

Philosophy

“Philosophy is the core of the humanities, and studying philosophy means studying the history of the ideas that have fascinated and motivated humans for over two thousand years. Our program has special strengths in ancient and early modern philosophy, ethics, and contemporary European thought. Many



students entering college will find opportunities for thinking in Philosophy courses that their high school experience may have led them to associate with Psychology: existential questions, questions about how to live, the nature of selfhood, and the nature of right and wrong. A Philosophy course in your first year is an excellent way to see what higher education really has to offer. The Philosophy program offers a minor in Practical Ethics (including courses in Environmental and Medical Ethics) and a Pre-Law concentration. ”

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Students interested in a philosophy major should consider enrolling in **PHIL 101**, **PHIL 151**, **PHIL 160** or **PHIL 201** in their first semester. **PHIL 101** is not a requirement for the major, but offers a very good introduction to academic philosophy, and satisfies the HES requirement. **PHIL 151** and **201** are required for the philosophy major.

Below are some examples of first semester schedules for a philosophy major. There are many variations of a first semester schedule; the examples are just meant to help you see that there are many ways to reach the same goals.

Example 1:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. PHIL 101 – Introduction to Philosophy (3)	HES
2. A course in Natural Science (your choice) (4)	NS
3. LATN 101** - Elementary Latin (3)	Language
4. FSEM (your choice) (3)	FSEM
5. PHIL 151 – Introductory Logic (3)	Major, QR

Example 2:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. PHIL 160 - Introduction to Ethics (3)	Major, HES
2. PHIL 101 - Intro to Philosophy (3)	Elective or HES
3. A course in Natural Science (your choice) (4)	NS
4. PSYC 100 - General Psychology (3)	HES
5. A course in Physical Ed (your choice) (1)	Elective

Example 3: Athletes for varsity sports must register for the 400-level course of the sport. Practice times for varsity sports can vary, but generally speaking, athletes should allow for enough time to get to and from practice on weekdays from 3 - 6 p.m. Please check with the individual coach for your sport to verify specific practice times each semester.

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. PHIL 160 - Introduction to Ethics (3)	Major, HES
2. FSEM (your choice) (3)	FSEM
3. GERM 101** - Beginning German (3)	Language
4. PHIL 201 - Ancient Greek Philosophy (3)	Major, HES
5. PHYD (your sport) (1)	Elective

***This particular course is in a discipline that allows students with demonstrated competence upon admission to UMW (such as AP/IB credit, dual enrollment, etc.) to begin courses at a higher level. Talk to your Student Success Coordinator if you believe you should start at a higher level.*