

CRITICAL THINKING CERTIFICATE AND MINOR

Critical Thinking Certificate and Minor

College of Arts & Humanities
Department of Philosophy
227 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-2012

Chair: Brandon Cooke

Faculty: Brandon Cooke, John Humphrey, Richard Liebendorfer, Craig Matarrese, Joshua Preiss, Bekka Williams, Julie Wulfemeyer, Sun Kyeong Yu

Academic Map/Degree Plan at www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All

CRITICAL THINKING CERTIFICATE

The Critical Thinking certificate program is a non-degree program targeted to students enrolled in Minnesota State Mankato. The Program provides students with the training in critical thinking skills and issues them Critical Thinking Certificates which will prove to be useful credentials for their active roles in a wide variety of academic, professional and commercial workplaces. This undergraduate program is intended for those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of business, social science, natural science, arts, humanities or history. Upon completion of the 12 unit program an Undergraduate Certificate will be awarded. The program is open to currently enrolled students as well as those who are not currently enrolled but meet undergraduate admission requirements.

Major Common Core (choose 3 credits)

PHIL 110	Logic and Critical Thinking (3)
PHIL 112	Logic of Scientific Method (3)

Major Restricted Electives

Students must take two courses (6 credits) from one of the following five areas. (Substitution may be made for the following requirements with permission of the chair or the undergraduate advisor of the Philosophy Department.)

AREA 1: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of natural science. (choose 6 credits)

PHIL 101W	Philosophical Problem: The Mind-Body Problem (3)
PHIL 420	Epistemology (3)
PHIL 430	Metaphysics (3)
PHIL 474	Philosophy of the Mind (3)
PHIL 475	Philosophical Issues in Cognitive Science (3)
PHIL 476	Philosophy of Perception (3)
PHIL 480	Philosophy of Science (3)
PHIL 481	Philosophy of Biology (3)

AREA 2: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of the humanities. (choose 6 credits)

PHIL 115W	Philosophy of Race, Class and Gender (3)
PHIL 120W	Introduction to Ethics (3)
PHIL 205W	Culture, Identity, and Diversity (3)
PHIL 358W	Eastern Philosophy (3)
PHIL 361	Philosophy of Religion (3)
PHIL 445	Feminist Philosophy (3)
PHIL 455	Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
PHIL 460	Philosophy of the Arts (3)
PHIL 465	Philosophy of Film (3)
PHIL 476	Philosophy of Perception (3)
PHIL 482	Philosophy of Social Science (3)

AREA 3: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of social science. (choose 6 credits)

PHIL 115W	Philosophy of Race, Class and Gender (3)
PHIL 205W	Culture, Identity, and Diversity (3)
PHIL 240W	Law, Justice & Society (3)
PHIL 321W	Social & Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL 322W	Ethical Theory (3)
PHIL 323W	Philosophy of Economics (3)
PHIL 420	Epistemology (3)
PHIL 440	Philosophy of Law (3)

PHIL 445	Feminist Philosophy (3)
PHIL 455	Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
PHIL 476	Philosophy of Perception (3)
PHIL 482	Philosophy of Social Science (3)

AREA 4: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of history. (choose 6 credits)

PHIL 323W	Philosophy of Economics (3)
PHIL 334W	History of Philosophy: Classical Philosophy (3)
PHIL 336W	History of Philosophy: Renaissance & 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 455	Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
PHIL 482	Philosophy of Social Science (3)

AREA 5: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of business

(choose 6 credits)	
PHIL 120W	Introduction to Ethics (3)
PHIL 222W	Medical Ethics (3)
PHIL 224W	Business Ethics (3)
PHIL 226W	Environmental Ethics (3)
PHIL 321W	Social & Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL 322W	Ethical Theory (3)
PHIL 323W	Philosophy of Economics (3)
PHIL 440	Philosophy of Law (3)

Major Unrestricted Electives

Students must take one course (3 credits) from any courses that the Philosophy Department offers.

CRITICAL THINKING MINOR

Critical thinking skill is the ability to construct, evaluate and explain our thoughts and our views of the world in a logical and rational manner. This skill assists us to analyze, understand, and respond others' thoughts correctly and efficiently. The Critical Thinking Minor is intended for students interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of business, social science, natural science, arts, humanities or history. The program provides them with the training in critical and philosophical thinking skills so as to enable each of them to play an active role in a wide variety of academic, professional or commercial workplaces.

Core (choose 3 credits)

PHIL 110	Logic and Critical Thinking (3)
PHIL 112	Logic of Scientific Method (3)

Elective

Students must take 15 credits from one of the following five areas. At least 9 of those credits must be upper division (300-400 level) AND at least 6 of those 9 credits (or 2 courses) must be upper division (300-400 level) philosophy courses. (Substitution may be made for the following requirements with permission of the chair or the undergraduate advisor of the Department of Philosophy.)

AREA 1: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of natural science

Choose 15 credits from the following.

CHEM 201	General Chemistry I (5)
PHIL 101W	Philosophical Problem: The Mind-Body Problem (3)
PHIL 420	Epistemology (3)
PHIL 430	Metaphysics (3)
PHIL 474	Philosophy of the Mind (3)
PHIL 475	Philosophical Issues in Cognitive Science (3)
PHIL 476	Philosophy of Perception (3)
PHIL 477	Animal Minds (3)
PHIL 480	Philosophy of Science (3)
PHIL 481	Philosophy of Biology (3)

AREA 2: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of the humanities

Choose 15 credits from the following list. At least 9 credits must be upper division (300-400 level).

CMST 300	Ethics and Free Speech (4)
ENG 211W	Perspectives in Literature and Human Diversity (4)
ENG 212W	Perspectives in World Literature (4)
ENG 213W	Perspectives: Ethics and Civic Responsibility in Literature (4)
ENG 405	Shakespeare: Comedies and Histories (2)

CRITICAL THINKING CONTINUED

ENG	406	Shakespeare: Tragedies (2)	PHIL	322W	Ethical Theory (3)
ENG	433	Selected Studies in World Literature (4)	PHIL	323W	Philosophy of Economics (3)
ENG	435	The World Novel (2-4)	PHIL	440	Philosophy of Law (3)
ENG	436	Native American Literature (2-4)	URBS	100	Introduction to the City (3)
ENG	437	Latina/o Literature (2-4)	URBS	150	Sustainable Communities (3)
ENG	438	African American Literature (2-4)			
ENG	441	Literary Theory and Criticism (4)			
MASS	110	Introduction to Mass Media (4)			
MASS	260	Principles of Visual Mass Media (4)			
MASS	412	Mass Media History (4)			
PHIL	112W	Introduction to Asian Philosophy (3)			
PHIL	115W	Philosophy of Race, Class and Gender (3)			
PHIL	120W	Introduction to Ethics (3)			
PHIL	205W	Culture, Identity, and Diversity (3)			
PHIL	358W	Topics in Asian Philosophy (3)			
PHIL	361	Philosophy of Religion (3)			
PHIL	445	Feminist Philosophy (3)			
PHIL	455	Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)			
PHIL	460	Philosophy of the Arts (3)			
PHIL	465	Philosophy of Film (3)			
PHIL	476	Philosophy of Perception (3)			
PHIL	482	Philosophy of Social Science (3)			

AREA 3: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of social science

Choose 15 credits from the following list. At least 9 credits must be upper division (300-400 level).

PHIL	115W	Philosophy of Race, Class and Gender (3)
PHIL	205W	Culture, Identity, and Diversity (3)
PHIL	240W	Law, Justice & Society (3)
PHIL	321W	Social & Political Philosophy (3)
PHIL	322W	Ethical Theory (3)
PHIL	420	Epistemology (3)
PHIL	440	Philosophy of Law (3)
PHIL	445	Feminist Philosophy (3)
PHIL	455	Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
PHIL	476	Philosophy of Perception (3)
PHIL	482	Philosophy of Social Science (3)
PSYC	103W	Psychology Today (3)
URBS	100	Introduction to the City (3)
URBS	150	Sustainable Communities (3)

AREA 4: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of history

Choose 15 credits from the following.

HIST	401	Classical World of Greece & Rome (4)
HIST	406	Social History of Renaissance and Reformation Europe (4)
HIST	407	The Age of Absolutism and Enlightenment (4)
HIST	435	East Asian History: 1945 - The Present (4)
HIST	458	U.S. History 1820-1861 (4)
HIST	463	U.S. History, 1945-Present (4)
HIST	466	History of U.S. Foreign Relations in the Twentieth Century (4)
HIST	468	U.S. Constitutional History to 1896 (4)
HIST	469	U.S. Constitutional History from 1896 (4)
HIST	478	America in Vietnam (4)
MASS	412	Mass Media History (4)
PHIL	122W	Introduction to Asian Philosophy (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	Topics in Asian Philosophy (3)
PHIL	437	Contemporary Philosophy (3)
PHIL	440	Philosophy of Law (3)
PHIL	455	Existentialism & Phenomenology (3)
PHIL	482	Philosophy of Social Science (3)

AREA 5: For those interested in the critical, analytical and philosophical dimensions of business

Choose 15 credits from the following list. At least 9 credits must be upper division (300-400 level).

PHIL	120W	Introduction to Ethics (3)
PHIL	222W	Medical Ethics (3)
PHIL	224W	Business Ethics (3)
PHIL	226W	Environmental Ethics (3)
PHIL	321W	Social & Political Philosophy (3)