

# PHILOSOPHY

## Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies School of Arts and Humanities

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### Program Description

The study of Philosophy enables students to explore critically various systems of beliefs and values, to grapple with the foundations of their own beliefs and values, to develop habits of critical thinking, writing, and reading, and to use these skills to address real world problems. Students completing a major in Philosophy have the option of pursuing an emphasis in one of three areas: Ethics and Moral Reasoning; Law, Justice, and Social Policy; and Mind and World. Program goals and objectives can be found on our website.

Graduates in Philosophy gain a set of skills that will be valuable for pursuing any career path, for leading a fruitful life, and for engaging as a responsible citizen and community member. CSUB Philosophy graduates have gone on to successful careers in a wide range of fields, including education, law, journalism, business, government, and non-profit organizations. The Department hosts a chapter of the Phi Sigma Tau International Honors Society in Philosophy. Through its association with the Kegley Institute of Ethics, the department offers students the opportunity to engage with major public issues of the day. The annual CSUB Philosophy and Religious Studies Undergraduate Conference provides a forum for the presentation of work by undergraduates from CSUB and other universities in all areas of philosophical and religious studies.

### Philosophy Program Learning Outcomes

Goal 1 – Intellectual and Practical Skills: Students will develop the intellectual and practical skills required for effective personal, professional, and civic life.

1. Intellectual Empathy: Students will accurately represent and fairly evaluate diverse views and values.
2. Formal Logic: Students will analyze and evaluate arguments using formal systems of deductive logic.
3. Research and Writing: Students will research and write well-supported essays on philosophical issues.
4. Oral Defense: Students will defend philosophical positions using well-organized oral presentation skills.
5. Practical Philosophy: Students will apply philosophical skills in community and/or professional settings.

Goal 2 – Disciplinary Knowledge: Students will develop a broad understanding of the major themes in the field of philosophy.

1. History of Philosophy: Students will describe and explicate the historical development of philosophical ideas.
2. Value Theory: Students will analyze and compare normative theories of the just, the good, and/or the beautiful.
3. Metaphysics and Epistemology: Students will analyze and compare philosophical views of the nature of reality and our knowledge of it.

### Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy

<b>Total Units Required to Graduate</b>	<b>120 units</b>
<b>Major Requirements</b>	<b>40 units</b>
Prerequisites	6
Upper Division	34
<b>General Education Requirements</b>	<b>38-54 units</b>
First-Year Seminar	2
LD Area A Foundational Skills	12
LD Area B Natural Sciences	6
LD Area C Arts and Humanities	6
LD Area D Social and Behavioral Sciences	6
American Institutions	6
SELF	0-3*
Junior Year Diversity Requirement	0-3*
UD Thematic Areas B and D	0-6*
Capstone	0-1*
GWAR (Exam) or Class	0-3*
<b>Additional Units</b>	<b>26-42 units</b>

\*The SELF requirement may double count with B, C, or D. JYDR may be satisfied in major, minor or other university requirement. Students are waived from UD area of their program. GWAR may be satisfied with waiver exam. Capstone may be satisfied within the senior seminar.

### Requirements for the Major in Philosophy (13 courses)

1. Core Courses. PHIL 2610, 3010, 4908
2. History of Western Philosophy. One (1) course required from: PHIL 3210, 3220, 3230, or 3240
3. Value Theory. One (1) course required from: PHIL 4410, 4420, 4430, or 4440
4. Metaphysics and Epistemology. One (1) course required from: PHIL 4510, 4520, 4530, or 4540
5. Electives. Six (6) additional courses in philosophy, minimum four (4) upper-division (18 units)
6. Experiential Learning. One (1) course required from: PHIL 3610, 3620, 4610 or 4620

**Requirements for the Law, Justice, and Social Policy Emphasis** (15 courses)

1. Core Courses. PHIL 2610, 3010, 4908
2. History of Western Philosophy. One (1) course required from: PHIL 3210, 3220, 3230, or 3240
3. Value Theory. PHIL 4410 and Two (2) courses required from: PHIL 3318, 3338, 4420, or 4430
4. Metaphysics and Epistemology. PHIL 3548 and One (1) course required from: PHIL 4510, 4520, 4530, or 4540
5. Elective (One (1) additional upper division course in PHIL)
6. Experiential Learning. PHIL 3610 or 4620
7. Breadth (12 units). Select four (4) courses from the following list: ACCT 2350, AGBS 2510, BA 2100, COMM 3010, ECON 4040, PPA 3250, PLSI 3140, PLSI 3450, PLSI 4410, CRJU 3110, CRJU 3260

**Requirements for the Ethics and Moral Reasoning Emphasis** (15 courses)

1. Lower division requirement. One (1) course required from: PHIL 1319 or 2019
2. Core Courses. PHIL 2610, 3010, 4908
3. History of Western Philosophy. Two (2) courses required from: PHIL 3210, 3220, 3230, or 3240
4. Value Theory. Three (3) courses required from: PHIL 3318, 3338, 4420, or 4430
5. Metaphysics and Epistemology. One (1) course from: PHIL 4510, 4520, 4530, or 4540
6. Experiential Learning: PHIL 3610 or 4620
7. Breadth (12 units). Select four (4) courses from the following list: COMM 3020, CRJU 4600, ENGL 3268, HIST 3130, NURS 4210, PLSI 3620, PLSI 3380, PPA 3000, PPA 3408, RS 3528, RS 4528, SCI 3209, SOC 2300, SOC 3320, SOC 4028

**Requirements for the Mind and World Emphasis** (15 courses)

1. Core Courses. PHIL 2610, 3010, 4908
2. History of Western Philosophy. Two (2) courses required from: PHIL 3210, 3220, 3230, or 3240
3. Value Theory. One (1) course required from: PHIL 3340, 3358, or 4430
4. Metaphysics and Epistemology. Three (3) courses required from: PHIL 3528, 3530, 4510, 4520, 4530, or 4540
5. Elective. (One (1) additional upper division course in PHIL)
6. Experiential Learning. One (1) course required from: PHIL 3610, 3620, 4610 or 4620
7. Breadth (12 units). Select four (4) courses from the following list: CMPS 3560, CMPS 4560, PSYC 3210, PSYC 3220, PSYC 3240, PSYC 3280, PSYC 3638, PSYC 4420, PSYC 4430, PSYC 4440, PSYC 4520, PSYC 4610

**Requirements for the Minor in Philosophy**

The minor requires 12 units, at least nine (9) of which must be upper division.