



**Philosophy Programs, Faculty, Advising
Worksheets**

**Department of Philosophy
Hofstra University**

<http://www.hofstra.edu/academics/colleges/hclas/phi/>

"At the start of the semester I was intimidated about taking a philosophy class. But now I understand that philosophy isn't intimidating; it's just another way of seeing things. It helps you get clearer about what you believe, and about what other people believe. It helps you figure things out."

-- Student in an introductory Philosophy course at Hofstra

What We Teach: The aim of the Philosophy Department is to help all of our students to reflect about fundamental issues (goodness, truth, beauty, justice, knowledge, reality) in varied and stimulating ways, and to develop excellent skills in reading, writing, speaking, and reasoning.

Careers: Our majors and minors go on to careers in many different areas, including law, business, social work, elementary and secondary education, medicine, and college teaching. Philosophy educates students in skills and in habits of mind that are useful in all of these fields.

Community: Philosophy majors, minors, and other interested students run a Philosophy Club that meets weekly. The Department has a chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, an international honor society. Students are welcome at departmental colloquia, where departmental faculty and visiting scholars discuss their research.

For More Information:

- Visit our web site at <http://www.hofstra.edu/Academics/HCLAS/Philosophy>
- Drop by, or call, the department office: 104 Heger Hall, 516 463-5612
- Email the Chairperson at kathleen.wallace@hofstra.edu
- Current majors and minors can visit the department Blackboard group (from their Blackboard home pages)

PHILOSOPHY AND CAREERS WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PHILOSOPHY MAJOR?

Some careers require specific or technical skills and knowledge. You can't be an Engineer without specific training in engineering! But many careers, including engineering, and others – for example, medicine, law, business -- require the skills of thinking outside the box, critical thinking, open-mindedness, ethical reasoning, problem solving, writing and analysis.

For some good discussions of what you can do with philosophy check out Hofstra's Philosophy Department website <http://www.hofstra.edu/academics/colleges/hclas/phi/>; here's another department with a good description: <http://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/philosophy/payoff.dot>

FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO STUDIED PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy majors have gone on to become many different things: composers, film makers, film critics, actors, political leaders, business leaders, writers, professors, comedians, presidents, judges, doctors. For a sample of famous students of philosophy, check out:

- <http://teach.valdosta.edu/chjames/famousphilosophy.htm>
- <http://www.philosophymajor.org/famous-philosophers>

MEDICINE

Philosophy majors who are interested in a career in medicine *and* who take the necessary science courses have one of the highest acceptance rates to medical school.

<http://www.amsa.org/AMSA/Homepage/Publications/TheNewPhysician/2000/tnp275.aspx> and AAMC Data Warehouse: Applicant Matriculant File, as of November 22, 2000

Humanities majors outperform Biological Sciences majors on the MCATs. (In this data set, **Philosophy** is defined as a humanities major.)

Source: AAMC: Data Warehouse: Applicant Matriculant File as of 10/19/2010

<https://www.aamc.org/data/facts/applicantmatriculant/>

- Inquire about Hofstra's **Pre-med/Pre-health Major with a concentration in Philosophy.** ••

LAW

Philosophy majors were the second highest performers on the LSATs, topped only by Physics/math majors.

The Journal of Economic Education, Spring 2006, p. 247. Table 3. Average 2002-2003 LSAT scores.

ADVANCED DEGREES

Philosophy majors outperform all other majors on the GRE Verbal and the GRE Analytic **Philosophy** majors outperform all other humanities majors and biological sciences majors on the GRE Quantitative.

GRE Data From: Graduate Record Examination's Guide to the Use of Scores 2010-11

Produced by: Educational Testing Service Based on the performance of all examinees who tested between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2009

MEAN GMAT TOTAL SCORES

Philosophy majors outperform Business majors, and most science majors, except for Physics and Math majors, on the GMAT. "Profile of GMAT Candidates, 2005-06 to 2009-10," by GMAC <http://www.gmac.com/gmac/ResearchandTrends/GMATStats/ProfileofCandidates.htm>

UG Major	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
Philosophy	575	583	591	576	587
Accounting	506	508	511	511	520
Actual Science	568	576	576	582	577
Business Ed.	496	502	509	511	520
Finance	536	542	544	548	555
Info. Sys. Tech.	510	521	530	529	536
Int'l Bus.	502	516	519	521	528
Mgmt	486	494	496	498	503
Marketing	485	487	491	491	493
Ops Mgmt/Prod.	555	557	562	549	576

BUSINESS

Among the *U.S. News & World Report* top 20 MBA programs, 34% of admitted MBA students for the class of 2011 were undergraduate business majors; the rest were from other fields. For the class of 2011, Humanities and Social Science majors composed 40% of the class at Harvard, 47% at Stanford and 42% at Wharton.

<http://www.beatthegmat.com/mba/2009/11/20/which-undergrad-major-is-most-preferred-by-the-top-mba-programs>

"On average nationally, business students enter the work force with higher starting salaries than those of humanities and social-science majors. By midcareer, however, some of those liberal-arts majors, including in political science and **philosophy**, have closed the gap."

"Business Educators Struggle to Put Students to Work," by David Glenn *The Chronicle of Higher Education* in collaboration with *The New York Times*, April 14, 2011

<http://chronicle.com/article/Business-Education-Not-Always/127108/>

"**Philosophy** offers a deeper, broader way of thinking to help guide companies through times made tougher by overspecialized experts."

"Philosophy is Back in Business, by Dov Seidman, *Bloomberg Business Week*, January 12, 2010

http://www.businessweek.com/managing/content/jan2010/ca20100110_896657.htm

Philosophy graduates -- what can they possibly have to offer? "We need people who have the ability to look for different approaches and take an open mind to issues. These skills are promoted by philosophical approaches."

"I think, therefore I earn," by Jessica Shepherd, *The Guardian*, November 20, 2007

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2007/nov/20/choosingadegree.highereducation>

- "If You Know You'll Get An MBA...It could make sense to get a degree in the sciences or humanities first," *Bloomberg Business Week*, May 8, 2006

http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/06_19/b3983414.htm

- But Can They Write? By Lynn O'Shaughnessy, *The New York Times*, April 17, 2011

<http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2011/04/17/why-look-down-on-a-business-degree>

- "The Management Myth," by Matthew Stewart, *The Atlantic*, June 2006

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2006/06/the-management-myth/4883/1/>

- "**Philosophers** Find the Degree Pays Off in Life and Work", by Carol Marie Cropper, *The New York Times*, December 26, 1997

<http://www.nytimes.com/1997/12/26/business/philosophers-find-the-degree-pays-off-in-life-and-in-work.html?pagewanted=4&src=pm>

PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMS

This page includes basic information about the Philosophy major and the department's other programs. For additional information about the Philosophy major and minor, check the Hofstra Bulletin or see any of the department's full-time faculty members. For additional information about the minors in Philosophy of Science and Philosophy of Law, and the concentration in Applied Ethics, please see the advisor listed at the end of the program description.

Major in Philosophy: 30 semester hours within the Department. Five courses (15 credits) are specifically required: Phi 10 Introduction to Philosophy, Phi 14 Introduction to Ethics, Phi 141 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Phi 143 Modern Philosophy, and Phi 154 Symbolic Logic. A sixth course (3 credits) must be chosen from a list of three: Phi 180 Theories of Knowledge and Being, Phi 180A Epistemology, and PHI 180B Metaphysics. A seventh course (3 credits) must be chosen from a list of 11 possibilities. The remaining three courses (9 credits) are electives. In all, at least six of the courses taken for the major must be at the 100 level. (Worksheet on p. 6.)

B.A. Prehealth Major with a concentration in Philosophy: This program includes all the courses required for pre-med or other prehealth professions, as well as 21 semester hours in philosophy. (Worksheet for this major on p. 8.)

Minor in Philosophy; 18 semester hours of courses in the department, with at least 9 semester hours at the 100 level. Students are free to select the particular philosophy courses that best fit their needs and interests. (Worksheet for minors on p. 7.)

Minor in Philosophy of Science: 18 semester hours. This is an interdisciplinary minor that allows students to deepen their understanding of science in general (and their own scientific activity). The courses required include historical, formal and conceptual courses. Topics that are included in the required classes include the structure of scientific reasoning, the development of central concepts in science, the reasons we are justified in trusting science (despite the fact that the history of science is, in some sense, a history of failures), and examinations of central concepts in science (causation, laws of nature, determinism, chance etc.). Consult with the advisor for the minor, Dr. Eliot, or with the department chairperson. (Worksheet on p. 5.)

Minor in Philosophy of Law: 18 semester hours. This minor is appropriate for students who – whether planning to go on to law school or not – want to deepen their understanding of the law and its philosophical foundations. Required courses give students a grounding in philosophical accounts of the nature of legal authority, and engage students in thinking about a variety of topics, including the nature of legal reasoning, theories of punishment, and the demands of liberty and equality on the law. Students minoring in Philosophy of Law also take courses on the law in other departments and schools in the University. Consult with the advisor for the minor, Dr. Baehr. (Worksheet on p. 5.)

Concentration in Applied Ethics: For majors, minors or any interested students. Offerings typically include courses that bring normative theories to bear on special fields of concern, e.g. environmental or bioethics. Students interested in public affairs and/or professional studies may also take advantage of this track. Consult with the program advisor, Dr. Acampora, or with the department chairperson.

Advising Worksheets for Majors and Minors --
see pages 6, 7, and 8

ADVISING

All full-time faculty in the department advise majors. Advising includes: (1) answering questions about major requirements, distribution requirements, and other general university requirements; (2) talking with students about their special interests in philosophy, and what courses fit best with those interests; (4) talking with students about their post-college plans; and (5) connecting students with University resources appropriate for giving them further help or information.

The department aims to maintain current contact information about all of its majors, and to provide each major with a faculty. To get an advisor, call the department office or email Prof. Baehr at amy.baehr@hofstra.edu.

You can help the advising process in the following ways:

- First of all, realize that regular advising appointments are important for making sure that you stay on track for graduation, and that the department faculty are happy to help you with this goal!
- Make sure that your email and phone information on file at the department stays up to date.
- If you seldom check your Hofstra email, set it up to forward to the account that you do regularly check.
- Before your advising appointment, devote some thought to the courses you are interested in and what requirements you need to fulfill.
- Bring a DARS printout along to your appointment.

At an advising appointment, your advisor should get from your files (or fill in from scratch, where appropriate) an advising worksheet similar to the one on the following page.

Minors who are interested in advising should speak with the department chair, or with any full-time faculty member. Students in a specialized minor or concentration should speak with the faculty advisor for that minor or concentration, as listed on the previous page.



Advising Worksheet for Philosophy Majors

(The department keeps a similar form on file to help in advising each major)

(1) 5 specifically required courses, 15 hours (please record instructor and semester):

10 Intro	14 Ethics
141 Ancient & Medieval	143 Modern
154 Symbolic Logic	

(2) 1 course, 3 hours, chosen from the following list (please record instructor and semester):

180 Knowledge and Being	180A Epistemology
180B Metaphysics	

(3) 1 course, 3 hours, chosen from the following list (please record instructor and semester):

145 (19 th C)	164 (Mind)
147 (20 th & 21 st C)	165 (Language)
148 (American)	166 (Social/Political)
160 (Arts)	167 (Feminism)
161 (Science)	170 (Ethical Theory)
163 (Religion)	

(4) 3 courses, 9 hours, electives in the department (please record instructor and semester):

Minimum 30 hours required overall; at least 18 of these must be in 100 level courses. A grade of C- or better is required for each course in the 30 hours.

Requirements for Department Honors include (1) at least 60 hours in residence at Hofstra (with at least 15 hours in Philosophy); (2) Cumulative GPA of at least 3.4; (3) Philosophy GPA of at least 3.5; and (4) Honors Essay—requires at least 3 hours in PHI 193.

ADVISING WORKSHEET FOR PHILOSOPHY MINOR PROGRAMS

Student Information Bulletin Year: _____

Name _____ 700 # _____

Perm. _____

Address _____

Campus/local _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Permanent: _____ Campus: _____

Major _____

Philosophy Minor, 18 credits, 6 courses, 9 credits at 100 level

Any 6 courses with "Phil" designation, with at least 3 at 100 level.

1) _____ 4) _____

2) _____ 5) _____

3) _____ 6) _____

Specialized Minor Programs:

Philosophy of Science Minor

Philosophy of Law Minor

Philosophy of Science Minor, 18 credits, 6 courses

Interdisciplinary minor program.

A. 6 credits:

1. PHI 161, Phil of Science _____ AND

2. PHI 152, Scientific Reasoning OR PHI 162, Phil of Biology _____

B. 3 credits: Natural Science Course -- at least two courses, *one* of which counts toward minor

C. 9 credits from PHI Science Minor Electives -- see list in Bulletin

Philosophy of Law Minor, 18 credits, 6 courses

Interdisciplinary minor program.

A. 6 credits:

1. PHI 15 _____

2. PHI 120 _____

B. 3 credits from among:

PHI 121, Crime and Punishment OR PHI 166 Contemporary Political Philosophy OR
PHI 185 Topics in Philosophy and Law

C. 9 credits from PHI of Law Minor Electives (with at least 3 cr. in PHI courses) -- see list in Bulletin

B.A. Pre-Health major w/concentration in philosophy

includes all the science and math courses you need for Medical School (check the Hofstra Bulletin for the most up-to-date listing):

Required	Recommended
Science BIO 11, 12; CHEM 3A/B, 4A/B, 131A/B, 132A/B; PHYS 1A/B or 11A/B, and 2A/B or 12A/B	For medical school: BIO 135, 137, BCHM 162 or 163
Math 1 statistics course: BIO 100, PSY 40, or SOC 180; 1 additional math course: MATH 50, 71, 72 or 73	For veterinary school: BIO 143 (see pre-requisites), BCHM 162 and 163
	For dental school: courses in the fine arts (for example, sculpture or jewelry-making) that develop manual dexterity

and, 21 credits in Philosophy, with 12 credits at 100 level:

PHI 10, Introduction to Philosophy (HP distribution)	3 credits
PHI 141, Ancient Philosophy or PHI 143, Modern Philosophy	3 credits
One course in Ethical Reasoning: PHI 14, Introduction to Ethics (HP distribution), or PHI 130 Bioethics: Medicine and Morality (HP distribution), or PHI 170 Ethical Theory	3 credits
One course in Scientific Reasoning: PHI 150, Practical Logic, or PHI 152, Scientific Reasoning, or PHI 161, Philosophy of Science (HP distribution), or PHI 162, Philosophy of Biology (HP distribution)	3 credits
Electives in PHI Choose from any courses in philosophy (see Bulletin for complete listing of philosophy courses)	9 credits

A B.A. degree is a minimum of 124 credits. See the Hofstra Bulletin and an Advisor to review the requirements for the degree beyond those for the Pre-health major

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Ralph R. Acampora, Associate Professor

Environmental Philosophy, Bioethics, History of Continental Philosophy

PhD, 1996, Emory University; MA, 1992, Emory University; MA, 1988, CUNY; BA, 1988, Queens College

Amy Baehr, Associate Professor

Contemporary Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law, Feminist Philosophy

PhD, 1997, SUNY Stony Brook; MA, 1994, SUNY Stony Brook; BA, 1988, Dickinson College

Anthony B. Dardis, Professor

Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics

PhD, 1990, University of California-Berkeley; MA, 1983, University of California-Berkeley; BA, 1977, Columbia University

Christopher Eliot, Assistant Professor (on leave Fall 2011)

Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Biology, Aesthetics, Environmental Philosophy

PhD, 2004, University of Minnesota; BA, 1996, Kenyon College

Terry F. Godlove, Professor and Associate Dean for First Year Programs

Epistemology, Kant, Philosophy of Religion

PhD, 1984, University of Chicago; MA, 1982, University of Chicago; MA, 1979, University of Chicago; BA, 1977, Oberlin College

Amy D. Karofsky, Associate Professor

Medieval Philosophy, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Religion

PhD, 1997, University of Virginia; MA, 1992, University of Virginia; AB, 1990, University of Pennsylvania

Mark V. McEvoy, Associate Professor

Epistemology, Philosophy of Mathematics and Metaphysics

PhD, 2003, CUNY Graduate School & University Center; MA, 1996, Tulane University; BA, 1992, Trinity College (Dublin)

Ira J. Singer, Associate Professor and Department Chair (on leave Fall 2011)

Ethics, History of Philosophy, Metaphysics

PhD, 1990, University of California-Berkeley; AB, 1983, Princeton University

Kathleen Wallace, Professor

Ethics, American Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy, Metaphysics

PhD, 1983, SUNY University Center-Stony Brook; BA, 1972, Rosemont College