

# Philosophy (PHIL)

## Philosophy (PHIL) Classes

### PHIL 100 : Introduction to Philosophy

**Credits:** 3

**Class Hours:** 3 lecture

**Description:**

In this course, students will be introduced to the nature of philosophical inquiry by considering some of the most fundamental questions that can be asked about the nature of reality, human beings and our knowledge of both: Does god exist? Do human beings have free will? What's the essence of personal identity? What does it mean to have knowledge? Can we know anything at all? Do human beings have an obligation to act morally? What makes a particular action moral or immoral?

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Designation:** Diversification: Humanities – DH

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Identify, discuss, critically analyze, and evaluate a range of important philosophical issues, terms, concepts, arguments, theories, and movements.
2. Relate and apply various course insights to the beliefs and commitments that play a role in the development of a healthy, well-grounded world-view.
3. Participate in thoughtful, critical dialogue with others by means of producing clear, cogent, and creative discourse.

### PHIL 101 : Introduction to Philosophy: Morals and Society

**Credits:** 3

**Class Hours:** 3 lecture

**Description:**

In this course, students will be introduced to the nature of philosophical inquiry by considering some of the most fundamental and controversial questions in moral philosophy: Do human beings have an obligation to act morally? Where do our moral principles come from? Are there objective moral truths? What makes a particular action moral or immoral?

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Designation:** Diversification: Humanities – DH

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Participate in thoughtful, critical dialogue with others by means of producing clear, cogent, and creative philosophical discourse.
2. Identify, discuss, critically analyze, and evaluate a range of important philosophical issues, terms, concepts, arguments, theories, and movements within the field of ethics.
3. Relate and apply various course insights to the beliefs and commitments that play a role in the development of a healthy, well-grounded world-view.

### PHIL 102 : Introduction to Philosophy: Asian Traditions

**Credits:** 3

**Class Hours:** 3 lecture

**Description:**

This course will explore issues and problems using a comparative philosophy methodology and Asian perspectives, such as Indian, Chinese, and Japanese traditions.

**Semester Offered:** Spring, Fall, Summer

**Designation:** Diversification: Humanities – DH

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Apply course insights to a variety of contemporary issues.
2. Identify and discuss contributions of schools of Asian philosophy and their influence through a historical perspective.
3. Using a variety of comparative philosophy methodologies, identify, discuss, critically analyze, and evaluate a range of important philosophical issues, terms, concepts, arguments, theories, and movements focusing on Indian, Chinese, and Japanese traditions.

## PHIL 103 : Introduction to Philosophy: Environmental Philosophy

**Credits:** 3**Class Hours:** 3 lecture**Description:**

This course offers a critical examination of the history of multi-cultural philosophical and ethical systems and their implications for interactions with, and relationships between, humans and non-humans. The critical examination will take place in the context of contemporary environmental/ecological issues.

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer**Designation:** Foundations: Global and Multicultural Perspectives – FGB (1500 to modern times)**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Summarize key metaphysical and epistemological assumptions underlying different cultural conceptions of humans and non-humans.
2. Critically discuss cultural differences in views about the proper relationship between humans and the environment.
3. Clearly articulate a reflective point of view regarding personal responsibility on a range of ecologically/environmentally important issues.
4. Identify a range of contemporary environmental/ecological problems impacting the local environment and offer concrete ideas on possible solutions.

## PHIL 111 : Introduction to Inductive Logic

**Credits:** 3**Class Hours:** 3 lecture**Description:**

This course focuses on current society's use of probabilities and statistics, and explores how most academic disciplines use these types of data to analyze information and draw conclusions. Students will better understand and use probabilities, statistics, and risk evaluations to make better decisions, and more generally develop skills to safely draw inferences when available evidence leaves them unsure about what is true.

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring**Designation:** Foundations (Quantitative Reasoning) – FQ**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Apply basic concepts in logic, inductive inference, probability, and decision theory.
2. Create simple probability models, including diagrams and basic decision tables, to solve problems.
3. Evaluate possible and probable decisions under conditions of risk and uncertainty.
4. Critically evaluate the relevance and quality of statistical data in a variety of fields.
5. Explain some of the shortcomings and strengths of employing inductive quantification models in making knowledge claims and decisions.

## PHIL 204 : Philosophy and Film

**Credits:** 3**Class Hours:** 3 lecture**Description:**

In this course, students will watch a selection of movies and analyze them in light of the various philosophical ideas that they explore. Primary attention will be devoted to identifying, considering, and evaluating these philosophical ideas, the ways they are artistically presented in film, and their connections to both traditional philosophical problems and each student's personal world and life view.

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Participate in thoughtful, critical dialogue with others by means of producing clear, cogent, and creative philosophical discourse.
2. Relate and apply various course insights to the beliefs and commitments that play a role in the development of a healthy, well-grounded world-view.
3. Identify, discuss, critically analyze, and evaluate a range of important philosophical issues, terms, concepts, arguments, theories, and movements as they are presented in movies.

## PHIL 211 : Ancient Philosophy

**Credits:** 3

**Class Hours:** 3 lecture

**Description:**

This course explores a range of important ideas, arguments, and theories advanced by such ancient Greek philosophers as the Pre-Socratics, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, the Hellenistic Stoics, Epicureans, and Skeptics. Using these thinkers, we will explore such timeless issues as what is the nature of reality and knowledge and what does it mean to be human, including what does it mean to be virtuous and good and what does it mean to love.

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Participate in thoughtful, critical dialogue with others by means of producing clear, cogent, and creative philosophical discourse.
2. Identify, discuss, critically analyze, and evaluate a range of important philosophical issues, terms, concepts, arguments, theories, and movements within ancient Greek philosophy.
3. Relate and apply various course insights to the beliefs and commitments that play a role in the development of a healthy, well-grounded world-view.

## PHIL 213 : Modern Philosophy

**Credits:** 3

**Class Hours:** 3 lecture

**Description:**

In this course, students will be introduced to a range of important ideas, arguments, and theories advanced by such "modern" (17th-18th century) philosophers as Hobbes, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Nietzsche, etc. Primary attention will be devoted to the so-called "rationalist" and "empiricist" traditions and the way these modern philosophical traditions considered fundamental questions about the nature of reality, human beings and our knowledge of both. Immanuel Kant's important critique of these traditions and the way his ideas influenced the development of subsequent philosophy also will be considered.

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Relate and apply various course insights to the beliefs and commitments that play a role in the development of a healthy, well-grounded world-view.
2. Identify, discuss, critically analyze, and evaluate a range of important philosophical issues, terms, concepts, arguments, theories, and movements within modern philosophy.
3. Participate in thoughtful, critical dialogue with others by means of producing clear, cogent, and creative philosophical discourse.

# PHIL 225 : Philosophy of Activism

**Credits:** 3

**Class Hours:** 3 lecture

**Prerequisites:**

"C" or higher in ENG 100.

**Recommended:**

Basic computer and internet skills.

**Description:**

This course aims to improve understanding among students regarding basic rights and duties of citizens and the government including how to effect change. This will be addressed through the lens of philosophy. Students will engage in a philosophical analysis of law, rights, duties, citizenship, government, obligation, and social change.

**Semester Offered:** Fall, Spring (every even year)

**Designation:** Diversification: Humanities – DH

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs):**

1. Relate and apply various course insights to the beliefs and commitments that play a role in the development of a healthy, well-grounded world-view
2. Demonstrate thoughtful, critical dialogue with others by means of producing clear, cogent, and creative discourse
3. Identify and critique the multiple and varied strategies people use to implement social change