

Peace Studies

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

The minor in peace studies is an interdisciplinary academic program which offers a vision of human communities dedicated to the pursuit of justice and peace in their ongoing activities.

In a post-9/11 world intent on power tactics and military solutions, Wheeling Jesuit purposes a careful search for right relationships in political, economic, professional and everyday life as the true path to human flourishing. Thus this minor is eminently in keeping with the mission of the University to develop persons for life-long learning, leadership and service.

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 elective). Required courses are:

PHI/PST 240	Philosophy of Peace and Justice	or
PHI/PST 250	Philosophy of Jesuit Education	
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 after the request, or with the permission of its instructor and the approval of the faculty 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.
James H. Stover, Cand., 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 significant truth-seekers of past and present. Thus it hopes to develop within the student a respect for great ideas and great minds, and a life-long commitment to the search for truth, wisdom and justice.

Philosophy

Requirements for Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy

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 Note on Major Requirements

As graduation requirements, philosophy majors must pass in their senior year a comprehensive one-hour oral examination and write and deliver a 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.

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 Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political & Economic Philosophy

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 221	Principles of Microeconomics

Major Requirements

- (1) The student will take 4 courses from each of the following three areas:

a) philosophy	(12 crs)
b) political science	(12 crs)
c) economics	(12 crs)
- (2) PHI 485 Seminar in Political and Economic Philosophy, interdisciplinary, with faculty from each area participating

	(3 crs)
	(39 crs)

Because political and economic philosophy is a dynamically changing field and because it involves three departments each committed to on-going growth, students can expect the program to undergo change during their years at the University. As improvements are made, students will be given the option to fulfill the requirements that are in effect when they enter the program or to adapt to the changes as they are made.

Philosophy

Required (2 courses):

PHI 347	Medieval Political Thought
PHI 349	Contemporary Political Thought

Electives (Choose two from the following):

PHI 240	Philosophy of Peace and Justice
PHI 254	Philosophy of Law
PHI 295	Women and Philosophy
PHI 302	Society, Ethics and Technology
PHI 311	Epistemology
PHI 315	Philosophy of Science
PHI 354	Environmental Ethics
PHI 355	Business Ethics

Political Science

Required (2 courses):

POS 346	Ancient Political Thought
POS 348	Modern Political Thought

Electives (Choose two from the following):

POS 211	Comparative Politics
POS 212	Global Politics
POS 329	Civil Rights & Liberties
POS 330	Constitutional Law
POS 333	Global Economy

Economics

Required (2 courses):

ECO 321	History of Economic Thought
MGT 315	Conceptual Foundations of Business

Electives (Choose two from the following):

BUS 315	Business Law
BUS 489	Global Economic Development
ECO 311	The Market Economy
ECO 318	International Economics
ECO 324	Contemporary Economic Problems
MGT 311	International Business
MGT 316	Business and Society
PHI 355	Business Ethics

Required:

PHI 485	Senior Seminar in Political & Economic Philosophy – interdisciplinary, with faculty from each area participating.
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Minor in Philosophy

A student may minor in philosophy, by taking, with the approval of the department, four courses beyond PHI 205, at least one of which is to be a 300/400 course.

Core-Fulfilling Courses

PHI 105 Logic and Knowledge

PHI 205 Philosophy of the Human Person

PHI 305 Ethics (juniors and seniors only)

Course Descriptions

PHI 105 Logic and Knowledge (3 crs)

Introduction to the fundamentals of critical reasoning (e.g.: the structure of deductive and inductive arguments; fallacies; the square of opposition and categorical syllogisms) and the ways in which critical reasoning integrates with the basic questions and positions in the philosophy of knowledge.

PHI 205 Philosophy of the Human Person (3 crs)

A philosophical study of the human person as a being who, while embodied in nature, is capable of rationally knowing, freely choosing and creatively acting as a unique individual open to communion with others and with the Transcendent. Prerequisite: PHI 105.

PHI 305 Ethics (3 crs)

How ought human beings live in society? Study of the nature, types and criteria of values, with an in-depth study of ethical principles and their applications to certain contemporary moral problems, e.g., abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, war and peace. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and PHI 205.

THEMATIC AND HISTORICAL PHILOSOPHY

PHI 213 Aesthetics (3 crs)

Philosophical analysis of the aesthetic, its foundation in human experience, its role in works of art, its relation to imagination and conceptual thought as explicated in major philosophies of art. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 214 Philosophy of Religion (3 crs)

A philosophical investigation of religion, its language and concepts, especially as it has developed historically in the West, and has been confronted by the phenomenon of contemporary atheism. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 225 Eastern Patterns of Thought (3 crs)

A study of the doctrines, ideals and practices advanced by Eastern traditions of thought such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 240 Philosophy of Peace and Justice (3 crs)

An introduction to the study of peace and justice in an age of conflict and widespread inequities. The course draws upon the enduring wisdom of philosophical reflection, the rich tradition of Jesuit education and the developing insights of contemporary thought to uncover the roots of peace, justice and their opposites. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 250 Philosophy of Jesuit Education (3 crs)

An historical and philosophical overview of the Jesuit system of education; includes consideration of developmental and cultural influences in the lives of young people today, the characteristics and principles of the Ignatian world vision as applied to the academic process, and a review of the Ignatian vision in Wheeling Jesuit University practice. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 251 Philosophy and Human Creativity (3 crs)

Study of the roots, scope and fundamental role of human creativity as the means to intervene in the structure and direction of the world; the implications of this for education, laws, social arrangements. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 254 Philosophy of Law (3 crs)

This course examines the meanings, bases, purposes, sources, implications and types of law. Questions addressed include: What is legal positivism and mere penalism? Are law and morality related? Are civil laws necessarily just? Can civil disobedience ever be justified? How are law and authority connected? Upon what conditions does the legislative process depend? Should judges make laws?

PHI 295 Women and Philosophy (3 crs)

A philosophical exploration of the historical and contemporary meaning of being women with an emphasis on the inherent dignity of women. It will also consider the contributions of selected women to philosophical scholarship along the traditional themes of beauty, truth, goodness and justice.

PHI 302 Society, Ethics and Technology (3 crs)

This course begins with a history of the philosophy of technology in order to understand the ethical values that characterize the development of technology. With this background, the course defines a model for the ethical assessment of technological invention and innovation, and then applies that model to evaluate specific issues relevant to the complex interrelationships between political economy, public policy and cultural change.

PHI 306 Philosophy and History of Sports (3 crs)

Sports are a significant social and cultural phenomenon, and they merit philosophical analysis. This study examines sports from the perspectives of history, the nature of play, religion, ethics and business. Prerequisite: Second year standing.

PHI 307-309 Metaphysics

Claims, methods and limits of metaphysics. A study of the issues of transcendence, causality, the categories, space and time and the human condition, with emphasis on textual study:

PHI 307 Metaphysics I: Ancient (3 crs)

Thinkers to be considered include the Pre-Socratics, Plato and Aristotle. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 308 Metaphysics II: Medieval (3 crs)

Thinkers to be considered include Plotinus, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas and Bonaventure. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 309 Metaphysics III: Modern (3 crs)

Thinkers to be considered include Descartes, Hume, Kant and Hegel. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHILOSOPHY - Recommended Course Sequence

	Freshman		Sophomore		Junior		Senior	
FALL	FYS 101	1	PHI Elective	3	PHI 305	3	PHI Electives	9
	ENG 105/110	3	LIT 250	3	PHI Electives	6	Electives	6
	MOL	3	RST 2xx/3xx	3	Electives	6		
	HIS 110	3	SCI Core	3				
	PHI 105	3	Elective	3				
	POS/PSY/ECO 110	3						
Semester total	16		15		15		15	
SPRING	LIT 120	3	INS/SSC	3	PHI Electives	9	PHI Electives	6
	MOL	3	SCI Core	3	Electives	6	Electives	9
	HIS 120	3	MAT Core	3				
	PHI 205	3	FAS 1xx	3				
	RST 106/107	3	PHI Elective	3				
	Semester total	15		15		15		15
Total Credits	31		30		30		30	121

PHI 311 Epistemology (3 crs)

A critical examination of classical and contemporary theories and problems of knowledge, such as the possibility, origin, foundation, limits and validity of knowledge. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 315 Philosophy of Science (3 crs)

A study of the historical and contemporary ontologies, epistemologies and axiologies of the physical, social and mathematical sciences. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 318 Symbolic Logic (3 crs)

A study of the formal systems of deductive proofs of validity and the relationship between ordinary and symbolic languages. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 320 Bioethics (3 crs)

Philosophical study of the moral implications of situations, decisions and procedures that directly deal with human life in terms of its propagation, its health, its duration, its modification and its termination, as precipitated by the contemporary advances of biomedical technology. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 321 History of Economic Thought (3 crs)

A study of the development of economic theories from classical to contemporary times with emphasis on examining their philosophical bases and implications. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 337 19th Century European Thought (3 crs)

A study of the developing themes in European philosophy during the 19th century, with consideration of thinkers such as Fichte, Schelling, Hegel, Marx, Kierkegaard and Nietzsche. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 338 Phenomenology and Existentialism (3 crs)

A study of the developing themes in European philosophy during the 20th century, with consideration of thinkers such as Husserl, Heidegger, Camus, Sartre and Marcel. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 345 American Philosophy (3 crs)

A study of the developing themes in American philosophy during the 19th and 20th centuries, with consideration of thinkers such as Emerson, Peirce, Royce, James, Dewey and Whitehead. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 346 (POS 346) Ancient Political Thought (3 crs)

Selections from, e.g., Plato, Aristotle, Xenophon, Thucydides and Aristophanes will be examined in this course. Special attention will be placed on the relationship between politics and philosophy. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 347 (POS 347) Medieval Political Thought (3 crs)

A survey of influential Western political thinkers from the medieval world up to Machiavelli. Emphasis will be placed on the anthropological and metaphysical underpinnings of their political theories. Thinkers to be discussed will include St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Dante and Machiavelli. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 348 (POS 348) Modern Political Thought (3 crs)

Selections from modern political thinkers, e.g., Machiavelli, Locke, Tocqueville, Rousseau and Nietzsche will be examined in this course. Special emphasis will be placed on the modern idea of rights, the relationship between politics and philosophy and the role and responsibilities of government in the modern world. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

POLITICAL & ECONOMIC PHILOSOPHY - Recommended Course Sequence

	Freshman		Sophomore		Junior		Senior	
FALL	FYS 101	1	ECO 110	3	PHI 305	3	PHI 485	3
	ENG 105/110	3	MGT 315	3	PEP-POS Elective	3	PEP-MGT/ECO Elective	3
	MOL	3	RST 2xx/3xx	3	PHI 347	3	Electives	6
	HIS 110	3	LIT 250	3	ECO 321	3	PHI349	3
	POS 110	3	PEP-POS Elective	3	PEP-MGT/ECO Elective	3		
	PHI 105	3						
Semester total	16		15		15		15	
SPRING	LIT 120	3	ECO 221	3	FAS 1xx	3	PEP-PHI Elective	3
	MOL	3	SCI Core	3	POS 348	3	Electives	12
	RST 106/107	3	PEP-PHI Elective	3	Electives	3		
	PHI 205	3	POS 346	3	SCI Core	3		
	MAT Core	3	HIS 120	3	INS/SSC	3		
	Semester total	15		15		15		15
Total Credits	31		30		30		30	121



PHI 349 (POS 349) Contemporary Political Thought (3 crs)

A critical survey of major contemporary political philosophies such as liberalism, conservatism and communitarianism and the ways in which they impact the law, the economy and principles of civil rights and civic responsibilities. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 355 Business Ethics (3 crs)

An exploration of the relationship between the world of business and the values of the larger society in which business operates. An application of ethical principles to issues, such as hiring practices, quality of the work place, conflicts of interest, environmental and consumer issues and the social responsibility of business. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 356 Ethics and Public Policy (3 crs)

An application of the principles of ethics to contemporary American institutional structures and public policies, e.g., health care, prison systems, international finance, world trade, foreign policy, war and peace, world hunger, immigration, education and individual rights. Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 360 Great Thinkers in Philosophy (3 crs)

A close and critical textual examination of a major philosopher, (e.g., Aristotle, Plato, Kant, Heidegger, Marcel, etc.). Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 365 Great Themes in Philosophy (3 crs)

A close and critical examination of a major and continuing theme in philosophy, (e.g., Philosophy of Time, Philosophy and Literature, Philosophy of Freedom, etc.). Prerequisites: PHI 105 and 205.

PHI 485 Senior Seminar in Political and Economic Philosophy (3 crs)

Interdisciplinary, with faculty from each area participating. Prerequisites: PHI 105, 205 and 305.