PHILOSOPHY - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Philosophy
www.kent.edu/philosophy

About This Program

Explore life's biggest questions with Kent State's Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy Program. Our program provides a comprehensive foundation in philosophical thought, empowering you to critically examine the world around you and engage with life's biggest questions. Enroll now and discover your own philosophical perspective. Read more...

Contact Information

- Program Coordinator: **David Pereplyotchik, Ph.D.** | dpereply@kent.edu | 330-672-0270
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Philosophy and religion teachers, postsecondary

- 6.7% faster than the average
- 30,900 number of jobs
- $76,160 potential earnings

Education teachers, postsecondary

- 4.8% about as fast as the average
- 77,300 number of jobs
- $65,440 potential earnings

Lawyers

- 4.0% about as fast as the average
- 813,900 number of jobs
- $126,930 potential earnings

Social workers, all other

- 5.1% faster than the average
- 62,500 number of jobs
- $64,210 potential earnings

Public relations and fundraising managers

- 9.2% much faster than the average
- 88,000 number of jobs
- $118,430 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency unless they meet specific exceptions. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Transfer Students: Students who have attended any other educational institution after graduating from high school must apply as undergraduate transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog.

Some programs may require that students meet certain requirements before progressing through the program. For programs with progression requirements, the information is shown on the Coursework tab.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
PHIL 11001	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (DIVG) (KHUM)	3
PHIL 21001	INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS (DIVG) (KHUM)	3
PHIL 21002	INTRODUCTION TO FORMAL LOGIC (KMCR)	3
or PHIL 41038	INTERMEDIATE LOGIC	
PHIL 31011	ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY (min C grade)	3
PHIL 31012	EARLY MODERN PHILOSOPHY (min C grade)	3
PHIL 31013	LATE MODERN PHILOSOPHY (min C grade)	3
PHIL 31091	PHILOSOPHERS IN DEPTH (WIC) [1]	3

Philosophy (PHIL) Upper-Division Elective (30000 or 40000 level)		3
Philosophy (PHIL) Upper-Division Electives (40000 level)		9
Philosophical Pluralism Elective, choose from the following (min C grade required): [2]		3
PHIL 31002	MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY (WIC)	
PHIL 31040	FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY (DIVD)	
PHIL 31070	AFRICAN AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN PHILOSOPHIES (DIVD)	
PHIL 31075	PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURE (DIVG)	
PHIL 41091	SEMINAR IN WORLD PHILOSOPHY	
PHIL 41491	SEMINAR IN ASIAN PHILOSOPHY (DIVG)	
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		14-16
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Fine Arts		3
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credits hour, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		39
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		**120**

[1] A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

[2] Any course approved for elective must be upper division (30000 or 40000 level).

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

- To fulfill the domestic diversity requirement, students must take one diversity course that is a not a Philosophy (PHIL) course.
- Minimum C grade in all three courses of the history sequence
- Minimum C grade in one upper-division, designated diversity course

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 14-16 credit hours of foreign language.[1]

To complete the requirement, students need the equivalent of Elementary I and II in any language, plus one of the following options[2]:

1. Intermediate I and II of the same language
2. Elementary I and II of a second language
3. Any combination of two courses from the following list:

   - Intermediate I of the same language
   - ARAB 21401
   - ASL 19401
   - CHIN 25421
   - MCLS 10001
   - MCLS 20001
   - MCLS 20091
   - MCLS 21417
   - MCLS 21420

- MCLS 22217
- MCLS 28403
- MCLS 28404

[1] All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer credit hours and fewer courses. This may be accomplished by (1) passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level; (2) receiving credit through one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University; or (3) demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language. When students complete the requirement with fewer than 14 credit hours and four courses, they will complete remaining credit hours with general electives.

[2] Certain majors, concentrations and minors may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular language coursework.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
PHIL 11001	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (DIVG) (KHUM)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**13**
Semester Two		
PHIL 21001	INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS (DIVG) (KHUM)	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Three		
PHIL 21002 or PHIL 41038	INTRODUCTION TO FORMAL LOGIC (KMCR) or INTERMEDIATE LOGIC	3
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**16**
Semester Four		
PHIL 31091	PHILOSOPHERS IN DEPTH (WIC)	3
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**16**
Semester Five		
PHIL 31011	ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY	3
Foreign Language		3

General Electives		9
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Six		
PHIL 31012	EARLY MODERN PHILOSOPHY	3
Philosophical Pluralism Elective		3
Philosophy (PHIL) Upper-Division Elective		3
Foreign Language		3
General Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Seven		
PHIL 31013	LATE MODERN PHILOSOPHY	3
Philosophy (PHIL) Upper-Division Electives (40000 level)		6
General Electives		6
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Eight		
Philosophy (PHIL) Upper-Division Elective (40000 level)		3
General Electives		12
	Credit Hours	**15**
	Minimum Total Credit Hours:	**120**

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	**36-37**

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Read, write and think critically and analytically.
2. Consider and analyze differing viewpoints and various sides of an issue.
3. Construct strong arguments and express them verbally and in writing.
4. Think creatively and see alternative solutions to problems.
5. Communicate effectively in both personal and professional settings.
6. Demonstrate meaningful cultural literacy.
7. Continue on a path of lifelong learning and inquiry, whether in graduate school or independently.
8. Demonstrate a broad knowledge of the history of philosophy and of important contemporary questions, as well as a deeper, more specialized understanding of selected philosophical figures, issues and/or areas of inquiry.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy gives students the opportunity to consider some of life's biggest questions, such as

- What is the nature of reality?
- What (if anything) can I know with certainty?
- What kind of life should I live?

Philosophy students read, discuss and analyze texts from a plurality of traditional philosophical areas of study in both Western and non-Western philosophies, written by diverse philosophers. They become familiar with contemporary and historical schools of thought and learn about the application of philosophy to other disciplines and professions. The Philosophy major provides intensive training in argumentative writing, careful reading as well as critical and creative thinking, while broadening students' intellectual, cultural and personal horizons.

The flexibility of the major's curriculum allows students to combine it with other majors or minors depending on their career interests. In this way, students can tailor their educational experience to provide excellent preparation for a wide range of careers, including law, business, medicine, technology, public relations, government, journalism, education, writing, editing, communications and social work.