

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY

The mission of the philosophy program is to foster greater understanding and appreciation of the value of philosophical inquiry and the examination of perennial questions about the nature of human experience, the purpose of human endeavors individually and communally, and the value of knowledge. We create diverse educational experiences that develop ethical, intellectually curious students who are invested in their communities. By developing critical, logical, and creative thinking, sound judgment, and effective civil communication, we produce students who can engage their philosophical reasoning in the service of solving real-world problems, attending to the ethical issues and theoretical complexities of purpose, policy, and implementation.

A major in philosophy is ideal for students who plan to enter the field of philosophy, law, professional or medical ethics, the ministry, or other fields requiring a liberal arts background.

The major consists of 31 semester hours, including:

| COURSE   | TITLE  | S.H.           |
|--|--|----------------|
| <b>FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENT - STUDENT SUCCESS</b>  |  |                |
| YSU 1500   | Success Seminar  | 1-2            |
| or SS 1500   | Strong Start Success Seminar   |                |
| or HONR 1500   | Intro to Honors  |                |
| <b>General Education Requirements</b>  |  |                |
| ENGL 1550  | Writing 1  | 3-4            |
| or ENGL 1549   | Writing 1 with Support   |                |
| ENGL 1551  | Writing 2  | 3              |
| CMST 1545  | Communication Foundations  | 3              |
| Mathematics Requirement (recommended: PHIL 2619)   |  | 3              |
| Arts and Humanities (6 s.h.; recommended: PHIL 1560 and PHIL 3711)   |  | 6              |
| Natural Sciences (2 courses, 1 with lab) (6-7 s.h.)  |  | 7              |
| Social Science (6 s.h.) <sup>3</sup> hours met through major   |  | 3              |
| Social and Personal Awareness (6 s.h.)   |  | 6              |
| <b>Foreign Language Requirement</b>  |  |                |
| FNLG 1550  | Elementary Foreign Language  | 4              |
| FNLG 2600  | Intermediate Foreign Language  | 4              |
| <b>Major Requirements</b>  |  |                |
| PHIL 1560  | Introduction to Philosophy   | 3              |
| PHIL 2619  | Introduction to Logic  | 3              |
| PHIL 2612  | Ancient & Medieval Philosophy  | 3              |
| PHIL 3702  | History of Modern Philosophy   | 3              |
| PHIL 3711  | General Ethics   | 3              |
| PHIL 4820  | Seminar in Philosophy  | 3              |
| Philosophy Electives (Three additional courses in Philosophy, 2 of which must be at the 3700-level or 4800-level.) |  | 9              |
| PHIL 4861  | Senior Capstone Project (Students can either do 4861 or take a second seminar, PHIL 4820.) | 3              |
| or PHIL 4820   | Seminar in Philosophy  |                |
| <b>Minor</b>   |  | <b>18</b>      |
| <b>Electives</b>   | Must complete a minimum number of electives to meet the 120sh total graduation requirement | <b>29</b>      |
| <b>Total Semester Hours</b>  |  | <b>120-122</b> |

This program can be completed in eight semesters if students enroll in 16 hours per semester and enroll in a combination of day and evening classes. The hours for the degree could increase depending upon the student's foreign language placement upon entering YSU.

|   |                               |              |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Year 1</b>                           |                               |              |
| <b>Fall</b>                             |                               |              |
| YSU 1500                                | Success Seminar               | 1            |
| PHIL 1560                               | Introduction to Philosophy    | 3            |
| CMST 1545                               | Communication Foundations     | 3            |
| ENGL 1550                               | Writing 1                     | 3-4          |
| or ENGL 1549                            | or Writing 1 with Support     |              |
| First Year Experience                   |                               | 3            |
| FNLG 1550                               | Elementary Foreign Language   | 4            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>17-18</b> |
| <b>Spring</b>                           |                               |              |
| PHIL 2612                               | Ancient & Medieval Philosophy | 3            |
| Social Science 15XX/26XX                |                               | 3            |
| ENGL 1551                               | Writing 2                     | 3            |
| PHIL 2631                               | Environmental Ethics          | 3            |
| FNLG 2600                               | Intermediate Foreign Language | 4            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>16</b>    |
| <b>Year 2</b>                           |                               |              |
| <b>Fall</b>                             |                               |              |
| PHIL 2619                               | Introduction to Logic         | 3            |
| Natural Science 15xx/26xx               |                               | 3            |
| Minor 15xx/26xx                         |                               | 3            |
| Social and Personal Awareness 15xx/26xx |                               | 3            |
| Social Science Elective                 |                               | 3            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>15</b>    |
| <b>Spring</b>                           |                               |              |
| PHIL 3702                               | History of Modern Philosophy  | 3            |
| General Education 26XX                  |                               | 3            |
| Minor 15XX/26XX course                  |                               | 3            |
| Natural Science plus lab 15XX/26XX      |                               | 4            |
| Elective 15XX/26XX                      |                               | 3            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>16</b>    |
| <b>Year 3</b>                           |                               |              |
| <b>Fall</b>                             |                               |              |
| PHIL 3711                               | General Ethics                | 3            |
| PHIL Elective                           |                               | 3            |
| Minor 15XX/26XX course                  |                               | 3            |
| Elective 37XX                           |                               | 3            |
| Elective 37XX                           |                               | 3            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>15</b>    |
| <b>Spring</b>                           |                               |              |
| PHIL Elective 37XX                      |                               | 3            |
| Minor 37XX course                       |                               | 3            |
| Elective                                |                               | 3            |
| Elective 37XX                           |                               | 3            |
| Elective 37XX                           |                               | 3            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>15</b>    |
| <b>Year 4</b>                           |                               |              |
| <b>Fall</b>                             |                               |              |
| PHIL 4820                               | Seminar in Philosophy         | 3            |
| Minor 37XX course                       |                               | 3            |
| Elective                                |                               | 3            |
| Elective 37XX                           |                               | 3            |
| Elective 37XX                           |                               | 3            |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>                   |                               | <b>15</b>    |

**Spring**

|                             |                         |                |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| PHIL 4861                   | Senior Capstone Project | 3              |
| Minor 37XX course           |                         | 3              |
| Elective 37XX               |                         | 2              |
| Elective 37XX               |                         | 3              |
| <b>Semester Hours</b>       |                         | <b>11</b>      |
| <b>Total Semester Hours</b> |                         | <b>120-121</b> |

## Learning Objectives

- Demonstrated reasoning ability (competently utilize principles of critical thinking, including assessment of definitions, recognition of fallacies, and application of the principles of good inductive and deductive reasoning).
- Demonstrated ability to articulate philosophical ideas and arguments (clarity, nuance, and sophistication of content) and knowledge of seminal figures in history who espouse them.
- Demonstrated ability to engage in charitable reading (willingness to consider alternative and plausible interpretations of an author's work) and to consider arguments from the standpoint and experience of others (suspend one's personal views).
- Master the basics of theoretical writing, including the development of precise definitions, effective analysis of texts, traditions, and theoretical positions, and effective development, defense, and critique of arguments.
- Demonstrated ability to revise beliefs, ideas, and arguments when presented with new sources, criticism, and evidence or to withhold judgment in the absence of reasons (reasonable disagreement and intellectual humility).