

# Philosophy

The study of philosophy develops and refines a rigorous, analytic understanding of certain of our fundamental concepts, e.g., knowledge, reason, truth and value. Since all other disciplines in academia rely on the use of such concepts, the study of philosophy is essential for an education directed toward completeness.

The study of philosophy also yields other tangible academic benefits. It has been shown that philosophy students scored at least five percentage points above average in admission tests for professional and graduate schools in America. No other subject matches philosophy in this respect. Philosophy students do better in examinations for business and management school than anyone except mathematicians.

With employment opportunities beyond academia apparently growing, e.g., consultants to hospitals, state legislatures, Congress, genetic engineering firms and artificial intelligence companies, there has also been a proliferation of philosophical journals focused on such topics as the allocation of scarce medical resources, abortion, euthanasia, disposal of nuclear waste, corporate responsibility and fair profit, etc.

The Philosophy Department additionally provides an Introduction to Philosophy course which surveys most of the standard fields of philosophy—logic, epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, aesthetics, the philosophy of religion and political philosophy.

The other courses offered (Ethics, Logic, Comparative World Religions, History of Philosophy: Ancient, Modern and Contemporary, Issues in Philosophy) are more specific and detailed accounts of these standard fields.

These philosophy courses may be transferred to four-year institutions. (*Check for specifics with your counselor*)

## Program Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the historically significant questions, problems and theories in the major areas of philosophy (epistemology, metaphysics, value theory, logic), including the views and arguments of the major representative philosophers who have addressed these issues.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic rules and principles of logic, including the skill and

knowledge of identifying, analyzing and evaluating arguments.

3. Demonstrate knowledge of the questions, problems, issues and theories that characterize the major historical periods of Western philosophy (Ancient, Medieval, Modern and Contemporary), as well as the views of the some major philosophers within these periods.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the complexity of the human condition, including knowledge of the significance of feelings, emotions and cultural/historical influences on philosophical thinking and methodology.
5. Demonstrate critical thinking skills, virtues and attitudes in the exploration of issues; these include intellectual humility, empathy, fairness, open-mindedness and respect for the intellectual standards of clarity, accuracy, precision, relevance, scope, depth and coherence.
6. Demonstrate proficiency in philosophical writing, which includes presenting a philosophical thesis, supporting that thesis with arguments, and articulating and responding to counter-arguments.

## Department Offices

Philosophy Department (IDC-354, ext. 2476)

## Faculty and Offices

Joseph P. White, *Chair* (IDC-354, ext. 2476,  
e-mail: [white@sbcc.edu](mailto:white@sbcc.edu))  
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## Degree Awarded

Associate in Arts Degree, Philosophy

## A.A. Degree: Philosophy

### Department Requirements (18-19 units)

Philosophy majors at Santa Barbara City College are required to take a minimum of eighteen (18) Philosophy units. Those students considering a major in Philosophy should consult with a Philosophy Department faculty member to plan a departmental course of study that will most benefit them.

PHIL 100 — Introduction to Philosophy.....	3
PHIL 101 — Introduction to Ethics <i>or</i> .....	3
PHIL 101H — Introduction to Ethics, Honors .....	4
PHIL 111 — Critical Thinking and Writing in Philosophy.....	3
PHIL 205 — Introduction to Logic.....	3
<i>PLUS two courses selected from the following:</i>	
PHIL 200 — History of Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval ...	3
PHIL 201 — History of Philosophy: Modern .....	3
PHIL 203 — History of Philosophy: Contemporary .....	3

## College Requirements

For complete information, see “Graduation Requirements” in the *Catalog* Index.

## Planning a Program of Study

The required Philosophy courses for majors may be taken in any order, but it is recommended that Introduction to Philosophy be taken as a prelude to the other courses.

## Preparation for Transfer

Course requirements for transfer vary depending upon the college or university a student wishes to attend. Therefore, it is *most important* for a student to consult with his/her counselor and departmental adviser before planning an academic program for transfer. Information sheets for majors, outlining transfer requirements, are available in the Counseling Center and Transfer Center.

## Honors and Awards

The Philosophy Department selects one student as Outstanding Student who is presented the Philosophy Award at the annual year-end Santa Barbara City College Awards Banquet. No application for the award is required of students.

## Special Programs

Housed within the Department of Philosophy is the Center for Philosophical Education. CPE serves primarily two functions. First, CPE publishes the undergraduate international journal of philosophy, *STOA*. It is published twice a year and features outstanding faculty-nominated undergraduate papers from around the world.

Second, CPE organizes international conferences in philosophy, which are held on the SBCC campus. Hosting groups of outstanding philosophers from primarily the United States and Europe for multiple-day events, CPE provides, through its conference offerings, unique and enriching professional academic experiences for both philosophy students as well as the greater Santa Barbara community. Contact the Philosophy Department for CPE or *STOA* information: [www.sbcc.edu/philosophy](http://www.sbcc.edu/philosophy).

The Philosophy Department also sponsors the Peter A. Angeles Colloquia, a year-long, campus-wide series of lecture-discussions involving scholars, politicians and entertainers of national and international stature. The lectures are traditionally held in the Garvin Theatre and occur typically once a month. Previous lectures can be seen on videotape in the LRC.

The Philosophy Department also sponsors the Philosophy Club. Any students interested in the study of philosophy are encouraged to join. Officers are elected in the fall, and a yearlong agenda of speakers and meetings is developed by the membership. All members of the campus community are welcome.

## Course Descriptions

### PHIL 100 — Introduction to Philosophy (3) — CSU, UC

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

General survey of the basic problems and systems in philosophy. Special consideration given to Elementary Logic, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Political Philosophy and Aesthetics.

### PHIL 101 — Introduction to Ethics (3) — CSU, UC\*

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Study of the types and history of ethical theories. Analysis of the factual and normative factors involved in making moral choices. Discussion of the nature of moral standards and values and their relevance to present times. Some usual topics include the meaning of “should,” “right,” “justice,” “blame,” “responsibility.” An examination of the moral aspect of social issues, such as abortion, euthanasia, the environment and drug legalization, etc. (\*UC Transfer Limit: PHIL 101 and 101H combined: maximum credit, one course).

**PHIL 101H — Introduction to Ethics, Honors  
(4) — CSU, UC\***

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H  
Limitation on Enrollment: Acceptance into the Honors  
Program.*

*Hours: 72 lecture*

In-depth study of the types and history of ethical theories. Analysis of the factual and normative factors involved in making moral choices. Discussion of the nature of moral standards and values and their relevance to present times. Topics include the meaning of “should,” “right,” “justice,” “blame,” “responsibility.” Examines the moral aspect of social issues, such as abortion, euthanasia, the environment and drug legalization, etc. (\*UC Transfer Limit: PHIL 101 and 101H combined: maximum credit, one course)

**PHIL 102 — Comparative World Religions  
(3) — CSU, UC\***

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

*Hours: 54 lecture*

Presentation and interpretation of the fundamental concepts, ideals, customs, rituals and insights of the major religious traditions. Religions discussed are Hinduism; Buddhism; Greek; Roman; Taoism; Confucianism; Shintoism; Jainism; Zoroastrianism; Sikhism; Judaism; Christianity; and Islam. (\*UC Transfer Limit: PHIL 102 and 102H combined: maximum credit, one course.)

**PHIL 102H — Comparative World  
Religions, Honors**

**(3) — CSU, UC\***

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H  
Limitation on Enrollment: Acceptance into the Honors  
Program.*

*Hours: 54 lecture*

In-depth presentation and interpretation of the fundamental concepts, ideals, customs, rituals and insights of the major religious traditions. Religions discussed: Hinduism; Buddhism; Greek; Roman; Taoism; Confucianism; Shintoism; Jainism; Zoroastrianism; Sikhism; Judaism; Christianity; and Islam. (\*UC Transfer Limit: PHIL 102 and 102H combined: maximum credit, one course.)

**PHIL 105 — Business Ethics**

**(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: ENG 110 or ENG 110H with a “C”  
or better.*

*Hours: 54 lecture*

Exploration of how to recognize, analyze and implement ethical decisions within the multi-valued contexts of business. Study of major ethical theories and how they can be applied to business situations. Analysis of the factual and normative aspects of making moral choices and resolving moral dilemmas faced in the corporate world. Issues include corporate responsibility, employee and consumer rights, sexual harassment, fair hiring practices, obligations to the environment, multinational corporations and the ethics of international trade.

**PHIL 111 — Critical Thinking and  
Writing in Philosophy**

**(3) — CSU, UC**

*Prerequisites: ENG 110 or ENG 110H with a “C” or better.*

*Hours: 54 lecture*

Examination of the basic elements of logic, including the study of the principles of inductive and deductive reasoning, and their relevance to problem-solving scientific methods and argument analysis/evaluation. Development of critical thinking skills, including identifying and evaluating arguments, recognizing informal fallacies, and the uses of language in a variety of contexts. Integration of critical thinking skills with the techniques of effective argumentative writing. (Fulfills Critical Thinking requirement for IGETC/CSU General Education.)

**PHIL 200 — History of Philosophy:  
Ancient and Medieval**

**(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

*Hours: 54 lecture*

Study of the thought of the major philosophers from the time of Thales (the founder of philosophy), 640 B.C., through the Medieval period. Philosophers discussed are the Presocratics; Sophists; Socrates; Plato; Aristotle; the Greek Atomists (Leucippus, Democritus, Epicurus); the Stoics; Plotinus and the Neo-Platonists; Augustine; and Aquinas.

**PHIL 201 — History of Philosophy: Modern  
(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Study of the thought of the major philosophers from the time of the Renaissance/Reformation; rise of science in the 1500s to early 19th century. Philosophers discussed are Bacon; Hobbes; Descartes; Spinoza; Leibnitz; Locke; Berkeley; Hume; and Kant.

**PHIL 203 — History of Philosophy:  
Contemporary  
(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Philosophers of the 19th and 20th centuries are studied, showing their impact upon thought, culture and society. Some of the philosophers presented are Bertrand Russell; G. Frege; G.E. Moore; Jean Paul Sartre; L. Wittgenstein; Ayer; Ryle; Heidegger; Husserl; Rawls; and Quine.

**PHIL 204/PHYS 104 — History and  
Philosophy of the Great Ideas of Physics  
(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Examines the history and development of the major ideas of physics. Designed particularly for philosophy students and others in the liberal arts and humanities. Physical ideas of three significant eras: ancient Greece; the beginnings of modern science from the 17th to 18th centuries, including the thinking of Copernicus, Galileo and Newton; and the revolutionary ideas of early 20th century and contemporary physics. Course is designed to be conceptual, rather than mathematical, in its investigation of the great ideas of physics.

**PHIL 205 — Introduction to Logic  
(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Investigation into the nature of argument. Such topics as justification, induction, deduction, validity, language and thought, formal and informal fallacies are discussed. Includes an introduction to Traditional Categorical Logic, and the Propositional Calculus and Quantification Theory.

**PHIL 207 — Issues in Philosophy Series  
(1-3) — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 100 and ENG 103*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Important issues (philosophers, topics, problems and fields) of philosophy are studied, revealing their impact on our lives, thought and civilization. Issues presented in this series include bioethics; mind/body problem; pacifism; morality and human nature; philosophy of art; philosophy and literature; philosophy and politics; philosophy of education; philosophy of science; philosophy of film; the philosophy of mathematics; philosophy of mind; and comparative philosophy.

**PHIL 207A — Comparative Philosophy,  
East and West  
(3) — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 100 and ENG 103*  
*Hours: 54 lecture*

Critical examination of the predominant philosophical ideas of three of the most influential physiological perspectives in world history: Western regionalism, Indian mysticism and Chinese social relationalism.

**PHIL 295 — Internship in Philosophy  
(2-4) — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*  
*Limitation on Enrollment: Completion of two courses (in applicable discipline) at SBCC prior to enrolling in an internship course.*  
*Five to 10 hours weekly on-the-job experience.*  
*Hours: 108-273 lab*

Structured internship program in which students gain experience in community organizations related to the discipline.

**PHIL 299 — Independent Study in Philosophy  
(1-4) — CSU**

*Limitation on Enrollment: At least three Philosophy courses. To be eligible for independent study, a student must have completed a minimum of 12 units at Santa Barbara City College with a 2.5 GPA*  
*Hours: 48-192 lab*

For complete information, see "Independent Study" in the *Catalog Index*. (\*UC Transfer Limit: computed as *Independent Study*; see counselor)