

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The philosophy program offers a rigorous liberal arts education. It trains students to speak and write carefully, think and reason critically, and to seek out creative connections between ideas of all kinds. Philosophy is an excellent undergraduate preparation for almost any professional field. Philosophical inquiries can cover a wide range of subject matters including ethics and politics, art and literature, history and religion, technology, and the sciences. The benefits of a philosophy degree last a lifetime, setting students on a path toward self-development, intellectual sophistication, and the enrichment that comes from living a more reflective life.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas.advising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CLAS Advising website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 1030
303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Philosophy Major Advising

[CLAS Major Advising Contact Information](#)

Visit the department website [here](#)

Plaza Building (PL) Mezzanine Level 108
303-315-7223

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 credit hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) credit hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS credit hours with letter grades at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** credit hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:*

- 16 credit hours Pass/Fail
- 12 credit hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 credit hours of internship credit
- 8 credit hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major advisor to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Philosophy B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 36* PHIL credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 16 upper-division (3000-level and above) PHIL credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- (1.7) in all courses that apply to the major and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to major requirements.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 18 PHIL credit hours with CU Denver faculty.
5. Courses taken at other institutions must either be transferred as direct equivalent to a CU Denver course or be approved by an advisor in the Philosophy Department for application towards the major.
6. For those students who both major in philosophy and minor in ethics, philosophy or philosophy of science, up to two courses can satisfy the requirements for both.
7. *For those students who qualify for and fulfill the requirements of graduation with Honors, a minimum of 42 PHIL hours is required.
8. Though certain courses may satisfy different requirements, no single course may count for more than one requirement towards the major.
9. Courses not specifically listed here but offered by the University may count toward the degree upon the approval of the major advisor.
10. Students should work with their Department Undergraduate Advisor to determine a course plan that follows one of the listed pathways: Ethics and Values; Philosophical Traditions; Mind and Consciousness; Science, Technology, and Knowledge; or Social Justice, Politics, and Diversity.

LYNXCONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver LynxConnect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the LynxConnect [website](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	CLAS Graduation Requirements
PHIL Major Requirements	36	16 credit hours must be upper-division
PHIL Recommended Courses		
PHIL 1012 Truth, Reality, and the Good Life: Introduction to Philosophy or PHIL 1020 Right, Wrong, and Seeing the Difference: Introduction to Ethics or PHIL 2441 Logic, Language, & Scientific Reasoning		Students interested in Philosophy are encouraged to begin by taking one of these courses. <i>Courses can fulfill CU Denver Core Humanities and CLAS Humanities</i>
PHIL Required Courses		
Complete 12 courses in Philosophy. Students should work with their Department Undergraduate Advisor to determine a course plan that follows one of the listed pathways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics and Values Philosophical Traditions Mind and Consciousness Science, Technology, and Knowledge Social Justice, Politics, and Diversity 	36	*See department for approved courses.
Estimated General Electives	15 - 35	General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.
Total Minimum Credit Hours:	120	45 credit hours must be upper-division

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as certificates, minors, double-majors, or dual-degrees.

Year One	Fall	CRS	Spring		CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II		3
	CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 1010 <i>recommended</i>	3	CU Denver Core Arts		3
	CU Denver Core Humanities – PHIL 1012 ^C or 1020 ^C or 2441 ^C	3	CU Denver Core Social Science		3
	CU Core Denver Behavioral Science	3	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab		3
	General Elective / First-Year Seminar	3	CLAS Communicative Skills ^M		3
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours		15
Year Two	Fall	CRS	Spring		CRS
	PHIL Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Course (see PHIL advisor)		3
	PHIL Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Course (see PHIL advisor)		3
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	4	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab		3
	CLAS Behavioral Science	3	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M		3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3	Upper-Division General Elective		3
	Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours		15
Year Three	Fall	CRS	Spring		CRS
	PHIL Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Course (see PHIL advisor)		3
	PHIL Upper-Division Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Upper-Division Course (see PHIL advisor)		3
	CLAS Second Language Semester I	5	CLAS Second Language Semester II		5
	CLAS Nat/Phys Science with lab	4	CLAS Social Science		3
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours		14
Year Four	Fall	CRS	Spring		CRS
	PHIL Upper-Division Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Upper-Division Course (see PHIL advisor)		3
	PHIL Upper-Division Course (see PHIL advisor)	3	PHIL Upper-Division Course (see PHIL advisor)		3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3	Upper-Division General Elective		3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3	Upper-Division General Elective		3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3	Upper-Division General Elective		3
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours		15

^M Major Course Available ^C CU Denver Core Course ^{PE} Prerequisite Enforced ^{PR} Prerequisite Recommended