

3600

PHILOSOPHY

Bachelor of Arts Degree

NOTE TO STUDENT: A student is expected to be familiar with the degree requirements. The following information has official approval of the Department of Philosophy but is intended only as a guide. Official degree requirements are established at the time of admission to the degree-granting college.

FIRST YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Semester Credit Hours</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>
English Composition Requirement (Note a.)	4	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
Physical Education/Wellness (Note a.)	1-3	
3600:101 Introduction to Philosophy	3	
3450/3470 Mathematics Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
Language Requirement (Note b.)	<u>3-4</u>	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
	14-18	

Spring Semester

English Composition Requirement (Note a.)	3	
Speech/ Oral Communication (Note a.)	3	
Social Science Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	
3600:120 Introduction to Ethics	3	
Language Requirement (Note b.)	<u>3-4</u>	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
	15-17	

SECOND YEAR

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Semester Credit Hours</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>
Natural Science Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	
3600:211 History of Ancient Philosophy	3	
Language Requirement (Note b.)	3	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
3600:170 Introduction to Logic	3	
Elective	<u>3-4</u>	
	15-17	

Spring Semester

Natural Science Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	
3600:312 History of Medieval Philosophy	3	
Social Science Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	
Language Requirement (Note b.)	3	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
Elective	<u>3-4</u>	
	15-18	

NOTES:

- a. Please see the General Education Guide for options at <http://www.uakron.edu/advising/docs/GEN-EDUC.pdf>
- b. Completion of the second year of a foreign language or sign language is required. A student considering advanced work in Philosophy will find French, German, or Latin advantageous.

POLICY ALERT: 1) By the end of your first 48 credit hours attempted, you must have completed your General Education English, Math, and Communications (Speech) requirements; 2) By the end of your first 48 credit hours attempted, you must have declared a major and transferred to (been accepted by) a degree granting college at The University of Akron.

The Department of Philosophy is in Olin Hall 235, (330) 972-7094. An interested student should see Professor William McMahon, Department Chair. E-mail: mcmahon@uakron.edu.

COURSES:

The Philosophy curriculum includes an introduction to the field, courses in ethics, logic, and the history of philosophy. A student can also take courses on individual philosophers (Plato, Aquinas, Kant), movements (existentialism, analytic philosophy), the theory underlying an area of inquiry (metaphysics, philosophy of science, philosophy of language, philosophy of religion, eastern philosophy), and values (biomedical ethics, social and political philosophy, philosophy of art). (For a student interested in religious studies, a wide range of courses are available, including Philosophy of World Religions, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophy of Science & Religion, Medieval Philosophy, Eastern Philosophy, Aquinas, and Augustine.) An excellent, comprehensive liberal education, with an emphasis on critical thinking, is provided by philosophy. This type of education develops skills which are beneficial to a student taking the LSAT or the GRE.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES:

Philosophy is necessarily linked with the other arts and sciences and provides an essential background for professional and vocational studies. Hence, a philosophy major may wish to elect an additional area of concentration, such as mathematics, sociology, psychology, or the physical sciences. Dual majors are also available. Upon receiving permission from the Head of the Department and Dean of Arts and Sciences, a student may study abroad. A PPE major (Philosophy, Political Science, Economics) also is available. This Social Sciences Division PPE track consists of courses from all three of these departments and, thus, can enhance careers in all of these fields. Please see any of the three departments for details. Also available are Minors in Bioethics, Philosophy of World Religions, Philosophy of Science and Religion, and Pre-Law Philosophy. These minors require a total of 18 credits – 12 from the Philosophy Department and 6 from designated courses in other disciplines.

EMPLOYMENT:

The philosophy curriculum provides a valuable background for virtually any occupation. By developing intelligence and the ability to think critically and analytically, philosophy is quite useful in the long-range sense, preparing a student to be independent of short-range market demands. Some philosophy majors go into academic careers, but many other vocations are possible. Philosophy is one of the best majors for doing well on the LSAT exam, being admitted to law school, and succeeding in the legal profession. A little known fact is that an exceptionally high percentage of philosophy students who apply to medical school are admitted. Philosophically educated students also do well in such fields as management and personnel, investments, government and foreign service, and journalism. Those having skills in mathematics and logic may find employment in the computer industry. Because of the wide variety of fields to which philosophy pertains, it is impossible to cite a salary range. Much depends on individual qualifications; generally, the better the credentials (grades, total number of credits, electives chosen, impression in interview, etc.), the better the job.

PLACEMENT:

A student is encouraged to check with his/her major department and with the Center for Career Management, Simmons Hall 301, (330) 972-7747, regarding employment opportunities in the field. The Arts & Sciences College also has available a Careers Program Office to assist with internships, co-op placements, and employment opportunities. The Careers Program Office is located in Olin 325, (330)972-5714 or careersprogram@uakron.edu.

TRANSFER TO COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:

A student should apply to the college upon completion of 30 credits and a 2.0 or better overall GPA (including transfer work). In addition, the student must have achieved a 2.0 in all coursework in the major field (including transfer work). The 30 credits must include the completion of both required English Composition courses and 3 credits of mathematics or statistics which meets the General Education requirement. This transfer process is completed through an appointment with an academic adviser, the Academic Advisement Center, Simmons Hall 205, (330) 972-7430, or Summit College, Polsky 301, (330) 972-7220, depending upon the college in which you reside.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES:

Degree requirements in Arts & Sciences include the first and second year of a foreign language or sign language (most majors), and 47 credits of 300/400 level courses, not including workshops or General Education courses. Consult your major department for any possible exceptions or problems.

INTERNSHIP AND COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

Internship courses are available which provide students the opportunity for practical experience in the career applications of philosophical studies. Contact the Philosophy Department in Olin 235 or the A&S Careers Program Office in Olin 325 for an Internship Application form. Co-op is available on an optional basis in this academic program. To obtain additional information on program benefits, eligibility requirements or to apply for the program, contact the Co-op staff in Simmons Hall 301, (330) 972-6722. Or contact the A&S Careers Program Office in Olin 325, (330)972-5714 or careersprogram@uakron.edu.

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