

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The study of philosophy is concerned with the transmission and evaluation of basic beliefs and values about reality, knowledge and logic, morality, and social justice. It provides a fundamental basis for understanding many areas of human endeavor, including science, art and literature, religion, communication, education, politics, and technology. It is not an easy field. But for more than 25 centuries philosophy has been judged most rewarding by those who seek self-development, intellectual sophistication, and the happiness of a reflective life.

The philosophy major involves the study of three major periods: ancient, modern and 20th-century philosophy. Classes are discussion-oriented as students are required to read selected texts from a group of major philosophers such as Plato, Nietzsche, Marx, and Foucault. The curriculum also includes extensive coursework in ethical theory and applied ethics, such as bioethics and business ethics. Additionally, students will be introduced to coursework that inquires into the nature of being and knowledge, as well as coursework that approaches major theoretical concepts from feminist perspectives.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030
303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Sam Walker

sam.walker@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

Plaza (PL) Building Mezzanine Level Room 108-M
303-315-7219

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** semester hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:*

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Philosophy B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 36* PHIL credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 27 upper-division (3000-level and above) PHIL credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C-(1.7) in all major courses taken at CU Denver and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. All graded attempts in required and elective courses are calculated in the major GPA. Students cannot complete major or ancillary course requirements as pass/fail.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 18 PHIL credit hours with CU Denver faculty.
5. Courses taken at other institutions must either be transferred as direct equivalent to a CU Denver course or be approved by an advisor in the Philosophy Department for application towards the major.
6. For those students who major in philosophy and minor in ethics, philosophy or philosophy of science, up to two courses can satisfy the requirements for both.
7. *For those students who qualify for and fulfill the requirements of graduation with Honors, a total of at least 39 PHIL hours is required.

LYNX CONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver Lynx Connect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the Lynx Connect [website](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	CLAS Graduation Requirements
PHIL Major Requirements	36	27 semester hours must be upper-division
PHIL Required Courses		
PHIL 2441 Logic, Language, & Scientific Reasoning or PHIL 3440 Introduction to Symbolic Logic or PHIL 3441 Philosophical Reasoning Skills	3	*Prerequisite: PHIL 2441 or MATH3000 (for PHIL3440) PHIL 2441 can fulfill CU Denver Core Humanities
PHIL 3002 Ancient Greek Philosophy	3	
PHIL 3022 Modern Philosophy	3	
PHIL 3760 Kant	3	*Prerequisite of PHIL 3002 or 3022 recommended
Complete Three (3) Upper Division Semester Hours in each of the following areas:	15	
Social and Political Philosophy	3	*See department for approved courses.
Ethics	3	*See department for approved courses.
Continental Philosophy	3	*See department for approved courses.
American or Analytic Philosophy	3	*See department for approved courses.
History of Philosophy	3	*May be fulfilled by course in a single figure.
PHIL Major Electives	9	*At least one elective (3 hours) must be upper-division
Estimated General Electives	15 - 35	General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.
Total Minimum Program Hours:	120	45 semester hours must be upper-division

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Year One	Fall	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3
	CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 1010 <i>recommended</i>	3
	PHIL 1012 ^C or 1020 ^C or 2441 ^C	3
	CU Core Denver Behavioral Science / First-Year Seminar	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15

Spring	CRS	
	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	CU Denver Core Social Science	3
	PHIL 1020 ^C or 1012 ^C or 2441 ^C	3
	CU Denver Core Arts	3
	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15

Year Two	Fall	CRS
	PHIL 3002	3
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4
	CLAS Communicative Skills ^M	3
	General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16	

Spring	CRS	
	PHIL 3022	3
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab	3
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M	3
	CLAS Behavioral Science	3
Total Credit Hours	15	

Year Three	Fall	CRS
	PHIL 3760 ^{PR}	3
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	3
Total Credit Hours	14	

Spring	CRS	
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	Upper-Division PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5
	CLAS Social Science	3
Total Credit Hours	14	

Year Four	Fall	CRS
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CLAS Biol/Phys Science with lab	4
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16	

Spring	CRS	
	PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15	