

Philosophy and Religious Studies



The **Philosophy** program provides students with the intellectual tools and scholarly background necessary for a deep, critical understanding of human experience. The major philosophers and intellectual traditions, Western and Eastern, are analyzed in order to show how philosophy relates directly to problems that thoughtful men and women face in the world today.

Our department is also home to a lively student club and a philosophy honor society, *Phi Sigma Tau*. Undergraduate conferences, study abroad, and field trips provide additional learning opportunities.

Tenured Faculty/Advisors



Matthew Altman, PhD (U. Chicago)
Kant, 19th-Century Philosophy, Applied Ethics, Normative Ethics



Cynthia Coe, PhD (U. Oregon)
Continental Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy



Michael Goerger, PhD (U. California, Riverside)
Ethical Theory, Ancient Greco-Roman Philosophy



Lily Vuong, PhD (McMaster U.)
Early Judaism, Early Christianity, New Testament Apocrypha, Feminist Theory



Gary Bartlett, PhD (Rutgers U.)
Philosophy of Mind, Epistemology, Cognitive Science



Jeffrey Dippmann, PhD (Northwestern U.) [Chair]
Asian Religion & Philosophy, World Religions



What Employers Want

Skills and qualities fostered by our programs:

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Analytical skills | Attention to detail |
| Written communication | Critical thinking |
| Verbal communication | Creativity |
| Ethical awareness | Initiative |
| Interpersonal skills | Leadership skills |

Non-Tenure-Track Faculty



Clayton Bohnet, PhD (Duquesne U.)
Continental Philosophy, Critical Thinking, Philosophy of Art



Lauren Nuckols, PhD (The Pennsylvania State U.)
Environmental Philosophy, Ethics, Pragmatism



Karen Turcotte, MA (CWU)
Comparative Religions, Indian Religion & Philosophy

Gayle Young-Dohrman, MA (Gonzaga U.)
Ancient Philosophy, Plato, History of Philosophy, Spinoza

Michael Hundley, PhD (U. Cambridge)
Ancient Religions, Hebrew Bible, World Religions



David Schwan, PhD (Bowling Green State U.)
Critical Thinking, Philosophy of Emotion, Moral Psychology



Philosophy & Religious Studies alumni find a wealth of employment opportunities in such fields as:

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|-----------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Academia | Business | Information | Science | Consulting | Ethics Compliance |
| Education | Engineering | Government | Journalism | Law | Marketing |
| Medicine | Ministry | Non-Profits | Publishing | Finance | Technical Writing |

Application Process: Meet with any of our program faculty and complete the major or minor form, or contact us at philo@cwu.edu or 509-963-1818.

Philosophy Curriculum

Courses are five (5) credits unless otherwise specified.

Philosophy Major - 50 credits or 60 credits

Students may choose either a 50- or a 60-credit major.

In order to graduate, a student who completes the 50-credit major must also have a minor or a second major in another discipline.

Required Courses:

PHIL 150 Critical Thinking or PHIL 307 Introduction to Formal Logic

PHIL 352 Greek and Roman Philosophy

PHIL 353 Early Modern Philosophy

PHIL 354 Kant and 19th-Century Philosophy

PHIL 488 Junior Seminar

PHIL 494 Undergraduate Thesis Preparation* (2)

PHIL 495 Undergraduate Thesis* (3) or PHIL 497 Honors Thesis* (3)

Total: 30 *per advisor's approval

Select one course from the following value-based courses: (5)

PHIL 302 Ethical Theory

PHIL 304 Business Ethics

PHIL 306 Environmental Ethics

PHIL 308 Medical Ethics

PHIL 347 Philosophy of Law

PHIL 348 Social and Political Philosophy

PHIL 403 Philosophy of Art

PHIL 465 Advanced Ethics

Select one course from the following contemporary analytic and continental philosophy courses: (5)

PHIL 358 Existentialism

PHIL 361 Theory of Knowledge

PHIL 364 Philosophy of Mind

PHIL 380 Philosophy of Science

PHIL 459 Contemporary European Philosophy

Select one course from the following diversity courses: (5)

PHIL 325 Women and Philosophy

PHIL 345 Chinese Philosophy

PHIL 357 Philosophy of Race

RELS 403 Buddhist Thought and Practice

Electives: 5 (for small plan) or 15 (for large plan)

Any PHIL courses (at most 5 credits at the 100- or 200-level)

Total Credits: 50 or 60

Philosophy Minor - 20 credits

Any 100- or 200-level PHIL course

PHIL 150 Critical Thinking or PHIL 307 Introduction to Formal Logic

Electives: 10

Select from PHIL courses at 300-level or above

Total Credits: 20

Ethics Minor - 25-27 credits

Required Courses:

PHIL 104 Moral Controversies

PHIL 485 Capstone Project (2)

Select two courses from the following: (10)

PHIL 302 Ethical Theory

PHIL 308 Medical Ethics

PHIL 304 Business Ethics

PHIL 309 Ethics through Film

PHIL 306 Environmental Ethics

PHIL 465 Advanced Ethics

Electives: (no more than 5 credits can be taken from one discipline) 8-10

COM 202 Communication Ethics and the First Amendment (4)

POSC 475 International Human Rights

COM 333 Communication Ethics (4 credits, for COM majors only)

RELS 353 Judaism

IT 301 Information Technology Security, Privacy and Ethics (3)

RELS 354 Christianity

LAJ 401 Ethics, Diversity and Conflict in Criminal Justice (4 credits, for LAJ majors only)

RELS 355 Islam

PHIL 309 Ethics through Film

RELS 376 Contemporary Religious Thought

PHIL 325 Women and Philosophy

RELS 401 Daoist Tradition

PHIL 345 Chinese Philosophy

RELS 403 Buddhist Thought and Practice

PHIL 357 Philosophy of Race

SOC 320 Death and Dying

POSC 452 The Constitution and Human Rights

SOC 354 Minority Experience (4)

or other ethics-related courses as approved by minor advisor.

Special topics courses, cooperative education credit, and independent study courses may also count toward elective credit.

Total Credits: 25-27

Recommended Two-Year Plan

The Philosophy major is highly flexible and allows for an additional major or minor. Below is a sample plan that will allow the program to be completed in two years.

Year One

Fall	PHIL 352 Greek and Roman Philosophy Logic Requirement: - PHIL 150 Critical Thinking or - PHIL 307 Introduction to Formal Logic
Winter	PHIL 353 Early Modern Philosophy Elective (select one from value-based, contemporary analytic and continental philosophy, or diversity courses)
Spring	PHIL 354 Kant and 19th-Century Philosophy PHIL 488 Junior Seminar

Year Two

Fall	Elective (select one from value-based, contemporary analytic and continental philosophy, or diversity courses) Upper-Division Elective
Winter	Elective (select one from value-based, contemporary analytic and continental philosophy, or diversity courses) PHIL 494 Undergraduate Thesis Preparation
Spring	Two Large Plan Upper-Division Electives PHIL 495 Undergraduate Thesis or PHIL 497 Honors Thesis

CWU is an AA/EEO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation: DS@cwu.edu