Logic and Philosophy of Science (LPS)

Courses

LPS 29. Critical Reasoning. 4 Units.

Same as PHILOS 29.

(II and Vb).

LPS 30. Introduction to Symbolic Logic. 4 Units.
An introduction to the symbolism and methods of the logic of statements, including evaluation of arguments by truth tables, the techniques of natural deduction, and semantic tableaux.

Same as PHILOS 30, LINGUIS 43.

(Vb)

LPS 31. Introduction to Inductive Logic. 4 Units.
Philosophical questions concerning the foundations of scientific inference, e.g., the traditional problem of induction, the Goodman paradox, the concept of cause, Mill's method of inductive reasoning, probability calculus, different interpretations of probability, and their interaction in inductive reasoning.

Same as PHILOS 31.

(II, Va)

LPS 40. The Nature of Scientific Inquiry. 4 Units.
Investigates the nature, scope, and status of scientific knowledge and the methods used to acquire it. Uses concrete historical examples from a variety of scientific fields to identify distinctive features of the scientific enterprise and explore their significance.

(II)

LPS 60. The Making of Modern Science. 4 Units.
Surveys the history of science and mathematics since the Scientific Revolution, examining central developments both chronologically and thematically, as well as investigating their significance for contemporary philosophical debates about the role and status of current scientific theories.

Same as HISTORY 60.

(GE II or GE IV).

LPS H80. Scientific Realism and Instrumentalism. 4 Units.
Explores competing views of the character and status of theoretical knowledge in science, including challenges to and defenses of the view that contemporary scientific theories offer straightforward and accurate descriptions of how things stand in otherwise inaccessible domains of nature.

Restriction: Campuswide Honors Program students only.

(II)

LPS H81. What is Space?. 4 Units.
Historical, philosophical, scientific exploration of the concept of "space." Questions of interest include: What kind of a thing is space? How can we know what space is like? How is space different from time.

Restriction: Campuswide Honors Program students only.

(II)

LPS 91. The Philosophy of Sex. 4 Units.
Discusses the origins of biological sex, dynamics of sexual selection, sex differences in humans, and the construction of gender in human societies. Seeks to understand the role social values play in the creation of science.

Overlaps with LPS H91.

(III)
LPS H91. The Philosophy and Biology of Sex. 4 Units.
Covers the origins of biological sex, dynamics of sexual selection, the evolution and cultural creation of sexual behavior in humans, and the construction of gender in human societies.

Restriction: Campuswide Honors Program students only.

(II and III)

LPS H95. Jurisprudence and Constitutional Law. 4 Units.
Applies competing theories of the nature of law and legal reasoning to evaluate decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court in controversial areas of constitutional law such as free speech, privacy, sexual conduct, affirmative action, and political campaign contributions.

Restriction: Campuswide Honors Program students only.

(III)

LPS 100. Writing Philosophy. 4 Units.
Discussion of the aspects of writing that have special importance in philosophy; special philosophical terminology, techniques for evaluating arguments, philosophical definitions and philosophical theories. Requires at least 4,000 words of assigned composition based upon philosophical readings. More detail, see file.

Same as PHILOS 100.

Restriction: Upper-division students only.

LPS 100W. Writing Philosophy. 4 Units.
Discussion of those aspects of writing of special importance in philosophy, e.g., philosophical terminology, techniques for evaluating arguments, philosophical definitions and theories. At least 4,000 words of assigned composition based on philosophical readings.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of the Lower-Division Writing requirement.

Same as PHILOS 100W.

Restriction: Upper-division students only.

(Ib)

LPS 102. Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge. 4 Units.
A study of one or more of the basic issues in epistemology, e.g., the role of perception in the acquisition of knowledge, the nature of evidence, the distinction between belief and knowledge, and the nature of truth and certainty.

Same as PHILOS 102.

LPS 104. Introduction to Logic. 4 Units.
Introduction to sentence logic, including truth tables and natural deduction; and to predicate logic, including semantics and natural deduction.

Same as PHILOS 104, LINGUIS 142.

LPS 105A. Elementary Set Theory. 4 Units.
An introduction to the basic working vocabulary of mathematical reasoning. Topics include sets, Boolean operations, ordered n-tuples, relations, functions, ordinal and cardinal numbers.

Same as PHILOS 105A, LINGUIS 145A.

LPS 105B. Metalogic. 4 Units.
Introduction to formal syntax (proof theory) and semantics (model theory) for first-order logic, including the deduction, completeness, compactness, and L"owenheim-Skolem theorems.

Prerequisite: PHILOS 105A

Same as PHILOS 105B, LINGUIS 145B.
Overlaps with MATH 150.
LPS 105C. Undecidability and Incompleteness. 4 Units.
Introduction to the formal theory of effective processes, including recursive functions, Turing machines, Church’s thesis, and proofs of Gödel’s incompleteness theorem for arithmetic, and Church’s undecidability theorem for first-order logic.

Prerequisite: PHILOS 105B

Same as LINGUIS 145C, PHILOS 105C.
Overlaps with MATH 152.

Concurrent with LPS 205C.

LPS 106. Topics in Logic . 4 Units.
Selected topics in mathematical or philosophical logic.

Prerequisite: PHILOS 105B or LPS 105B

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 106.

LPS 108. Topics in Induction, Probability, and Decision Theory. 4 Units.
Selected topics in induction, probability, and decision theory.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 108.

LPS 113. Topics in Modern Philosophy. 4 Units.
Focuses on the works of central philosophical figures of modern Philosophy (e.g., Descartes, Leibniz, Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Kant) or on the treatment of one or more central philosophical problems by a number of these figures.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 113.

LPS 115. Topics in History of Analytic Philosophy. 4 Units.
Review of central theories or figures in the history of analytic philosophy. Emphasis on writings of Frege, Russell, Schlick, Carnap, and Quine. Topics include the nature of meaning and truth, the synthetic/analytic distinction, and scientific knowledge.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 115.

LPS 120. Topics in Metaphysics. 4 Units.
Examines central philosophical questions concerning our own fundamental nature and that of the world around us (e.g., causation and necessity, determination, free will, personal identity, the mind-body problem).

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 120.

LPS 121. Topics in the Theory of Knowledge . 4 Units.
One or more topics in the theory of knowledge, e.g., the nature of rational justification, of perceptual knowledge, of a priori knowledge.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 121.

LPS H125. What Is Time? . 4 Units.
Engages the question “what is time?” by drawing on physics, philosophy, fiction, film, and psychology. Organized around understanding and addressing the tension between time as represented in physics and our immediate temporal experience.

Restriction: Campuswide Honors Program students only.

(III)
LPS 140. Topics in Philosophy of Science. 4 Units.
Selected topics in contemporary philosophy of science, e.g., the status of theoretical entities, the confirmation of theories, the nature of scientific explanation.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 140.

LPS 141A. Topics in Philosophy of Physics. 4 Units.
Selected topics in the philosophy of physics, e.g., the interpretation of quantum mechanics, the nature of spacetime, the problem of quantum field theories.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 141A.

LPS 141B. Geometry and Spacetime. 4 Units.
An examination of the foundations of the special theory of relativity, with emphasis on the geometry of Minkowski spacetime, and its relation to both Euclidean and non-Euclidean (hyperbolic) plane geometries.

Prerequisite: MATH 2D and (MATH 3A or MATH 6G)
Same as PHILOS 141B.

LPS 141C. Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics. 4 Units.
An examination of the standard von Neumann-Dirac formulation of quantum mechanics. The quantum measurement problem is discussed along with several proposed solutions, including GRW, many-worlds, man-minds, and Bohm's theory.

Same as PHILOS 141C.

LPS 141D. Probability and Determinism. 4 Units.
An examination of a cluster of interrelated issues concerning probability, determinism, logic, and the foundations of quantum mechanics.

Prerequisite: MATH 2D and (MATH 3A or MATH 6G)
Same as PHILOS 141D.

LPS H141. Honors Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics. 4 Units.
An examination of the standard von Neumann-Dirac formulation of quantum mechanics. The quantum measurement problem is discussed along with several proposed solutions, including GRW, many-worlds, man-minds, and Bohm's theory.

Overlaps with LPS 141C.

Restriction: Campuswide Honors Program students only.

LPS 142. Writing/Philosophy of Biology. 4 Units.
Philosophy of biology, e.g., scientific method in biology, the structure of evolutionary theory, teleology, ethics, and evolution. Course work includes one 4,000-word and four 1,000-word papers.

LPS 142W. Writing/Philosophy of Biology. 4 Units.
Philosophy of biology, e.g., scientific method in biology, the structure of evolutionary theory, teleology, ethics, and evolution. Course work includes one 4,000-word and four 1,000-word papers.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of the Lower-Division Writing requirement.

Same as PHILOS 142W, BIO SCI E142W.

Restriction: Juniors only.
LPS 143. Topics in Philosophy of Psychology. 4 Units.
Selected topics in the philosophy of psychology, e.g., the nature of psychological explanation, reductionism, issues in cognitive, behavioral, and neuroscience.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 143, PSYCH 123P.

Restriction: Psychology Majors have first consideration for enrollment. Philosophy Majors have first consideration for enrollment.

LPS 144. Topics in Philosophy of Social Science. 4 Units.
Selected topics in the philosophy of the social sciences, e.g., is their goal to understand behavior or to predict and control it?; are they normative and the natural sciences not?; do they incorporate philosophical doctrines about language and mind?.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 144.

LPS 145. Topics in Philosophy of Language. 4 Units.
Selected topics in the philosophy of language, e.g., the nature of meaning, mechanisms of reference, speech acts.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 145, LINGUIS 141.

LPS 146. Topics in Philosophy of Logic. 4 Units.
Selected topics in the philosophy of logic, e.g., the nature of logical truth and our knowledge of it, the status of propositions, definite descriptions, and existential presuppositions.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 146.

LPS 147. Topics in Philosophy of Mathematics. 4 Units.
Selected historical and contemporary topics in the philosophy of mathematics, e.g., mathematical truth and ontology, mathematical knowledge, the nature and role of proof, the workings of mathematics in application.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 147.

LPS 199. Independent Study. 1-4 Units.
Independent research with Logic and Philosophy of Science faculty.

Repeatability: May be taken for credit for 12 units.

LPS 200. Topics in Logic and Philosophy of Science. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of Logic and Philosophy of Science. Topics addressed vary each quarter.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

LPS 205A. Set Theory. 4 Units.
The basic working vocabulary of mathematical reasoning. Topics include: sets, Boolean operations, ordered n-tuples, relations, functions, ordinal and cardinal numbers.

Same as PHILOS 205A.

LPS 205B. Metalogic. 4 Units.
Formal syntax (proof theory) and semantics (model theory) for first-order logic, including the deduction, completeness, compactness, and Loewenheim-Skolem theorems.

Prerequisite: PHILOS 205A or LPS 205A

Same as PHILOS 205B.
LPS 205C. Undecidability and Incompleteness. 4 Units.
Formal theory of effective processes, including recursive function, Turing machines, Church's thesis, proofs of Goedel's incompleteness theorem for arithmetics, and Church's undecidability for first-order logic.

Prerequisite: PHILOS 205B or LPS 205B
Same as PHILOS 205C.
Restriction: Graduate students only.
Concurrent with LPS 105C.

LPS 206. Topics in Logic. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of logic. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 206.

LPS 213. Topics in Modern Philosophy. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of modern philosophy. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 213.

LPS 215. Topics in Analytic Philosophy. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of analytic philosophy. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 215.

LPS 220. Topics in Metaphysics. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of metaphysics. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 220.

LPS 221. Topics in Epistemology. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of epistemology. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 221.

LPS 232. Topics in Political and Social Philosophy. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of political and social philosophy. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 232.

LPS 240. Topics in Philosophy of Science. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy of science. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 240.

LPS 241. Topics in Philosophy of Physics. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy of physics. Topics addressed vary each quarter.
Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.
Same as PHILOS 241.
LPS 242. Topics in Philosophy of Biology. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy of biology. Topics addressed vary each quarter.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 242.

LPS 243.Topics in Philosophy of Psychology. 4 Units.
Selected topics in the philosophy of psychology, e.g., the nature of psychological explanation, reductionism, issues in cognitive, behavioral, and neuroscience.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 243, PSYCH 231P.

LPS 244. Topics in Philosophy of Social Science. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy and social science. Topics addressed vary each quarter.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 244.

LPS 245. Topics in Philosophy of Language. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy of language. Topics addressed vary each quarter.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 245.

LPS 246. Topics in Philosophy of Logic. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy of logic. Topics addressed vary each quarter.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 246.

LPS 247. Topics in Philosophy of Mathematics. 4 Units.
Studies in selected areas of philosophy of mathematics. Topics addressed vary each quarter.

Repeatability: Unlimited as topics vary.

Same as PHILOS 247.

LPS 289. Logic and Philosophy of Science Workshop. 1-4 Units.
A two- or three-quarter-long workshop on selected topics in logic and philosophy of science.

Grading Option: Satisfactory/unsatisfactory only.

Repeatability: May be repeated for credit unlimited times.

LPS 298. Independent Study. 4-12 Units.
Independent research with Logic and Philosophy of Science Faculty.

Repeatability: May be taken for credit for 12 units.

LPS 299. Directed Research. 1-12 Units.
Directed study with Logic and Philosophy of Science Faculty.

Repeatability: May be repeated for credit unlimited times.

LPS 399. University Teaching. 4-12 Units.
Required of and limited to Teaching Assistants.

Repeatability: May be taken for credit for 12 units.