

# PHILOSOPHY, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus

**End Campus:** University Park

## Degree Requirements

**For the Bachelor of Science degree in Philosophy, a minimum of 120 credits is required:**

| Requirement                | Credits |
|----------------------------|---------|
| General Education          | 45      |
| Electives                  | 36      |
| Requirements for the Major | 39      |

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

## Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

| Code                                                      | Title                           | Credits |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Prescribed Courses</b>                                 |                                 |         |
| <i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i> |                                 |         |
| PHIL 12                                                   | Symbolic Logic                  | 3       |
| <b>Additional Courses</b>                                 |                                 |         |
| <i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i> |                                 |         |
| Select 9 credits in Philosophical Foundations of Science: |                                 | 9       |
| PHIL 11                                                   | Science and Truth               |         |
| PHIL 13                                                   | Nature and Environment          |         |
| PHIL 110                                                  | Philosophy of Science           |         |
| PHIL 125<br>or PHIL 125V                                  | Theories of Knowledge           |         |
| PHIL 126<br>or PHIL 126W                                  | Metaphysics                     |         |
| PHIL 127                                                  | Philosophy of Mind              |         |
| PHIL 129                                                  | Philosophy of Language          |         |
| Select 6 credits in Ethics and Science:                   |                                 | 6       |
| PHIL 107                                                  | Philosophy of Technology        |         |
| PHIL 118                                                  | Environmental Philosophy        |         |
| PHIL 132                                                  | Bioethics                       |         |
| PHIL 133N                                                 | Ethics of Climate Change        |         |
| PHIL 134                                                  | Food, Values, and Health        |         |
| Select 6 credits in Advanced Topics:                      |                                 | 6       |
| PHIL 403                                                  | Seminar in Environmental Ethics |         |

|                                       |                                             |   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---|
| PHIL 407                              | Seminar in Philosophy of Technology         |   |
| PHIL 410                              | Seminar in Philosophy of Science            |   |
| PHIL 425W                             | Seminar in Epistemology                     |   |
| PHIL 426W                             | Seminar in Metaphysics                      |   |
| PHIL 427                              | Seminar in Philosophy of Mind               |   |
| PHIL 432                              | Medical and Health Care Ethics              |   |
| Select 6 credits in Formal Reasoning: |                                             | 6 |
| CMPSC 111                             | Logic for Computer Science                  |   |
| CMPSC 121                             | Introduction to Programming Techniques      |   |
| CMPSC 131                             | Programming and Computation I: Fundamentals |   |
| CMPSC 360                             | Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science   |   |
| CMPSC 441                             | Artificial Intelligence                     |   |
| CMPSC 442                             | Artificial Intelligence                     |   |
| ECON 306                              | Introduction to Econometrics                |   |
| ECON 402                              | Decision Making and Strategy in Economics   |   |
| ECON 411                              | Behavioral Economics                        |   |
| ECON 414                              |                                             |   |
| ECON 474                              | Experimental and Behavioral Economics       |   |
| IST 230                               | Language, Logic, and Discrete Mathematics   |   |
| IST 240                               | Introduction to Computer Languages          |   |
| MATH 315                              |                                             |   |
| MATH 427                              | Foundations of Geometry                     |   |
| MATH 457                              | Introduction to Mathematical Logic          |   |
| MATH 465                              | Number Theory                               |   |
| MATH 475Y                             | History of Mathematics                      |   |
| MATH 486                              | Mathematical Theory of Games                |   |
| RM 301                                | Risk and Decisions                          |   |
| SC 205N                               | BS: Identifying Bias and Falsehood          |   |
| SRA 231                               | Decision Theory and Analysis                |   |
| STAT 318                              | Elementary Probability                      |   |

## Supporting Courses and Related Areas

*Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better*

|                                                                   |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Select 3 credits PHIL elective, unrestricted topic                | 3 |
| Select 6 credits Advanced Topics supporting program, choose from: | 6 |
| Advanced Topics, Formal Reasoning, or by approval                 |   |

## General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

### **Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)**

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

### **Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)**

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

### **Integrative Studies**

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

### **Exploration**

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

## **University Degree Requirements**

### **First Year Engagement**

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

### **Cultures Requirement**

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- **United States Cultures:** 3 credits
- **International Cultures:** 3 credits

### **Writing Across the Curriculum**

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

### **Total Minimum Credits**

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

### **Quality of Work**

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

### **Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition**

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or

within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.