

Department of Philosophy

Department of Philosophy

University Hall, Room 339
(909) 537-5869 Department of Philosophy (<http://philosophy.csusb.edu>)

Bachelor of Arts

Philosophy

Minor

- Law and Philosophy
- Philosophical Logic
- Philosophy
- Philosophy, Policy, and Economics

Philosophy is excellent preparation for a career in law, business, government, journalism and a wide variety of professional areas; and it is excellent preparation for different sorts of graduate and professional study. Philosophy focuses on clear thinking and critical evaluation of ideas. Thus it is excellent training for anyone whose job requires broad perspectives and new and creative ideas. Philosophy does not provide training in specific job tasks; rather, it focuses on basic skills that will prepare students for the more challenging jobs they will encounter as their career advances.

Philosophy's range of application is particularly broad. Through philosophy one may think about and develop perspectives on topics as diverse as god, science, language, logic, truth, ethics, politics and law. Typically philosophy leaves aside the doing of the religion, science etc. and asks fundamental questions about the nature of and justification for the various perspectives.

Departmental Honors

To attain departmental honors, a student must write a successful honors thesis under the guidance of a faculty committee. To qualify for the honors program a student must have:

1. An overall grade point average of 3.0 ("B");
2. A grade point average of 3.5 in philosophy courses;
3. At least five philosophy courses must have been taken at California State University, San Bernardino, one of which may be lower-division, not counting courses satisfying the general education requirements.

Application for the honors program must be made in writing to the department three quarters before graduation.

Current Faculty

Matthew Davidson, Professor, Chair
B.A. 1994, University of Illinois
M.A. 1997, Ph.D. 2000, University of Wisconsin

Beverly Gallo, Lecturer
B.A. 1971, M.A. 1984, San Jose State University
Ph.D. 1989, University of California, Riverside

John Mumma, Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University, 2006

Chris Naticchia, Professor
B.A. 1985, Cornell University
M.A. 1987, New York University, New York
Ph.D. 1995, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Tony D. Roy, Professor
B.A. 1979, M.A. 1988, University of California, San Diego
Ph.D. 1991, University of California, Davis

William Vanderburgh, Professor
B.A. 1993, University of Western Ontario
M.A. 1994, University of Western Ontario
Ph.D. 2001, University of Western Ontario

Emeriti

B. Jill Buroker

Susan M. Finsen, Professor

Paul J. Johnson, Professor

Thomas E. Moody, Associate Professor

Undergraduate Degree

Bachelor of Arts

- Philosophy (<http://bulletin.csusb.edu/colleges-schools-departments/arts-letters/philosophy/philosophy-ba>)

Minors

- Law and Philosophy (<http://bulletin.csusb.edu/colleges-schools-departments/arts-letters/philosophy/law-philosophy-minor>)
- Philosophical Logic (<http://bulletin.csusb.edu/colleges-schools-departments/arts-letters/philosophy/philosophical-logic-minor>)
- Philosophy (<http://bulletin.csusb.edu/colleges-schools-departments/arts-letters/philosophy/philosophy-minor>)
- Philosophy, Policy, and Economics (<http://bulletin.csusb.edu/colleges-schools-departments/arts-letters/philosophy/philosophy-policy-economics-minor>)

Courses

PHIL 101. Moral Choices in Life. 2 Units.

(GE=E2)

Fundamentals of ethical reasoning. Introduction to moral theories and methods of moral decision making. Focus on such issues as ethics in the workplace, responsible citizenship, euthanasia, and responsibilities to the homeless, the environment and animals.

PHIL 105. Critical Thinking Through Argument Analysis. 4 Units.

(GE=A4)

Analysis of various kinds of reasoning employed in everyday life and in more specialized contexts, to develop each students skill in understanding and using carefully constructed arguments. Illustrations will include materials drawn from contemporary issues.

PHIL 190. Introduction to Philosophical Issues. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE written communication (A1) requirement or equivalent (GE=C4)

An introduction to philosophical thinking by means of reading, discussing and writing about selected philosophical works. Students are encouraged to develop their own philosophical views in a critical exchange with the views of the philosophers studied.

PHIL 191. Introduction to Ethics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE written communication (A1) requirement or equivalent (GE=C4)

An introduction to ethics and moral theory. Philosophical approaches to questions of right and wrong, duty and obligation, good and evil. Deals with both individual morality and social morality.

PHIL 192. Introduction to Philosophy of Religion. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE written communication (A1) requirement or equivalent (GE=C4)

Introductory treatment of philosophical issues raised by religion and religious belief; discussion of issues such as relations between faith, belief and knowledge, arguments for the existence of god, the problem of evil, and immortality.

PHIL 193. Introduction to Eastern Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE written communication (A1) requirement or equivalent (GE=C4)

Introduction to the ways in which Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism and Confucianism view human life and reality.

PHIL 194. Introduction to Knowledge and Reality. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE written communication (A1) requirement or equivalent (GE=C4)

Inquiry into philosophical presuppositions underlying common sense and scientific views of knowledge and reality. Possible topics include: Was the universe created? Is the world as it appears to us? Are humans merely complex machines or do they have souls? How do we know what we know?.

PHIL 200. Critical Thinking Through Symbolic Logic. 4 Units.

(GE=A4)

Introduction to logic and its application to everyday reasoning. Emphasis on formal methods and modern symbolic logic. Formerly PHIL 205.

PHIL 206. Critical and Analytic Reasoning. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the General Education Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Review of logical notions and combinatorial methods introduced in many critical reasoning courses (e.g. PHIL 200); extension of those notions and methods to increasingly complex problems, including problems of the sort encountered in analytic portions of the GRE and LSAT exams. Formerly PHIL 305.

PHIL 300. Predicate Logic. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: PHIL 200 or consent of instructor

Introduction to the standard predicate calculus. Some metatheory. This course requires some basic mathematical or logical background.

PHIL 306. Inductive Logic. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: PHIL 200 and satisfaction of the GE Philosophy (C4) requirement

Principles of reasoning underlying the scientific method. Topics include hypothesis formation and testing, foundations and philosophical interpretation of probability and decision theory. Formerly a topic under PHIL 400.

PHIL 308. Alternative Logics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: PHIL 200 or consent of instructor

Formal systems possibly including modal logics, conditional logics, many-valued logics and relevant logics alternative to classical symbolic logic. Formerly a topic under PHIL 400.

PHIL 310. Introduction to Philosophical Methodology. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Intensive introduction to philosophical methods: identification and analysis of philosophical arguments, analytical reading of philosophical texts, and techniques for constructing and evaluating philosophical theories and arguments. May be repeated for credit, only four units may count toward the major.

PHIL 311. Ancient Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Introduction to the origin of Western philosophy, as represented in the works of the Pre-Socratics, Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics, Epicureans, Skeptics and Mystics.

PHIL 312. Medieval Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Study of philosophical thought from the Neoplatonists up to Descartes.

PHIL 313. History of Modern Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Major philosophical developments in Western philosophy from Descartes through Kant, focusing on the nature of knowledge and reality. Formerly PHIL 318.

PHIL 314. History of Modern Philosophy: Ethics and Politics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Major philosophical developments in Western philosophy from Machiavelli to Mill, focusing on ethics and political theory. Formerly PHIL 319.

PHIL 315. History of Modern Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality II. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Major philosophical developments in the Modern period of Western philosophy, focusing on the nature of knowledge and reality. A continuation of PHIL 313 featuring figures such as Locke, Leibniz and Berkeley.

PHIL 320. Philosophy of Education. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Inquiry into the nature of education and its role in human life, and the role of individual and social values. Readings from classical and contemporary philosophers.

PHIL 350. Ethics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

The nature of the meaningful life and its relation to concepts of right and wrong explored through various moral theories.

PHIL 351. Topics in Moral and Political Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Consideration of select problems in moral and political theory. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 352. Metaethics. 4 Units.

Study of the metaphysical, epistemological, and semantic underpinnings of moral claims and judgments.

PHIL 353. Topics in Applied Ethics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Study of different issues in applied ethics and political theory such as environmental ethics, business ethics, global ethics, international justice, international human rights, ethics in the helping professions, and philosophical economics. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 355. Contemporary Ethical Issues. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

An examination of contemporary moral issues such as abortion rights, capital punishment, animal treatment, environmental protection, business ethics, and military intervention. Specific topics will be determined by cases that universities nationwide are examining during the year the course is offered. Students who take this course will become eligible to represent CSUSB in state and national academic competitions.

PHIL 359. Philosophy and Economics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Study of issues at the intersection of economics and moral and political philosophy, e.g., classic accounts of the nature of value, the nature of justice, the nature of rationality, the measurability of human well-being.

PHIL 361A. Social and Political Philosophy: Classical Political Theories. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

An examination of major perspectives on how societies should be organized. Study of central issues such as legitimacy of government, and rights versus obligations; or of major concepts such as justice, equality, rights, class, patriarchy and power.

PHIL 361B. Social and Political Philosophy: Themes in Social and Political Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

An examination of major perspectives on how societies should be organized. Study of central issues such as legitimacy of government, and rights versus obligations; or of major concepts such as justice, equality, rights, class, patriarchy and power.

PHIL 362. Philosophy of Law. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

A study of philosophical problems raised by the law, such as the obligation to obey the law; concepts of justice; and justifications for legal rights.

PHIL 363. Jurisprudence. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Addresses the classic question, "What is law?" and considers whether the criteria for identifying valid legal rules in a legal system refer exclusively to their origin or pedigree or whether they must also satisfy valid moral principles.

PHIL 364. Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

(GE=G2)

Study of theories of equality and justice as they apply to justice, affirmative action, multiculturalism, group differences and the intersections of race with gender and class.

PHIL 367. Gender and Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

(GE=G2)

Philosophical theories of male and female nature, their implications concerning equality and rights, the nature of the family, and social roles of men and women.

PHIL 372. Philosophy of Religion. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Problems concerned with the existence and attributes of God or gods, the significance of religious experience and its varieties, and the rationality of faith.

PHIL 375. Non-Western Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Study of various philosophical issues that arise within non-Western world views such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, and Islam.

PHIL 380. Metaphysics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Problems relating to existence. Includes issues such as realism and anti-realism, the nature of modal truth, free-will and determinism, the mind-body problem, and the nature of identity.

PHIL 381. Philosophy of Logic. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: PHIL 200 and satisfaction of the Philosophy (C4) requirement

Philosophical issues raised by logic, such as the nature of logical truth and logical consequences, the relation between logic and the world, and justifications for logical systems. Formerly PHIL 382 and a topic under PHIL 485.

PHIL 383. Philosophy of Mathematics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: MATH 110 or equivalent, PHIL 200, and satisfaction of the Philosophy (C4) requirement

Philosophical issues raised by mathematics, such as the nature of mathematical truth, the relation between mathematics and the world, and justifications for mathematical systems. Formerly a topic under PHIL 485, formerly PHIL 382.

PHIL 384A. Philosophy of Mind. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Various theories about the nature of the mind and the relation of the mind to the body and behavior. Focus will be on different approaches to psychology (behaviorism, functionalism, etc.) or on the consequences of theories of the mind for the question of whether computers can think. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 384B. Philosophy of Mind. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Various theories about the nature of the mind and the relation of the mind to the body and behavior. Focus will be on different approaches to psychology (behaviorism, functionalism, etc.) or on the consequences of theories of the mind for the question of whether computers can think. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 385. Theory of Knowledge. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Problems concerning acquiring and justifying knowledge, including the roles of sense perception and reason, the distinction between knowledge and belief, the nature of evidence, and the concepts of truth and certainty.

PHIL 386. Philosophy of Science. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Foundations of science, including the nature of scientific methodology, explanation, concept formation, and the structure of theories, using case studies from the natural sciences and social sciences.

PHIL 387. Philosophy of Language. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Inquiry into the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic dimensions of language, focusing on different theories of these components, and the philosophical implications of these theories.

PHIL 390. Topics in Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Study of a specially-selected figure, movement, problem, or theory in philosophy. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 400. Advanced Issues in Logic. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: PHIL 300 or consent of instructor

Discussion of issues such as axiomatic logic, proofs of soundness and completeness, multi-valued logics, modal logics and/or other alternative logics. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 410. Advanced Issues in History of Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: at least two 300-level philosophy courses and satisfaction of the GE upper-division writing requirement

An intensive study of one or more philosophical figures. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 460. Advanced Issues in Value Theory. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: at least two 300-level philosophy courses and satisfaction of the GE upper-division writing requirement

Intensive study of topics in ethics, social philosophy and/or political philosophy. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 472. Advanced Issues in Philosophy of Religion. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: at least two 300-level philosophy courses and satisfaction of the GE upper-division writing requirement

Intensive study of topics in philosophy of religion. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 485. Advanced Issues in Metaphysics and Knowledge. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: at least two 300-level philosophy courses and satisfaction of the GE upper-division writing requirement

Intensive study of topics in metaphysics, philosophy of language, theory of knowledge and/or philosophy of science. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 490. Philosophical Topics. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: satisfaction of the GE Critical Thinking (A4) and Philosophy (C4) requirements

Study of a specially selected figure, movement, problem or theory in philosophy. May be repeated for credit as topics change.

PHIL 516. Senior Project. 1 Unit.

Prerequisites: completion of 135 units, including 36 units of the philosophy major. Graded credit/no credit

Preparation and submission of a portfolio of writing representing successful work in the philosophy major, accompanied by a reflective essay showing the extent to which the student has satisfied the objectives and goals of the major.

PHIL 575B. Internship in Philosophy. 2 Units.

Prerequisites: consent of instructor

Supervised intensive work of an applied nature that requires advanced skills in philosophy. A total of eight units may be applied toward graduation; a total of four units may be applied to the major. Generally assumes thirty hours of work/study per unit of credit. Graded credit/no credit.

PHIL 575C. Internship in Philosophy. 3 Units.

Prerequisites: consent of instructor

Supervised intensive work of an applied nature that requires advanced skills in philosophy. A total of eight units may be applied toward graduation; a total of four units may be applied to the major. Generally assumes thirty hours of work/study per unit of credit. Graded credit/no credit.

PHIL 575D. Internship in Philosophy. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: consent of instructor

Supervised intensive work of an applied nature that requires advanced skills in philosophy. A total of eight units may be applied toward graduation; a total of four units may be applied to the major. Generally assumes thirty hours of work/study per unit of credit. Graded credit/no credit.

PHIL 575E. Internship in Philosophy. 5 Units.

Prerequisites: consent of instructor

Supervised intensive work of an applied nature that requires advanced skills in philosophy. A total of eight units may be applied toward graduation; a total of four units may be applied to the major. Generally assumes thirty hours of work/study per unit of credit. Graded credit/no credit.

PHIL 595B. Independent Study. 2 Units.

Prerequisites: a minimum grade point average of 3.0, consent of instructor and departmental approval of a project submitted on a standard application filed no later than the end of the first week of classes
Intensive study of topics not offered in other existing philosophy courses.
No more than four units of PHIL 595 can apply towards the philosophy major without departmental approval.

PHIL 595C. Independent Study. 3 Units.

Prerequisites: a minimum grade point average of 3.0, consent of instructor and departmental approval of a project submitted on a standard application filed no later than the end of the first week of classes
Intensive study of topics not offered in other existing philosophy courses.
No more than four units of PHIL 595 can apply towards the philosophy major without departmental approval.

PHIL 595D. Independent Study. 4 Units.

Prerequisites: a minimum grade point average of 3.0, consent of instructor and departmental approval of a project submitted on a standard application filed no later than the end of the first week of classes
Intensive study of topics not offered in other existing philosophy courses.
No more than four units of PHIL 595 can apply towards the philosophy major without departmental approval.