Peace Studies

Contact Person: Fr. James A. O’Brien, S.J., Ph.D.

The minor in peace studies is an interdisciplinary academic program which proposes a vision of human community given to the pursuit of justice and peace even in the midst of great human diversity and conflict. It welcomes students who desire to become creative agents of social change rather than proponents of narrow self-interest as they come to recognize and develop their personal talents and vocational visions.

Through this minor, the University hopes to further its mission of educating men and women for others, for life and for leadership. In a post-9/11 world locked into a war on terrorism, Wheeling Jesuit confidently connects a careful, scholarly search for right relationships in political, economic, professional and everyday life with its dedication to human dignity, freedom, justice and peace, enlivened by the Jesuit and Gospel world view which nourishes its curriculum and its people.

Requirements for the Minor in Peace Studies

The minor in peace studies consists of 18 credits (six three-credit courses, two of which are required and four electives).

Required is one of the following two courses (choose one):

PHI 240 Philosophy of Peace and Justice
PHI 250 Philosophy of Jesuit Education

Plus the following course:

PST 486 Senior Seminar in Peace Studies

As for electives, a full listing of such courses is available from the director of the program. A list of courses for a given semester will be published at the time of preregistration. A course is included only after the request or permission of its instructor and the approval of the faculty committee members who volunteer to serve the program.

Questions about the minor should be directed to Fr. James A. O’Brien, S.J., the current contact person for the program.

Philosophy

Contact Persons: Thomas A. Michaud, Ph.D.
Rev. James A. O’Brien, S.J., Ph.D.
Beverly J.B. Whelton, Ph.D.

The Jesuit tradition of education always has championed the importance of philosophy, both for training the mind and for cultivating a love of truth and an integrity in its pursuit. Philosophy invites a student into dialogue with the great truth-seekers of history and of the present time. Thus it hopes to develop within the student a respect for great ideas, great minds and a life-long commitment to the search for truth, wisdom and justice.

Requirements for Philosophy Major Bachelor of Arts Degree

In addition to completing the core curriculum requirements, outlined on pp. 14-15 of this catalog, philosophy majors must complete 30 credits in philosophy, which includes PHI 305: Ethics. The three courses in metaphysics (PHI 307, 308 and 309) are recommended, though not required, for philosophy majors.

Special Notes on Major Requirement

As graduation requirements, philosophy majors must pass in their senior year a comprehensive one-hour oral examination and write and deliver a graduation qualifying paper. The oral examination will concern a list of thematic questions provided by the philosophy faculty. The qualifying paper can be the result of an upper level (300+) philosophy course, or independently prepared by the student on another subject of interest. For information about guidelines for and scheduling of the oral examination and qualifying paper, a student should consult the department chair.

Political & Economic Philosophy

Coordinator: Thomas A. Michaud, Ph.D.

A trans-disciplinary major that integrates the knowledge gained by the study of economics, political science and philosophy. Students will be encouraged and guided in an exploration of each of these disciplines, to understand how their connections affect ethics, law and public policy. This major is especially well-suited for Pre-Law students.

Requirements for Political & Economic Philosophy Bachelor of Arts Degree

University Core-Fulfilling

PHI 105 Logic and Knowledge
PHI 205 Philosophy of the Human Person
PHI 305 Ethics
POS 110 American Political Process

PEP (Political & Economic Philosophy) Core-Fulfilling

ECO 110 Principles of Macroeconomics
ECO 121 Principles of Microeconomics

Major Requirements

1) The student will take 4 courses from each of the following three areas:
   a) philosophy
   b) political science
   c) economics

2) PHI 485 Section Seminar in Political and Economic Philosophy, interdisciplinary, with faculty from each area participating

(12 crs)
(12 crs)
(12 crs)
(3 crs)
(39 crs)