Philosophy, BA

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university’s Four-Year Graduation Plan.

Before the fifth semester begins: at least one course in the major.

Before the seventh semester begins: at least five courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: at least six courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Philosophy, BA

Course | Title | Hours
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Academic Career | Any Semester | 0
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability | | 0

First Year

Fall

PHIL:1861 | Introduction to Philosophy | 3
RHET:1030 | Rhetoric | 3 - 4
or ENGL:1200 | or The Interpretation of Literature | 3
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion | | 3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts | | 3
CSI:1600 | Success at Iowa | 2

Hours | 14-15

Spring

PHIL:1636 | Principles of Reasoning: Argument and Debate | 3
ENGL:1200 | The Interpretation of Literature | 3 - 4
or RHET:1030 | or Rhetoric | 3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab | | 4
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences | | 3
Elective course | | 3

Hours | 16-17

Second Year

Fall

PHIL:2111 | Ancient Philosophy | 3

PHIL:2603 | Introduction to Symbolic Logic | 3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues | | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course | | 4 - 5
Elective course | | 3

Hours | 16-17

Spring

PHIL:2215 | Modern Philosophy | 3
or PHIL:2216 or PHIL:2214 | or Eighteenth-Century Philosophy or Seventeenth-Century Philosophy | 3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives | | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course | | 4 - 5
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3

Hours | 16-17

Third Year

Fall

Major: metaphysics/epistemology course | | 3
Major: value theory course | | 3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab | | 3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course | | 4 - 5
Elective course | | 3

Hours | 16-17

Fourth Year

Fall

Major: upper-level course numbered 4000 or above (prefix PHIL) | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3

Hours | 15

Spring

Major: upper-level course numbered 4000 or above (prefix PHIL) | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Elective course | | 3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) | | 3

Hours | 15

Total Hours | 124-130

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a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.
b PHIL:1861 fulfills a GE requirement. This course may also count as credit toward the major.
c Students may choose from PHIL:1033, PHIL:1034, PHIL:1401, PHIL:1636, or PHIL:1861. A student is not required to take any 1000-level courses for the major, but a 1000-level course often serves as an important introduction to help a student determine which particular topics they might want to pursue at a more advanced level.
d Students may include no more than 6 s.h. of 1000-level PHIL courses toward the major.
e GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
f PHIL:1636 is recommended for the GE CLAS Core Quantitative or Formal Reasoning requirement. It is not a major requirement.
g Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
h Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
i Students complete 30 s.h. of philosophy courses (prefix PHIL), of which at least two courses must be numbered 4000 or above.
j Only 3 s.h. of PHIL:4920 Research Practicum may be counted toward the major and toward the 4000-level course and area requirement.
k Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.