Philosophy encourages critical and systematic inquiry into fundamental questions of right and wrong, truth and falsehood, the meaning of life, and the nature of reality, knowledge, and society. More than any other discipline, philosophy explores the core issues of the Western intellectual tradition. With its emphasis on reason and argumentation, a philosophy major is an excellent preparation for a career in law or business.

120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree must complete a minimum of 60 hours in natural, physical, mathematical, and computer science. Please note: courses with a PHI prefix are generally not accepted towards fulfilling this 60-hour requirement. Therefore, be sure to keep this requirement in mind as you choose your course work for the requirements in the major. A complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, including a specific listing of courses applicable to the 60-hour requirement, can be found on pages 103-104 of the 2007-2008 UK Bulletin.

University Studies Program Requirements

I. Math ................................................................. 0-3
II. Foreign Language (placement exam recommended)* 0-8
III. Inference–Logic (partially completed by Major Requirement) .... 3
IV. Written Communication ......................................................... 0-4
V. Oral Communication .................................................................. 3
VI. Natural Sciences ......................................................................... 6
VII. Social Sciences ......................................................................... 6
VIII. Humanities (completed by Premajor Requirements) .............
IX. Cross-Cultural (choose a Social Science course) ................. 3
X. Electives (choose two Natural Science courses) ................... 6

USP hours: ...................................................................................... 27-42

Graduation Writing Requirement

After attaining sophomore status, students must complete a Graduation Writing Requirement course. See “University Writing Requirement” on page 72 of the 2007-2008 UK Bulletin.

Graduation Writing Requirement Hours: ..................................... 3

College Requirements

I. Foreign Language (placement exam recommended)* 0-6
II. Disciplinary Requirements
   a. Natural Science (completed by USP Elective Requirement)
   b. Social Science (completed by USP Cross-Cultural Requirement)
   c. Humanities (completed by Major Requirements)
III. Laboratory or Field Work .............................................................. 1
IV. Electives .................................................................................... 6

College Requirement hours: ....................................................... 7-13

Premajor Requirements

*PHI 260 History of Philosophy I: from Greek Beginnings to the Middle Ages (PHI 260) ......................... 3
**PHI 270 History of Philosophy II: from the Renaissance to the Present Era (PHI 270) .................... 3

Premajor hours: ............................................................................. 6

Major Requirements

Major Core Requirements

*PHI 320 Symbolic Logic I .............................................................. 3
PHI 331 Ethics
or
PHI 335 The Individual and Society .............................................. 3
PHI 351 Metaphysics and Epistemology ........................................ 3

Major Core hours: ...................................................................... 9

Other Course Work Required for the Major

From the Major Department:
Choose 15 hours of PHI 500+ level courses with at least one course from each group below.............................. 15

Group A: PHI 503, 504, 506, 509, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517
Group B: PHI 519, 530, 531, 535, 537, 540, 545, 592
Group C: PHI 520, 550, 560, 561, 562, 565, 570, 575

Choose 3 hours from any of the group courses listed above or the following: PHI 305, 310, 317, 330, 331, 332, 335, 337, 340, 343, 361, 380, 395 .......... 3

From Outside the Major Department

Choose 18 hours at the 200+ level; up to 4 hours may come from Philosophy courses ........................................ 18

Other Major hours: ..................................................................... 36

Electives

Choose electives to lead to the minimum total of 120 hours required for graduation ...................................................... 9

Total Minimum Hours Required for Degree ...................... 120

*Course used towards completion of a USP Requirement.

French or German is highly recommended to complete the USP and College foreign language requirements. Greek is recommended if the student plans to concentrate on ancient philosophy. Latin is recommended if the student plans to concentrate on medieval philosophy.