PHIL467
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 470  Topics in Philosophy of Science  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in the philosophy of science. Possible topics to be considered include explanation, realism versus instrumentalism, scientific progress, the social dimensions of science, and the unity of the sciences.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and (registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level).
Course Equivalencies: PHIL450, PHIL470
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 471  Current Issues in Medical Epistemology  Units: 3.00
An examination of epistemic issues arising from or pertaining to medicine. Possible topics to be considered include the nature of disease, concepts of scientific discovery as found in medicine, and the relationship between medical research and clinical practice.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and (registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level).
Course Equivalencies: PHIL401, PHIL471
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 473  Topics in Philosophy of Logic  Units: 3.00
An examination of major issues in the philosophy of logic. Possible topics to be considered include deviant logics, the nature of identity, modal logics and the paradoxes of material implication and strict conditionals.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and (registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) and (PHIL 260 or PHIL 361).
Course Equivalencies: PHIL462, PHIL473
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 493  Ethics and the Environment  Units: 3.00
This course examines issues in Ethics and the Environment. Possible topics include sustainable development, humans and nature, moral obligations to future generations.
NOTE Cost of bus fare: Estimated $15.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and (registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a ENVS Medial Plan or ENSC Major plan or ENSC, EGPY, EBI0, ECHM, EGEQ, ELS0 or ETOX Specialization Plan).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 497  Ethics and Animals  Units: 3.00
This course examines issues in Ethics and Animals. Potential topics include animal rights, human consumption and other uses of non-human animals, the domestication of non-human animals.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and (PHIL 250 and PHIL 257) and a (minimum GPA of 2.40 in all 300-level PHIL) and (registration in a PHIL Major Plan and 9.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a PHIL Medial Plan and 6.0 units of PHIL at the 300-level) or (registration in a ENVS Medial Plan or ENSC Major plan or ENSC, EGPY, EBI0, ECHM, EGEQ, ELS0 or ETOX Specialization Plan).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 500  Directed Special Studies  Units: 6.00
This course involves a directed study of a philosophical topic. Topics chosen may be from any area of philosophy, and should be determined in consultation with a proposed supervising instructor.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 510  Directed Special Studies  Units: 3.00
This course involves a directed study of a philosophical topic. Topics chosen may be from any area of philosophy, and should be determined in consultation with a proposed supervising instructor.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 511  Directed Special Studies  Units: 3.00
This course involves a directed study of a philosophical topic. Topics chosen may be from any area of philosophy, and should be determined in consultation with a proposed supervising instructor.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 594  Independent Study  Units: 3.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 595  Independent Study Program  Units: 6.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

PHIL 596  Independent Study Program  Units: 12.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
PHIL 597  Independent Study  Units: 18.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science