• PHILOSOPHY (PHI)

Recommended Prerequisites (State Mandated Prerequisites)

Students wishing to transfer to USF should complete the A.A. degree at the community college. Some courses required for the major may also meet General Education Requirements thereby transferring maximum hours to the university. If students transfer with fewer than 60 semester hours of acceptable credit, the students must meet the university’s entering freshman requirements including ACT or SAT test scores, GPA, and course requirements.

There are no State Mandated Common Prerequisites for this degree program.

The transfer student should also be aware of the immunization, foreign language, and continuous enrollment policies of the university.

Students are encouraged to complete the following courses if available during the program of study at the community college and when feasible in General Education/Gordon Rule courses. Unless stated otherwise, a grade of “C” is the minimum acceptable grade.

Mathematics (any courses).
Foreign Languages (Beginning and Intermediate German, French, or Latin) (1120-1121 level and 2200-2201 level)
Classics (CLT, CLA for example)

Requirements for the Major in Philosophy

 Majors in philosophy must complete at least 30 credit hours made up as follows:

a. PHH 3062 History of Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval
b. PHI 2101 Introduction to Formal Logic
or
PHI 5135 Symbolic Logic
c. PHI 4670 Contemporary Ethical Theory
d. PHI 5225 Philosophy of Language
or
PHI 4320 Philosophy of Mind
e. PHI 4300 Theory of Knowledge
or
PHI 3404 Scientific Method
f. 6 credit hours of 4000 or 5000 level Philosophy courses
g. 6 credit hours of Philosophy electives

Requirements for the Minor in Philosophy

A minor in philosophy consists of the completion of at least 18 credit hours which includes the following courses or an approved substitute for one only:

PHH 3062 History of Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval
PHH 3400 History of Philosophy: Modern
PHI 3786 Existentialism
or
PHH 4440 Continental Philosophy
or
PHI 4700 American Philosophy
or
PHI 4784 Analytic Philosophy
PHI 2101 Introduction to Formal Logic

No credit taken on an “S/U” basis may be applied toward the minor.

Honors Program

The Honors Program in Philosophy allows superior students to pursue philosophical studies at a more advanced level than is customary in undergraduate philosophy programs. Students in the Honors Program will be required to do independent research, to participate in an Honors Seminar, and to write and defend an undergraduate thesis.

Admission Criteria

1. Students must complete
   PHI 2101 Introduction to Formal Logic
   PHH 3062 History of Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval
   PHH 3400 History of Philosophy: Modern
   with a grade point average of 3.6.

2. Students must have an overall grade point average of 3.0, and their grade point average in Philosophy must be at least 3.5.

3. Students must be nominated for admission into the Philosophy program by a faculty member in Philosophy, and a majority of the faculty members who have taught the student must approve the student’s admission into the program.

Program Requirements:

Students must complete the requirements for the Philosophy major in accordance with the following provisions:

1. Students must take either PHH 4440, 19th Century Continental Philosophy, or PHH 4600, Contemporary Philosophy

2. Students must take one course from each of the following groups:

   Group 1
   PHI 3404 Scientific Method
   PHI 4320 Philosophy of Mind
   PHI 4300 Theory of Knowledge
   PHI 5225 Philosophy of Language
   PHP 4784 Analytical Philosophy

   Group 2
   PHI 4670 Contemporary Ethical Theory
   PHI 3601 Contemporary Moral Issues
   PHI 3700 Philosophy of Religion
   PHI 4800 Aesthetics
   PHM 3021 Philosophies of Love and Sex
   PHM 3400 Introduction to Philosophy of Law

   Group 3
   PHM 3100 Social Philosophy
   PHM 4322 Ancient and Medieval Political Philosophy
   PHM 4331 Modern Political Philosophy
   PHM 4340 Contemporary Political Philosophy
   PHP 4788 Philosophy of Marxism

   Group 4
   PHP 4700 American Philosophy
   PHP 3786 Existentialism
   PHP 4000 Plato
   PHP 4010 Aristotle
   PHP 4410 Kant
   PHP 4740 The Rationalists
   PHP 4745 Empiricists

3. Students must take an Honors Seminar in their senior year.

4. Students must write a senior thesis and undergo an oral examination on the thesis before a committee of two faculty members, with the Chair as an ex officio member of every such committee.

5. Students cannot receive a grade lower than a “B” in any Philosophy course, and their grade point average in Philosophy must be at least 3.5 to remain, or be graduated from the Philosophy Honors program.

6. Students must complete 35 credit hours in Philosophy, including the 3-hour thesis course and the 3-hour Honors Seminar.