Philosophy and Religious Studies

Web Site: http://www.odu.edu/philosophy

Dylan Wittkower, Chair
James R. Van Dore, Chief Departmental Advisor
Office: (757) 683-3861

The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy with three concentration options: general, political and legal studies, and religious studies. The program is dedicated to instruction in critical reading and critical thinking that supports students in discovering, clarifying, and reformulating their values and beliefs through open inquiry that looks across and is informed by the wide diversity of human experience. Students interested in the study of religion can minor in religious studies or choose religious studies as their major concentration.

Bachelor of Arts–Philosophy Major

Four-Year Plan - Philosophy - BA

The four-year plan is a suggested curriculum to complete this degree program in four years. It is just one of several plans that will work and is presented only as broad guidance to students. Each student is strongly encouraged to develop a customized plan in consultation with their academic advisor. Additional information can also be found in Degree Works.

Lower-Division General Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Literacy and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and Culture</td>
<td>0-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Creativity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting the Past</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy and Ethics</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Nature of Science</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impact of Technology</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td>35-53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Grade of C or better required in ENGL 110C before declaring major.
** Can be satisfied by PHIL 202G, PHIL 290G, REL 147G, and REL 260G.
*** BA students must have competence through the 202 level; competence is not met by completion of an associate degree.
**** Can be satisfied in the major by PHIL 303E, PHIL 344E, PHIL 345E, PHIL 355E, or PHIL 442E.
***** Can be satisfied in the major by PHIL 383T.

Major Requirements

Students must complete all core requirements plus the requirements for their selected concentration for a total of 33 credit hours in 300- and 400-level philosophy (PHIL) and religious studies (REL) courses; at least 9 hours must be at the 400 level.

Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 300 Knowledge and Reality</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 301 Ethics and Metaethics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 491W Seminar in Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 330 Ancient Greek Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 332 Medieval Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 331 Early Modern European Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 334 Late Modern European Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select another course from the list above OR one of the courses below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 404 Existentialism and Phenomenology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 405 American Pragmatist Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 406 Language and Thought: History of Analytic Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 411 Post-Modernism and Post-Structuralism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 425 Kant and Hume</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 430 Marx and Hegel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Hours** 15

General Concentration

Logic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 340 Logic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Philosophy Electives

Choose five additional PHIL courses at the 300 or 400 level.

**Total Hours** 18

Religious Studies Concentration

The religious studies concentration is designed for students looking to understand the role of religion in human culture and to expand their cultural competency.

Islam

Choose one Islam course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REL 315 Qur'an</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 352 Islam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 403 Gender and Sexuality in Islam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Judaism and Christianity

Choose one Judaism and Christianity course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JST 300 Holocaust and Genocide Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 311 Hebrew Bible/Old Testament</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 312 New Testament</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 333 Historical Jesus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 350 Judaism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 351 Christianity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Asian Religions

Choose one Asian Religions course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REL 353 Asian Religions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 380 Hinduism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 381 Buddhist Traditions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 482 Chinese Religion and Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 483 Tibet, Happiness, and this Precious Life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 485 Japanese Religion and Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Religious Studies Electives

**Total Hours** 9
Choose three additional PHIL or REL courses at the 300 or 400 level.

Total Hours 18

Political and Legal Studies Concentration
The political and legal studies concentration is aimed at students interested in social and political philosophy, particularly those planning to attend law school.

Logic 3

Select two:

- PHIL 340 Logic
- PHIL 365 Race & Power
- PHIL 402 Gender and Philosophy
- PHIL 410 Social and Political Philosophy
- PHIL 412 Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 430 Marx and Hegel

Select two more courses from the courses listed above OR from the courses below:

- PHIL 303E Business Ethics
- PHIL 344E Environmental Ethics
- PHIL 345E Biosthetics
- PHIL 355E Cybersecurity Ethics
- PHIL 411 Post-Modernism and Post-Structuralism
- PHIL 442E Studies in Applied Ethics

Philosophy Elective 3

- Choose one additional PHIL course at the 300 or 400 level.

Total Hours 18

Electives
Elective courses will be needed to meet the minimum 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Upper-Division General Education
- Option A. Approved Minor, 12-24 hours; also second degree or second major
- Option B. Interdisciplinary Minor, 12 hours specified by the department, 3 of which may be in the major area of study
- Option C. An approved certification program such as teaching licensure
- Option D. Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Arts and Letters or from the Social Science Component within the College of Arts and Letters that are not required by the major (6 hours).

Requirements for Graduation
- Minimum grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major
- 120 credit hours, of which 30 hours overall and 12 hours of upper-level courses in the major must be from Old Dominion University
- Completion of ENGL 110C and ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C with a grade of C or better
- Grade of C or better in one writing intensive (W) course in the major
- Completion of Senior Assessment

Double Majoring in Philosophy and Political Science
The Departments of Political Science and Geography and Philosophy and Religious Studies have established an arrangement that makes it possible to complete a double major in as few as 57 hours, not too much more than the 48 hours needed for a major in Political Science and minor in Philosophy. Philosophy majors in the Political-Legal Studies concentration double majoring in political science may count any two of the following political science courses toward their philosophy major:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 309</td>
<td>Race, Culture and Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 310</td>
<td>Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 312</td>
<td>American Political Thought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 403</td>
<td>First Amendment Freedoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 408</td>
<td>American Constitutional Law: Individual Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 409</td>
<td>American Constitutional Law: Powers of Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 419</td>
<td>Jurisprudence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These courses will count as Political-Legal electives; students will still be required to take 6 hours of Political-Legal core courses. Students doing the linked BA/MA in Philosophy and Humanities can count only one 500-level political science course as a "bridge" course. Certain political science "topics" courses may be counted as philosophy electives with prior approval from the Philosophy and Religious Studies Department. Political Science will also double count up to two select philosophy courses for double majors; for details, see the Political Science and Geography section of this catalog (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsletters/politicalscienceandgeography/ #doublemajoringinphilosophyandpoliticallsciencetext).

Students interested in double majoring in philosophy and a subject other than political science should consult the chief departmental advisor; there may be some opportunity for double counting at least one class.

Double Majoring in Philosophy and Women's Studies
The Departments of Women's Studies and Philosophy and Religious Studies have established an arrangement that makes it possible to complete a double major in as few as 57 hours, not much more than the 48 hours needed for a major in Women's Studies and minor in Philosophy. Philosophy majors double majoring may count any of the following courses toward a second major in Women's Studies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 365</td>
<td>Race &amp; Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 402</td>
<td>Gender and Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 410</td>
<td>Social and Political Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 403</td>
<td>Gender and Sexuality in Islam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These courses will count as electives in the Women's Studies major. Certain Women's Studies courses may also be counted toward the Philosophy major with prior approval from the Philosophy and Religious Studies Department, although no more than 12 credit hours total may count toward both majors.

Linked BA in Philosophy and MA in Humanities
The linked BA in philosophy and MA in Humanities makes it possible for exceptional philosophy majors to count up to 12 hours of graduate courses toward both an undergraduate and graduate degree. Students must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 discrete credit hours for the graduate degree). For more information, consult the Humanities section of this catalog (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsletters/humanities/).

Philosophy Minor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Philosophy Courses</th>
<th>12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any four PHIL courses at the 300 or 400 level.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 12

For completion of a minor, a student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all upper-level courses specified as a requirement for the minor and complete a minimum of six hours in the minor through courses offered by Old Dominion University.
Religious Studies Minor

Religious Studies Courses 12

Any four REL classes at the 300 or 400 level.

Total Hours 12

For completion of a minor, a student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all upper-level courses specified as a requirement for the minor and complete a minimum of six hours in the minor through courses offered by Old Dominion University.

Applied Ethics Minor

Ethics Core 3

PHIL 301 Ethics and Metaethics

Select three courses from the following: 9

PHIL 303E Business Ethics
PHIL 344E Environmental Ethics
PHIL 345E Bioethics
PHIL 355E Cybersecurity Ethics
PHIL 365 Race & Power
PHIL 402 Gender and Philosophy
PHIL 410 Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 442E Studies in Applied Ethics

Total Hours 12

For completion of a minor, a student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all upper-level courses specified as a requirement for the minor and complete a minimum of six hours in the minor through courses offered by Old Dominion University.

Political and Legal Studies Minor

Select two courses from the following: 6

PHIL 301 Ethics and Metaethics
PHIL 331 Early Modern European Philosophy
PHIL 334 Late Modern European Philosophy
PHIL 340 Logic
PHIL 365 Race & Power
PHIL 402 Gender and Philosophy
PHIL 410 Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 412 Philosophy of Law
PHIL 430 Marx and Hegel

Select two additional courses from the courses listed above OR 6

from the list below:

PHIL 303E Business Ethics
PHIL 344E Environmental Ethics
PHIL 345E Bioethics
PHIL 355E Cybersecurity Ethics
PHIL 442E Studies in Applied Ethics

Total Hours 12

For completion of a minor, a student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 in all upper-level courses specified as a requirement for the minor and complete a minimum of six hours in the minor through courses offered by Old Dominion University.

Advanced Placement

Since the study of philosophy and religion involves intensive work with sophisticated texts and extensive analytical and critical writing, credit by examination is not usually appropriate. Students who believe that there are reasons why they should be considered for exceptions to this policy should present their cases in writing to the chair of the department, who, when appropriate, will refer them to the departmental committee. Generally, such things as “reading on one’s own” are not considered an adequate basis for such a petition. Students who have earned credit for one of the introductory philosophy and ethics way of knowing courses (e.g., PHIL 110P, PHIL 120P, PHIL 126P, PHIL 150P, REL 150P, PHIL 155E, REL 155E, PHIL 227E, PHIL 228E, PHIL 230E, PHIL 235E, REL 235E, or PHIL 250E) may not receive credit by examination for another of them.

PHILOSOPHY Courses

PHIL 110P. Introduction to Philosophy. 3 Credits.

An introduction to basic concepts, methods and issues in philosophy, and a consideration of representative types of philosophical thought concerning human nature, the world, knowledge, and value.

PHIL 120P. Logic and Philosophy. 3 Credits.

A study of the principles of correct reasoning and the types of fallacious reasoning. Includes an examination of the philosophical and historical context of logic, and the application of logical methods to philosophical questions.

PHIL 126P. Honors: Introduction to Philosophy. 3 Credits.

Open only to students in the Honors College. A special honors section of PHIL 110P.

PHIL 150P. Life, Death, and Meaning. 3 Credits.

What is the meaning of life, and what role might the end of life play in living meaningfully? This course provides an introduction to philosophy and religious studies through an investigation of different views on death and the meaning of life from diverse cultures and identities. (Cross-listed with REL 150P).

PHIL 155E. Human Nature. 3 Credits.

What ways of thinking, feeling, and acting are essentially human? This course focuses on some of the most influential and fascinating philosophical and religious accounts of human nature from diverse cultural perspectives. Topics may include the nature of human beings in relation to God, society, ethics, politics, knowledge, the environment, freedom, evolution, the mind, language, race, gender, and technology. (Cross-listed with REL 155E).

PHIL 195. Study Abroad: Introduction to Philosophy. 3 Credits.

This course is the study abroad equivalent of PHIL 110P, an introduction to basic concepts, methods and issues in philosophy, and a consideration of representative types of philosophical thought concerning human nature, the world, knowledge, and value.

PHIL 202G. Information Literacy for Cybersecurity. 3 Credits.

This course provides an in-depth introduction to information literacy from library and information science, information ethics, and computer science perspectives along with applications to cybersecurity research and professional activity. This course is aligned with Old Dominion University’s general education learning outcomes for information literacy. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

PHIL 227E. Honors: World Religions: Beliefs and Values. 3 Credits.

Open only to students in the Honors College. A special honors section of PHIL 250E.

PHIL 228E. Honors: Introduction to Ethics. 3 Credits.

Open only to students in the Honors College. A special honors section of PHIL 230E.

PHIL 230E. Introduction to Ethics. 3 Credits.

An introduction to the study of ethics through philosophical reflection on a variety of moral issues of contemporary significance. Topics covered will vary by semester and instructor, and may include issues drawn from professional fields such as business, medicine, and information technology, plus matters of public concern like the environment, the treatment of animals, the use of military force, social justice, and civil and human rights.

PHIL 235E. Love, Sex, and Desire. 3 Credits.

Is love universal or culturally bound? Is sexual desire biologically driven or learned? This course provides an introduction to Philosophy and Religious Studies through an investigation of love, sex, and desire vis-a-vis ethical values and societal norms. (Cross-listed with REL 235E).
PHIL 250E. World Religions: Beliefs and Values. 3 Credits.
A comparative and philosophical study of major world religions in the
Eastern and Western traditions with particular attention being paid to their
views about the basis of right action and the nature of good and evil. Other
points of comparison include the foundations of religious knowledge and
belief, the meaning of human life, divinity, and death and immortality. A
student with credit for PHIL 150P cannot receive credit for PHIL 250E.

PHIL 270P. Truth and Perception. 3 Credits.
What is truth? How do we know when something is real or fake? Are you
certain that other people perceive the world in the same way you do? In
this course we’ll try to answer questions like these and more through an
exploration of the relationship between our minds, our bodies, and the world
around us.

PHIL 290G. Philosophy of Digital Culture. 3 Credits.
This course provides practical training in information access, critical
information assessment, and ethical information use in a theoretically-
oriented research context, as well as a theoretical exploration of issues in
information literacy, the ethics and politics of online informational spaces,
and the philosophy of digital culture.

PHIL 300. Knowledge and Reality. 3 Credits.
Metaphysics is the study of the ultimate nature of reality and epistemology
is the study of what we can know about reality. This introduction to
metaphysics and epistemology will engage with views of what exists and
how we can know about it from a diverse collection of traditions and figures.
Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission
of the instructor.

PHIL 301. Ethics and Metaethics. 3 Credits.
An examination of the philosophical foundations of ethical inquiry
from a diverse collection of traditions and figures, including historically
marginalized voices. Various ethical systems are considered, and different
views of metaethics and moral psychology may be as well. Prerequisites:
ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the
instructor.

PHIL 303E. Business Ethics. 3 Credits.
A philosophical examination of ethical issues that arise in business and
commerce. Topics discussed will vary by semester and instructor, but may
include affirmative action, ethical versus unethical sales and marketing
techniques, the obligations of business to society (if any), and the moral
foundations of capitalism. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

PHIL 313. Philosophy of Religion. 3 Credits.
An analytical and critical consideration of the philosophical foundations of
religion. Such topics as the existence of God, the problem of evil, atheism,
and the role of activism. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the
instructor.

PHIL 324. Philosophy of Art. 3 Credits.
A study of the various theories of art and human creativity in the context of
historical and cultural backgrounds. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three
semester hours in philosophy or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 330. Ancient Greek Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course is a study of the thought of the classical Greek philosophers
from the sixth century B.C.E. to the fifth century C.E. Prerequisites:
ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the
instructor.

PHIL 331. Early Modern European Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of the rise of modern philosophy in the 17th and early
18th centuries in Europe. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in
PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 332. Medieval Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course examines the significant contributions of medieval philosophers
to the development of philosophy of religion as well as other fields, including philosophy of language, logic, and ethics. Students examine the
writings of medieval philosophers from Jewish, Christian, and Islamic
traditions. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in
philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 334. Late Modern European Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of modern philosophy in the 18th and 19th centuries
in Europe, addressing figures such as Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Marx,
Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in
PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 340. Logic. 3 Credits.
A study of the basic concepts and methods of logic as they occur in ordinary
language, formal logical arguments, and an elementary logical system.
Traditional Logic is emphasized, but some elements of Modern Logic are
also introduced. Prerequisites: senior standing and three semester hours in
philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 344E. Environmental Ethics. 3 Credits.
An examination of the nature and basis of human obligations for the welfare
of the environment with special attention to the foundations of ethical
decision making. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

PHIL 345E. Bioethics. 3 Credits.
An examination of the philosophical foundations of ethical decision making
in biology, medicine, and the life sciences. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

PHIL 353. Asian Religions. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to several key religious traditions originating
in Asia, such as Hindu traditions in India; Confucianism, Daoism, and
popular religion in China, Buddhism and Shinto in Japan; and Buddhist
traditions of China, Tibet, and Mongolia. Students will read and analyze
primary sources in English translation. By examining artifacts from
literature, art, and poetry, students will also learn about cultural history.
Throughout the course, students will employ hermeneutical methods in the
field of religious studies, such as methods of comparisons. Prerequisites:
ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 355E. Cybersecurity Ethics. 3 Credits.
This course examines ethical issues relevant to computing and information
technology, including: privacy; freedom of speech and content control on
the Internet; individual and social responsibility; cybersecurity; cybercrimes;
social impact of computers and other digital technologies; and ethical
obligations of IT professionals. Students will gain a broad understanding of
central issues in cyberethics and the ways that fundamental ethical theories
relate to these core issues. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

PHIL 365. Race & Power. 3 Credits.
This course will draw on historical and contemporary scholarship to explore
the evolution of the concept of race in relation to different theories of power.
Topics may include how to define race, how people are racialized, genocide
and social death, the use of racial epithets, cultural appropriation, ally-ship,
and the role of activism. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in
PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 369. Practicum. 3 Credits.
The course offers three forms of practical experience for philosophy majors:
Professional (for students anticipating careers in relevant professions,
including philosophy); Classroom (for students anticipating graduate study
and a teaching career); Civic/Social Affairs (for students interested in
grassroots activism). Consult the department for details and certain specific
prerequisites. Prerequisites: Junior standing; minimum of 15 credit hours in
PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 381. Buddhist Traditions. 3 Credits.
A study of the origin, historical development, and contemporary status of
Buddhism, in terms of its religious and philosophical elements and its
influence in Asian cultures. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in
PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.
PHIL 383T. Philosophy of Technology & Innovation. 3 Credits.
This course engages in a critical exploration of what technology is as a human practice and how it develops over time in ways that influence and are influenced by society, culture, and human values. Students will also learn responsible, inclusive, and creative design and development practices through an understanding of how social structures are embedded in technology. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

PHIL 395. Topics in Philosophy. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics designed for nonmajors, or for elective credit within a major. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to academic advisors. Prerequisites: Junior standing or approval of the department chair.

PHIL 396. Topics in Philosophy. 3 Credits.
A study of selected topics designed for nonmajors, or for elective credit within a major. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to academic advisors. Prerequisites: Junior standing or approval of the department chair.

PHIL 400/500. Philosophy and Video Games. 3 Credits.
An examination of the metaphysical, aesthetic, and ethical philosophical issues that accompany the creation, play, and critique of video games. Students will learn and analyze theories about what games are. They will think about and discuss the aesthetic qualities of video games and critically engage with attempts to fit video games into the larger art world. Students will engage with moral issues that arise from creating and consuming video games with morally problematic content. Finally, students will learn how to think critically about and interpret larger philosophical problems raised by video games and their themes. Prerequisites: Junior standing and a grade of C or better in PHIL 110P or ENMA 480, or instructor permission.

PHIL 402/502. Gender and Philosophy. 3 Credits.
A philosophical survey of approaches to understanding gender and gender differences. The course will also serve as an introduction to feminist philosophy, with a particular emphasis on feminist ethics. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 404/504. Existentialism and Phenomenology. 3 Credits.
This course is an examination of the writings of some of the major philosophers in the Existentialist and Phenomenology movements of the 19th and 20th centuries. Prerequisite: ENGL 211C and six credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 405/505. American Pragmatist Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course is an examination of the writings of some of the major American philosophers in the Pragmatist tradition. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C and six credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 406/506. Language and Thought: History of Analytic Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course is a study of the history of the Analytic tradition in philosophy up through the 20th century. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C and six credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 410/510. Social and Political Philosophy. 3 Credits.
A philosophical analysis of the relation between man, society, and the state, studying about a dozen philosophers since Plato on such topics as justice, authority, law, freedom, and civil rights. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 411/511. Post-Modernism and Post-Structuralism. 3 Credits.
This course is an examination of intellectual currents in postmodernism and post-structuralism as they pertain to central questions in social and political thought. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 412/512. Philosophy of Law. 3 Credits.
An examination of the nature of law and philosophical issues concerning the law. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 417/517. Philosophy of Education. 3 Credits.
Considers the relationship of philosophy and education. Topics considered include: philosophy as a foundation for education, education as an institution, and educational and philosophical issues as they relate to each other. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 423/523. Philosophy of Work. 3 Credits.
An examination of philosophical issues surrounding the practice of work. Topics to be discussed may include the definition of work, alienation, exploitation, whether there is a right to work or a right not to work, religious perspectives on work, and gender issues in work. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 425/525. Kant and Hume. 3 Credits.
This course is an examination of the philosophical writings of Hume and Kant and their influence. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C, and six credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 430/530. Marx and Hegel. 3 Credits.
This course is an examination of the philosophical writings of Hegel and Marx and their influence. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C and six credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 434/534. Contemporary Theory of Knowledge. 3 Credits.
This course provides students with a problem-oriented, critical, and comparative understanding of problems in contemporary epistemology. Topics include skepticism and responses thereto, analyses of knowledge, the externalist versus internalist debate, foundationalism and coherentism, and social approaches to knowledge including contextualism and feminism. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 435/535. Philosophy of Psychology. 3 Credits.
An examination of diverse ways in which the mind has been understood in philosophy and in psychology and of the methods that have been used in the study of the mind. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 440/540. Philosophy of Science. 3 Credits.
A study of the concepts and philosophical problems in the sciences: scientific reasoning, confirmation, explanation, laws, meaning, theories, revolutions, progress, and values. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C, or ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 442E/542. Studies in Applied Ethics. 3 Credits.
An intensive examination of ethical issues in a particular field or profession; an emphasis on ethical theory underlying practical decisions. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and Junior standing.

PHIL 451/551. Native American Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course will provide students with an introduction to Native American philosophies with a focus on issues of identity, genocide, personhood, gender, sovereignty, and decolonization. Topics will be approached though a consideration of Native American philosophical methodologies and Native views regarding metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics. (Cross-listed with REL 451) Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

PHIL 482/582. Chinese Religion and Philosophy. 3 Credits.
A study of Chinese thought emphasizing Early and Classical Confucianism and Taoism, Chinese Buddhism, and NeoConfucianism. Modern currents of Chinese thought is also discussed. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 485/585. Japanese Religion and Philosophy. 3 Credits.
A study of the religious and philosophical traditions of Japan. Emphasis will be given to Shintoism, Buddhism, and Neo-Confucianism and their contemporary status and influence in Japanese culture. Prerequisites: junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy or permission of the instructor.
PHIL 491W/591. Seminar in Philosophy. 3 Credits.
Intensive examination of the thought of one major philosopher or philosophical movement. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisites: ENGL 211C/ENGL 221C/ENGL 231C and 6 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 495/595. Topics in Philosophy. 1-3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit small groups of qualified students to work on subjects of mutual interest which, due to their specialized nature, may not be offered regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: appropriate survey course or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 496/596. Topics in Philosophy. 1-3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit small groups of qualified students to work on subjects of mutual interest which, due to their specialized nature, may not be offered regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule, and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: appropriate survey course or permission of the instructor.

PHIL 497/597. Tutorial Work in Special Topics in Philosophy. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate. Prerequisites: senior standing and approval of the department chair.

PHIL 498/598. Tutorial Work in Special Topics in Philosophy. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate. Prerequisites: senior standing and approval of the department chair.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES Courses

REL 147G. Cults and Conspiracies. 3 Credits.
This course will explore why people believe conspiracy theories and why people become dedicated to religious cults or new religious movements, and will provide training in tools and strategies for examining truth claims of various groups.

REL 150P. Life, Death, and Meaning. 3 Credits.
What is the meaning of life, and what role might the end of life play in living meaningfully? This course provides an introduction to philosophy and religious studies through an investigation of different views on death and the meaning of life from diverse cultures and identities. (Cross-listed with PHIL 150P).

REL 155E. Human Nature. 3 Credits.
What ways of thinking, feeling, and acting are essentially human? This course focuses on some of the most influential and fascinating philosophical and religious accounts of human nature from diverse cultural perspectives. Topics may include the nature of human beings in relation to God, society, ethics, politics, knowledge, the environment, freedom, evolution, the mind, language, race, gender, and technology. (Cross-listed with PHIL 155E).

REL 226G. Honors: Muslims & Media. 3 Credits.
Open only to students in the Honors College. A special honors section of REL 260G.

REL 235E. Love, Sex, and Desire. 3 Credits.
Is love universal or culturally bound? Is sexual desire biologically driven or learned? This course provides an introduction to Philosophy and Religious Studies through an investigation of love, sex, and desire vis-a-vis ethical values and societal norms. (Cross-listed with PHIL 235E).

REL 260G. Muslims & Media. 3 Credits.
Television, film, and journalism play an influential role in introducing Muslim life to broad audiences. This course provides an introduction to the representation of Islam in news and popular culture over the past century. In examining the relationship between Muslims and media we will develop information literacy skills and learn how to critically evaluate and interpret these sources.

REL 311. Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. 3 Credits.
An investigation of the Hebrew Bible on the basis of Biblical criticism and research. Attention is given to the cultural and historical background of these writings. Prerequisites: junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

REL 312. New Testament. 3 Credits.
An investigation of New Testament literature and thought on the basis of Biblical criticism and research. Attention is given to the religious and cultural background of early Christianity, particularly in late Judaism. Prerequisites: junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

REL 315. Qur'an. 3 Credits.
The course will examine the Qur'an, the scripture of Islam, as well as other sacred texts such as the Hadith literature (sayings of Muhammad) and the Sira literature (accounts of Muhammad's life). This course will explore the role of these literatures in the faith, culture, and history of Islam. Our survey will include explorations of the history and reception of various texts, their literary and stylistic features, and various themes such as mystical, legal, modern, and feminist interpretations. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

REL 333. Historical Jesus. 3 Credits.
This course examines the several quests to uncover the historical reality behind Jesus of Nazareth in modern biblical-historical scholarship, including the work of scholars like Albert Schweitzer, Rudolph Bultmann, and the many contemporary inquirers. Students are expected to have some familiarity with the New Testament and/or early Christianity. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in REL or PHIL.

REL 350. Judaism. 3 Credits.
This course is a basic introduction to Judaism. We will explore the fundamental tenets of Jewish belief, examine primary expressions of Jewish ritual and practice, discuss the historical development of Judaism, and explore sacred texts, secular Yiddish texts, and contemporary issues confronting Jews and Judaism. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

REL 351. Christianity. 3 Credits.
A study of the Christian tradition, including its primary texts, historical development, intellectual tenets, and contributions to human culture. Specific attention will be given to Christianity as a way of life. Prerequisites: three semester hours in philosophy or permission of the instructor.

REL 352. Islam. 3 Credits.
A study of the Islamic tradition, including its primary texts, historical development, intellectual tenets, and contributions to human culture. Specific attention will be given to Islam as a way of life. Prerequisites: three semester hours in philosophy or permission of the instructor.

REL 353. Asian Religions. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to several key religious traditions originating in Asia, such as: Hindu traditions in India; Confucianism, Daoism, and popular religion in China, Buddhism and Shinto in Japan; and Buddhist traditions of China, Tibet, and Mongolia. Students will read and analyze primary sources in English translation. By examining artifacts from literature, art, and poetry, students will also learn about cultural history. Throughout the course, we will be employing hermeneutical methods in the field of religions studies, such as methods of comparisons. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credits of PHIL or REL, or permission of the instructor.

REL 380. Hinduism. 3 Credits.
An intensive study of the basic teachings of Hinduism as manifested in its sacred writings. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.

REL 381. Buddhist Traditions. 3 Credits.
A study of the origin, historical development, and contemporary status of Buddhism, in terms of its religious and philosophical elements and its influence in Asian cultures. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL, or permission of instructor.
REL 395. Topics in Religious Studies. 3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students
to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be
taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule booklet
and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic
advisors. Prerequisites: 3 hours in PHIL or permission of the instructor.

REL 396. Topics in Religious Studies. 3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students
to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be
taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will
be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors.
Prerequisites: three hours in PHIL or REL or permission of the instructor.

REL 403/503. Gender and Sexuality in Islam. 3 Credits.
This course explores the shifting constructions of gender and sexuality
in Muslim communities from the early period until the present,
considering feminism, patriarchy, gender identity, masculinity, femininity,
homosexuality, heteronormativity, and transgender people. Prerequisites:
ENGL 211C, ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C, and three credit hours in PHIL or
REL, or permission of the instructor.

REL 451/551. Native American Philosophy. 3 Credits.
This course will provide students with an introduction to Native American
philosophies with a focus on issues of identity, genocide, personhood,
gender, sovereignty, and decolonization. Topics will be approached though
a consideration of Native American philosophical methodologies and Native
views regarding metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics. (Cross-listed with
PHIL 451) Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL,
or permission of instructor.

REL 483/583. Tibet, Happiness, and this Precious Life. 3 Credits.
Throughout this course, students will examine Tibetan texts and artifacts
that address the meaning of happiness and the human condition. The
course covers the indigenous religion Bön; the four main Tibetan Buddhist
traditions (Nyingma, Sakya, Kagyu, and Geluk), Islam in Tibet, and
contemporary social issues, such as gender, identity politics, and the use of
social media. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C and 3 credit hours in PHIL or REL,
or permission of the instructor.

REL 495/595. Topics in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students
to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be
taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will
be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors.
Prerequisites: 3 hours in PHIL or REL or permission of the instructor.

REL 496/596. Topics in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students
to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be
taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will
be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors.
Prerequisites: three hours of PHIL or REL or permission of the instructor.

REL 497/597. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction
of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate. Prerequisite:
permission of the instructor.

REL 498/598. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction
of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate. Prerequisites:
permission of the instructor.