

PHILOSOPHY

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ABOUT THE PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM

Philosophy literally means the “love of wisdom.” This intellectual discipline enables us to think more critically and rigorously, and then develop genuine insights, about some of the most fundamental questions of life: What is human nature? Do humans have a free will? What is genuine happiness? What makes an action to be right or wrong? What can we know for certain? Does God exist? By challenging students to think carefully about perennial questions like these, the philosophy program provides a pathway to a fulfilling life of the mind. It also provides an intellectual foundation for careers in areas such as business, journalism, law, ministry, social work, and teaching.

UW-Platteville offers a major in interdisciplinary philosophy and a minor in philosophy.

MISSION STATEMENT

With regard to our mission, the philosophy program has two main goals:

The first goal is to help all of the students in our philosophy courses, but especially our philosophy majors and minors, to achieve what UW-Platteville pledges in its mission statement: “to become broader in perspective, intellectually more astute, ethically more responsible, and to contribute wisely as an accomplished professional and knowledgeable citizen in a diverse global community.”

The second goal is to provide our majors and minors the opportunity to develop in-depth their ability to think critically about some of the most important questions that humans can raise about reality, knowledge, and values. As a corollary to this second goal, we aim to give our majors and minors a solid intellectual foundation for whatever careers they pursue after graduation.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who major or minor in philosophy will:

1. acquire a broad understanding of the history of Western philosophy
2. become more ethically responsible through the careful study of various ethical theories
3. enhance their ability to analyze and clarify ideas and arguments
4. demonstrate their ability to present their ideas and arguments effectively, both orally and in writing

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE

Course	Title	Credits
Total for graduation		120
General education		44-58
Major studies		33

Philosophy majors, in addition to the requirements for the major, are also required to take one of the following world language courses: GERMAN 2240 or SPANISH 2840. Majors in philosophy are also required to take one English literature course at the 2000 level or above.

MAJORS

- Interdisciplinary Philosophy Major, B.A. (<https://catalog.uwplatt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-education/humanities/philosophy/ba/>)
- Interdisciplinary Philosophy Major, B.S. (<https://catalog.uwplatt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-education/humanities/philosophy/bs/>)

RELATED MAJOR

- Computer Science + Philosophy (<https://catalog.uwplatt.edu/undergraduate/engineering-mathematics-science/computer-science-software-engineering/computer-science-bs/#philosophy>)

MINOR

- Philosophy Minor (<https://catalog.uwplatt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-education/humanities/philosophy/minor/>)

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

- Interdisciplinary Philosophy Major, Four-Year Plan (<https://catalog.uwplatt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-education/humanities/philosophy/four-year-plan/>)

FACULTY AND LECTURERS

Additional information about the Faculty and Lecturers below may be found in the Faculty and Academic Staff (<https://catalog.uwplatt.edu/faculty-academic-staff/>) section of this catalog.

Drefcinski, Shane D.

Lenzi, Mary E.

Murray, Dale F.