

# Philosophy, B.A.

Teaching philosophy relies essentially on give-and-take dialogue in which students are active participants. Wherever possible, therefore, classes are limited in size, so as to permit sustained interchanges between students and instructors.

Some of the courses offered are of general interest to all students. Others are designed to explore issues that arise in special disciplines such as art or science. The undergraduate advisor should be consulted for advice about courses best suited to the specialized needs of particular students.

And of course the undergraduate philosophy program is also designed for those Philosophy majors, whether they plan to enter some professional school upon graduation (e.g., law, medicine or business) or to pursue graduate work in philosophy.

The faculty encourages Philosophy majors and minors to consider expanding their perspective through study abroad. The Study Abroad Center (<https://studyabroad.uci.edu/>) assists students in taking advantage of many worldwide opportunities for study and research. Those interested in analytic philosophy might consider, in particular, the EAP programs in the United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden, Australia, and New Zealand, and those interested in Continental philosophy could consider the EAP programs in France, Germany, and Italy. See the Study Abroad Center section (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/divisionofundergraduateeducation/#studentprogramsandservicestext>) of the *Catalogue* or an academic counselor for additional information.

**All students must meet the University Requirements (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/informationforadmittedstudents/requirementsforabachelorsdegree/>).**

**All students must meet the School Requirements.**

**Departmental Requirements for the Major**

A. Select one of the following:	
PHILOS 1	Introduction to Philosophy
PHILOS 2	Puzzles and Paradoxes
PHILOS 3	Technology and Society
PHILOS 4	Introduction to Ethics
PHILOS 5	Contemporary Moral Problems
B. Select one of the following:	
PHILOS 30	Introduction to Symbolic Logic
PHILOS 104	Introduction to Logic
C. Select two of the following:	
PHILOS 10	History of Ancient Philosophy
PHILOS 12	History of Modern Philosophy
PHILOS 13	History of Contemporary Philosophy
D. Complete:	
PHILOS 101	Introduction to Metaphysics
PHILOS 102W	Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge
PHILOS 103	Introduction to Moral Philosophy
E. Select five of the following: <sup>1</sup>	
PHILOS 100W	Writing Philosophy
PHILOS 105–199	

<sup>1</sup> Students planning to pursue graduate school are strongly advised to take PHILOS 105A and PHILOS 105B.

**Residence Requirement:** At least five upper-division courses required for the major must be completed successfully at UCI.

## B.A. in Philosophy with a Specialization in Medicine and Well-Being

**All students must meet the University Requirements (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/informationforadmittedstudents/requirementsforabachelorsdegree/>).**

**All students must meet the School Requirements.**

A. Complete:	
PHILOS 1	Introduction to Philosophy
or PHILOS 2	Puzzles and Paradoxes

PHILOS 3	Technology and Society
PHILOS 91	The Philosophy of Sex
B. Select one of the following:	
PHILOS 4	Introduction to Ethics
PHILOS 5	Contemporary Moral Problems
C. Complete:	
PHILOS 101	Introduction to Metaphysics
PHILOS 102W	Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge
PHILOS 103	Introduction to Moral Philosophy
D. Select five of the following:	
PHILOS 121A	Medical Epistemology
PHILOS 124	Topics in Feminist Epistemology
PHILOS 131C	Medical Ethics
PHILOS 134	Topics in Philosophy of Gender and Race
PHILOS 140	Topics in Philosophy of Science
PHILOS 162	Social Ontology
PHILOS 163	Social Epistemology
PHILOS 164	Well-Being

**Residence Requirement:** At least five upper-division courses required for the major must be completed successfully at UCI.

### **B.A. in Philosophy with a Specialization in Law and Society**

**All students must meet the University Requirements (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/informationforadmittedstudents/requirementsforabachelorsdegree/>).**

**All students must meet the School Requirements.**

A. Complete:	
PHILOS 1	Introduction to Philosophy
or PHILOS 2	Puzzles and Paradoxes
PHILOS 3	Technology and Society
PHILOS 22	Introduction to Law and Society
B. Select one of the following:	
PHILOS 4	Introduction to Ethics
PHILOS 5	Contemporary Moral Problems
C. Complete:	
PHILOS 101	Introduction to Metaphysics
PHILOS 102W	Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge
PHILOS 103	Introduction to Moral Philosophy
D. Select five of the following:	
PHILOS 124	Topics in Feminist Epistemology
PHILOS 130	Topics in Moral Philosophy
PHILOS 133	Topics in Philosophy of Law
PHILOS 134	Topics in Philosophy of Gender and Race
PHILOS 144	Topics in Philosophy of Social Science
PHILOS 162	Social Ontology
PHILOS 163	Social Epistemology
PHILOS 165	Philosophy of Action

**Residence Requirement:** At least five upper-division courses required for the major must be completed successfully at UCI.

The Department of Philosophy provides high-achieving students with the opportunity to work closely with a faculty member to gain advanced philosophical training and to produce a paper of exceptional quality. We deem such experience to have intrinsic value (though the additional training and

paper might also be useful if a student intends to apply to graduate school). In recognition of the extra work needed to produce this paper - it is to be done in addition to all major requirements - a student will receive an honors designation on their degree.

To receive this honors designation, a student must take PHILOS 199H, the honors directed special studies course, in two consecutive quarters with the same faculty member. During these quarters, the student will prepare, under the supervision of the faculty member, a substantial piece of original work (a paper of approximately 5,000 words).

PHILOS 199H is a 2-unit course and is graded P/NP. The course does not count towards the major. Thus, the two PHILOS 199H courses are to be done in addition to all major requirements. PHILOS 199H may be taken in conjunction with a graduate seminar with the permission of the instructor of the seminar.

To be eligible to enroll in PHILOS 199H, a student must be a philosophy major, have a GPA of at least 3.7 in all philosophy courses (not just major courses) and be planning to graduate within three quarters. A student must find a faculty member from the Department willing to supervise and evaluate their work. The student, in consultation with their supervisor, must also find a second reader.

To receive the honors designation, the student must maintain a GPA of at least 3.7 to the conclusion of their coursework. The honors paper must be deemed of sufficient quality by both the supervisor and the second reader.

The study of argument and the precision and clarity of thought and writing required of Philosophy majors are excellent preparation for a variety of careers. Many undergraduates trained in Philosophy go on to professional schools in medicine, business, or law. The analytical skills developed in Philosophy courses are especially useful in legal education; indeed, many UCI Philosophy graduates have been successful at top law schools. Former Philosophy students have also used their skills to advantage in careers in government, business, teaching, law enforcement, and computer programming. Many Philosophy majors also continue their education at the graduate level, either in philosophy or a related discipline.

The UCI (<http://career.uci.edu/>) [Division of Career Pathways Center](#) provides services to students and alumni including career counseling, information about job opportunities, a career library, and workshops on résumé preparation, job search, and interview techniques.

- Philosophy, Minor
- Philosophy, Ph.D. (School of Humanities)