Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE)

College of Arts & Humanities

Department of Philosophy

227 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-2012

Director & Advisor for Philosophy: Craig Matarrese
Advisor for Political Science: Joe Kunkel
Advisor for Economics: Ved Sharma

The PPE major integrates the historical, methodological, theoretical, and practical foci of Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics to form a single course of study. The focus of the major is on the dynamic relationships between the economic, political, and legal systems of our society, relationships that require the analytical methods of all three disciplines to be understood fully. For example, the best way to understand our competitive market economy, certainly a fundamental institution of our society, is to explore its empirical, historical, political, and ethical dimensions. Indeed, if one considers the most influential historical figures in each of the three fields, e.g., John Locke, Adam Smith, David Hume, John Stuart Mill, G.W.F. Hegel, and Karl Marx, it is immediately clear that they recognized no rigid disciplinary boundaries between philosophy, political science, and economics, and that the strength of their views lies precisely in their grasp of the dynamic relationships between the systems that these disciplines study. Admittedly, the coherence of the major is expressed at a fairly abstract and analytical level; the content of the major can be broad and diverse, but all students who work through the major’s curriculum will develop an appreciation of the complexity of our society’s central institutions and problems at the same time that they acquire the analytical facility to engage and critically evaluate them.

Students in the major take a number of required core courses in Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics, (9 credits from each of the three departments, a total of 27 credits). Majors must also choose which department they will focus in, their “concentration” (so specifically, one is “a PPE major with a concentration in Philosophy,” or “a PPE major with a concentration in Political Science,” etc.) Students then take 5 more upper-level courses in the concentration (15 credits), and two more upper-level courses from each of the other two departments (12 credits). Majors must also take a statistics course (3 credits), and a senior thesis or independent study course (3 credits). The total required number of credits then is 60, and 43 of them must be in upper-division courses. The PPE major, then, qualifies as a “broad major” that does not require a minor.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

Admission to Major is granted by the Director of the PPE Program. Minimum university admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 (“C”).

Contact the director of the program for application procedures.

P/N Grading Policy. The P/N grading system applies to all courses, but majors and minors may take 300- or 400-level courses in philosophy for P/N credit only with the consent of the department.

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, & ECONOMICS BA

Major Common Core

ECON 201 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
ECON 202 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
ECON 355 Intermediate Microeconomics (3)
PHIL 120W Introduction to Ethics (3)
POL 111 United States Government (3)
(Choose 3 credits)
PHIL 224W Business Ethics (3)
PHIL 240W Law, Justice & Society (3)
(Choose 3 credits)
PHIL 323W Philosophy of Economics (3)
PHIL 440 Philosophy of Law (3)
(Choose 3 credits)
POL 231 World Politics (3)

POL 241 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3)
(Choose 3 credits)
POL 311 Ancient & Medieval Political Philosophy (3)
POL 312 Early Modern Political Philosophy (3)
POL 313 Modern Political Philosophy (3)
POL 410 Topics in Political Philosophy (1-4)
POL 414 Early United States Political Thought (3)
POL 415 Recent United States Political Thought (3)
POL 416 Nonwestern Political Philosophy (3)
(Choose 3-4 credits)
ECON 207 Business Statistics (4)
MATH 354 Concepts of Probability & Statistics (3)
POL 221 Introduction to Political Analysis (3)
PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)
SOC 202 Introductory Social Statistics (3)
STAT 154 Elementary Statistics (3)

Major Emphasis: Philosophy

PHIL 495 Senior Thesis I (2)
PHIL 496 Senior Thesis II (1)
(Choose 15 credits)
PHIL 321 Social & Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL 322W Ethical Theory (3)
PHIL 323W Philosophy of Economics (3)
PHIL 334W History of Philosophy: Classical Philosophy (3)
PHIL 336W History of Philosophy: Renaissance and Modern Philosophy (3)
PHIL 337 19th Century Philosophy (3)
PHIL 338 American Philosophy (3)
PHIL 358W Eastern Philosophy (3)
PHIL 437 Contemporary Philosophy (3)
PHIL 440 Philosophy of Law (3)
PHIL 450 Special Topics (1-3)
PHIL 455 Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
PHIL 474 Philosophy of the Mind (3)
PHIL 480 Philosophy of Science (3)
PHIL 499 Individual Study (1-6)
(Choose 6 credits)
POL 3xx to POL 4xx, except POL 490, POL 491 and POL 492.
(Choose 6 credits)
ECON 3xx to ECON 4xx, except ECON 480, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 491, ECON 498 and ECON 499.

Major Emphasis: Economics

(Choose 15 credits)
ECON 3xx to ECON 4xx, except ECON 480, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 491, ECON 498 and ECON 499.
(Choose 6 credits)
PHIL 321 Social & Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL 322W Ethical Theory (3)
PHIL 323W Philosophy of Economics (3)
PHIL 334W History of Philosophy: Classical Philosophy (3)
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PHIL 499 Individual Study (1-6)
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POL 3xx to POL 4xx, except POL 490, POL 491 and POL 492.
(Choose 6 credits)
ECON 3xx to ECON 4xx, except ECON 480, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 491, ECON 498 and ECON 499.
### Major Emphasis: Political Science

(Choose 3 credits)
- **POL 231** World Politics (3)
- **POL 241** Introduction to Comparative Politics (3)
- **POL 311** Ancient & Medieval Political Philosophy (3)
- **POL 312** Early Modern Political Philosophy (3)
- **POL 313** Modern Political Philosophy (3)
- **POL 410** Topics in Political Philosophy (1-4)
- **POL 414** Early United States Political Thought (3)
- **POL 415** Recent United States Political Thought (3)
- **POL 416** Nonwestern Political Philosophy (3)

(Choose 3 credits)
- **POL 450** Topics in Public Law (1-4)
- **POL 451** Administrative Law (3)
- **POL 452** Jurisprudence (3)
- **POL 453** Constitutional Law (3)
- **POL 454** Civil Liberties (3)
- **POL 455** American Legal Philosophy (3)

(Choose 9 credits)
- **POL 3xx to POL 4xx**, except **POL 490, POL 491**.

(Choose 3 credits)
- **POL 492** Individual Study (1-5)

(Choose 6 credits)
- **PHIL 321** Social & Political Philosophy (3)
- **PHIL 322W** Ethical Theory (3)
- **PHIL 323W** Philosophy of Economics (3)
- **PHIL 334W** History of Philosophy: Classical Philosophy (3)
- **PHIL 336W** History of Philosophy: Renaissance and Modern Philosophy (3)
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- **PHIL 474** Philosophy of the Mind (3)
- **PHIL 480** Philosophy of Science (3)
- **PHIL 499** Individual Study (1-6)

(Choose 6 credits)
- **ECON 301** Quantitative Methods in Economics (3)
- **ECON 305** Money and Banking (3)
- **ECON 314W** Current Economic Issues (3)
- **ECON 355** Intermediate Microeconomics (3)
- **ECON 403** Labor Economics (3)
- **ECON 405** Central Banking (3)
- **ECON 406** Economics of Unions (3)
- **ECON 411** Urban Economics (3)
- **ECON 412** Resource and Environmental Economics (3)
- **ECON 416** Sports Economics (3)
- **ECON 420** International Economics (3)
- **ECON 429** Economic Education (3)
- **ECON 440** Public Finance (3)
- **ECON 450** Economic Development (3)
- **ECON 462** Econometrics (3)
- **ECON 463** Applied Econometrics of Financial Markets (3)
- **ECON 472** Industrial Organization (3)

### Major Emphasis: Economics

(Choose 15 credits)
- **ECON 3xx to ECON 4xx**, except **ECON 480, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 491, ECON 498 and ECON 499**.

(Choose 6 credits)
- **PHIL 321** Social & Political Philosophy (3)
- **PHIL 322W** Ethical Theory (3)
- **PHIL 323W** Philosophy of Economics (3)
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- **PHIL 499** Individual Study (1-6)

(Choose 6 credits)
- **POL 3xx to POL 4xx**, except **POL 490, POL 491 and POL 492**.

(Choose 3 credits)
- **POL 221** Introduction to Political Analysis (3)
- **PSYC 201** Statistics for Psychology (4)
- **SOC 202** Introductory Social Statistics (3)
- **STAT 154** Elementary Statistics (3)

### Major Emphasis: Philosophy

**PHIL 495** Senior Thesis I (2)
**PHIL 496** Senior Thesis II (1)

(Choose 15 credits)
- **PHIL 321** Social & Political Philosophy (3)
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- **PHIL 440** Philosophy of Law (3)
- **PHIL 450** Special Topics (1-3)
- **PHIL 455** Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
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- **PHIL 480** Philosophy of Science (3)
- **PHIL 499** Individual Study (1-6)

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- **ECON 3xx to ECON 4xx**, except **ECON 480, ECON 481, ECON 482, ECON 491, ECON 498 and ECON 499**.

### Other Graduation Requirements

**Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:** Language (8 credits)

### PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, & ECONOMICS BS

### Major Common Core

- **ECON 201** Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
- **ECON 202** Principles of Microeconomics (3)
- **ECON 355** Intermediate Microeconomics (3)
### Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE)

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