

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 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

Visit the CLAS Advising website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 1030

303-315-7100

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

Philosophy Major Advising

[CLAS Major Advising Contact Information](#)

Visit the department website [here](#)

Plaza Building (PL) Mezzanine Level 108

303-315-7223

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 credit 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) credit hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS credit hours with letter grades at CU Denver

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

- 16 credit hours Pass/Fail
- 12 credit hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 credit hours of internship credit
- 8 credit hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major advisor 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 courses that apply to the major 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. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to major requirements.
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 both 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 minimum of 39 PHIL hours is required.

LYNXCONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver LynxConnect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the LynxConnect [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 credit 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 Knowledge, Perception and Search for Objectivity: Modern Philosophy	3	
PHIL 3760 Kant: Freedom, Reality, and the Mind	3	*Prerequisite of PHIL 3002 or 3022 recommended
Complete Three (3) Upper Division Credit hours in each of the following:	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 Credit Hours:	120	45 credit 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	Spring	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 1010 <i>recommended</i>	3	CU Denver Core Social Science	3
	PHIL 1012 ^C or 1020 ^C or 2441 ^C	3	PHIL 1012 ^C or 1020 ^C or 2441 ^C	3
	CU Core Denver Behavioral Science / First-Year Seminar	3	CU Denver Core Arts	3
	General Elective	3	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	15
Year Two	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	PHIL 3002	3	PHIL 3022	3
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab	3
	CLAS Communicative Skills ^M	3	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M	3
	General Elective	3	CLAS Behavioral Science	3
	Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	15
Year Three	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	PHIL 3760 ^{PR}	3	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	Upper-Division PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3
	CLAS Second Language Semester I	5	CLAS Second Language Semester II	5
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	3	CLAS Social Science	3
	Total Credit Hours	14	Total Credit Hours	14
Year Four	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	Upper-Division PHIL Area Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3
	PHIL Elective (see PHIL advisor)	3	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	CLAS Nat/Phys Science with lab	4	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3	General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	15

^M Major Course Available ^C CU Denver Core Course ^{PE} Prerequisite Enforced ^{PR} Prerequisite Recommended