

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES, MINOR

Through the minor in philosophy and religious studies, students explore questions of life, creation, knowledge, society, and culture through an array of philosophical and historical perspectives and traditions. Students also apply philosophical ideas and methods to their professional interests and personal passions.

Students can take one of two tracks. In the philosophy track, students study the great thinkers, from Plato to the present, across Western and non-Western intellectual traditions. The religion track has students understanding the tenets, history, and impact of Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, and other religions across cultures.

Expected Student Outcomes

- Students will be able to recognize, analyze, and logically evaluate arguments encountered in sources ranging from philosophical and academic texts to the popular media.
- Students will be able to construct and present clear, well-reasoned defenses of these both verbally and in writing.
- Students will be able to recognize and assess the relevance of philosophical and religious ideas in the historical interplay of philosophy, religion, and culture.
- Students will be able to apply philosophical methods to conduct ethical, metaphysical, and epistemological analyses.

Outcomes Assessment Activities

The coordinator of the Philosophy Program maintains a portfolio for each student with a declared minor in philosophy and religious studies. Portfolios include a student's major papers written for the courses, transcripts, and other pertinent information. Student portfolios, in conjunction with other direct and indirect measures, form the basis for evaluating expected outcomes.

Specific Program Requirements

Students who wish to minor in philosophy and religious studies must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of approved philosophy and religious studies courses with grades of C or better.

Note: Courses used to fulfill requirements for one track cannot also be used to fulfill requirements (including elective requirements) for the second track.

Philosophy Track

Course	Title	Credits
Required Courses for Philosophy Track		
PHIL 102	Philosophical Literature (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 201	Classics in Ethics (GT-AH3)	3
POLS 370	Western Political Thought	3
Elective Courses for Philosophy Track		
HIST 432	Religion & Politics in US History	3
PHIL 107	Intro to Religious Studies (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 120	Islam and Non-Western Religions (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 204	Critical Reasoning (GT-AH3)	3

PHIL 205	Deductive Logic (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 280	The Ancients: Person, Polis, Cosmos	3
PHIL 291	Special Topics	1
PHIL 295	Independent Study	1
PHIL 491	Special Topics	1
PHIL 495	Independent Study	1
PHIL 498	Internship	3-6
Total Credits		18

Religious Studies Track

Course	Title	Credits
Required Courses for the Religious Track		
PHIL 107	Intro to Religious Studies (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 120	Islam and Non-Western Religions (GT-AH3)	3
HIST 432	Religion & Politics in US History	3
Elective Courses for the Religious Studies Track		
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PHIL 102	Philosophical Literature (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 201	Classics in Ethics (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 204	Critical Reasoning (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 205	Deductive Logic (GT-AH3)	3
PHIL 280	The Ancients: Person, Polis, Cosmos	3
PHIL 291	Special Topics	1
PHIL 295	Independent Study	1
PHIL 491	Special Topics	1
PHIL 495	Independent Study	1
PHIL 498	Internship	3-6
Total Credits		18