PHILOSOPHY

BACHELOR OF ARTS
MINOR

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The subject of philosophy encompasses such fundamental issues as the scope and limits of human knowledge, the ultimate constituents of reality, the sources of value and obligation, and the nature of logic and correct reasoning. Philosophy utilizes the findings of many other academic disciplines and, in its method, it stresses clear, rigorous, and systematic thought. The application of philosophical ideas to the practical problems of life has always been a part of the subject.

CSUS offers the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Philosophy as well as a Philosophy minor. Since Philosophy is a useful major for a wide variety of career goals, the major includes two concentrations, one in applied ethics and law, the other in logic and philosophy of science. Philosophy is an excellent vehicle for refining one's skills in critical reasoning and rational decision-making. Philosophy majors who plan a career in teaching at the college or university level must commit themselves to a program of graduate study upon completion of the BA. Majors may choose the general major in Philosophy or one of the following concentrations:

1. General Major - forms an excellent basis for a broad liberal arts education and has been the chosen mode of preparation for successful careers in such diverse areas as university teaching, government, education, medicine, consulting, publishing, business, and finance.
2. Concentration in Applied Ethics and Law - prepares undergraduates for law school, as well as for graduate programs specializing in applied ethics.
3. Concentration in Logic and Philosophy of Science - prepares undergraduates for graduate programs specializing in logic and philosophy of science.

FEATURES
The Philosophy Department faculty members are active scholars who have all presented many written papers and public lectures. Most have published important articles and books in their respective areas of specialty.

The flexible major and minor requirements allow students to choose electives to fit their specific interests and career objectives. The minor offers an excellent complement to many other majors. The department has prepared a brochure with recommended sequences of minor courses for various majors. This brochure is available in the department office. The department also prepares a free booklet describing the upcoming semester’s courses in detail, along with each professor’s specific texts and course requirements. These booklets are always made available prior to the registration period before the end of each semester.

Students are encouraged to take part in the Philosophy Club meetings. The monthly meetings are designed to promote group discussions about philosophical topics of interest. Club speakers have included students, philosophy faculty, professors from other departments on campus, and professors from other universities.

The Philosophy Department is committed to a program of regular evening and night class offerings. Students who attend exclusively in evening or night hours will be able to complete all major requirements within a three-year period. A three-year schedule of offerings is available in the department office. Some required courses will be offered only once in a given three-year period.

FACULTY
Thomas Pyne, Department Chair
Clifford Anderson, Bradley Dowden, Stan Dundon, Robert Foreman, Gale Justin, David Long, C. William Lovitt, Thomas Pyne

Elizabeth Meland, Administrative Support Coordinator
Department Office, Amador Hall 452A, 278-6424

CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Law • Medicine • Government Administration • Labor Relations • Ministry • Publishing • Literary Criticism • Social Work • Educational Research • Educational Broadcasting • Scientific Research • Library Science • Management • Teaching • Journalism
C. Electives (15 units)

Elective courses should be selected in consultation with an advisor. At least 9 units must be selected from courses numbered 150 or above.

Concentration in Applied Ethics and Law

Total units required for BA: 124
Total units required for Major in Philosophy, Applied Ethics and Law Concentration: 36

The concentration in Applied Ethics and Law is designed as a preparation for the study of law as well as for advanced professional study in applied ethics. It is also intended to give undergraduates a foundation in rational decision-making, embodying the conviction that such an intellectual capacity has broad application. The concentration gives students an understanding of the theories behind moral and legal principles as well as training in the process of decision-making applying those principles. Students will be called upon to: make decisions in particular cases; state the facts impartially; convey their decisions and their reasoning cogently and persuasively; and justify their decisions by showing how they are both a reasonable consequence of those principles and not overturned by overriding conflicting principles. There will be a particular emphasis on clear and effective writing.

A. Required Lower Division Courses (6 units)

(3) PHIL 020 History of Ancient Philosophy
(3) PHIL 021 History of Early Modern Philosophy
(3) PHIL 060 Symbolic Logic I

B. Required Upper Division Courses (9 units)

(3) PHIL 112 History of Ethics (Passing score on the WPE) OR
   PHIL 152 Ethical Theory
(3) PHIL 180 Theory of Knowledge (6 units in philosophy or instructor permission)
(3) PHIL 181 Metaphysics (6 units in philosophy or instructor permission)

C. Ethical and Political Theory (6 units)

(3) PHIL 112 History of Ethics (Passing score on the WPE) OR
   PHIL 152 Ethical Theory
(3) PHIL 122 Political Philosophy OR
   PHIL 155 Philosophy of Law

D. Applied Ethics (6 units)

(6) Select two of the following:
   PHIL 100 Ethics and Personal Values
   PHIL 101 Ethics and Social Issues (passing score on the WPE)
   PHIL 103 Business and Computer Ethics
   PHIL 104 Bioethics

E. Electives (9 units)

(3) Select one of the following:
   PHIL 190 Seminar: Major Philosopher (6 units in philosophy or instructor permission)
   PHIL 192 Seminar: Philosophical Theme (6 units in philosophy or instructor permission)
   PHIL 196 Experimental Offering in Philosophy

(6) Choose some combination of the following:
   • Up to 6 units of any upper division philosophy courses (including courses listed above that have not been taken to satisfy the above requirements.
   • Up to 6 units of any upper division elective requirement may be satisfied, with the approval of the student’s advisor, by taking concentration-related courses in disciplines other than philosophy: Business Administration, Government, Sociology, Environmental Studies, or other relevant fields.
   • Up to 6 units of the upper division elective requirements may be satisfied, with the approval of the program coordinator or department chair, by participating in a relevant internship.

Concentration in Logic and Philosophy of Science

Total units required for BA: 124
Total units required for BA in Philosophy, Logic and Philosophy of Science concentration: 36

The concentration in Logic and Philosophy of Science is designed for students who are interested in the general nature of scientific inquiry and/or philosophical problems that arise within specific fields like psychology, biology, and physics. It is a good choice for the science-oriented philosophy major and will help to prepare those who are interested in studying logic and philosophy of science at the graduate level. This concentration also provides an excellent double major opportunity for science students interested in broadening and deepening their grasp of their chosen field.

The concentration gives students an understanding of the logical theory and how logic applies to scientific and philosophical reasoning. It will also provide an understanding of issues in the philosophy of science. These include the nature of scientific explanation, the nature of scientific evidence, and the process of confirming and revising scientific theories. Philosophy of science also explores traditional philosophical questions as they arise in the context of scientific inquiry. Some of these are: Do we really know that the theoretical entities of science exist? What is the difference between science and pseudo-science? Do different sciences give us fundamentally different ways of understanding the world? Is science converging on truth or will it always undergo revolutionary changes that reject widely accepted theories of the past? Does scientific inquiry have intrinsic value or are there questions that scientists should not ask?

A. Required Lower Division Courses (6 units)

(3) PHIL 020 History of Ancient Philosophy
(3) PHIL 021 History of Early Modern Philosophy

B. General Upper Division Courses (9 units)

(3) PHIL 154 Philosophy of Language OR
   PHIL 176 20th Century Anglo-American Philosophy
PHIL 006. Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge, World and Self. A representative selection of philosophical problems will be explored in areas such as knowledge, reality, religion, science, politics, art and morals. 3 units.

PHIL 060. Symbolic Logic I. An introduction to deductive logic. Topics include: basic concepts of deductive logic; techniques of formal proof in propositional and predicate logic. 3 units.

PHIL 096. Experimental Offerings in Philosophy. 3 units.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**

PHIL 100. Ethics and Personal Values. Moral concerns of everyday life stressing such features of moral character as right and wrong conduct, virtue and vice, the emotions, attitudes, and personal relationships. Emphasis is on analytical and critical discussion of philosophical theories and competing viewpoints. 3 units.

PHIL 101. Ethics and Social Issues. Moral controversies that divide society today, such as abortion, the death penalty, affirmative action, sexism, nuclear deterrence. Emphasis is on identifying the relevant values and moral principles underlying competing views and subjecting them to rational assessment. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

PHIL 103. Business and Computer Ethics. Analytical treatment of controversial moral issues which emerge in the business world, e.g., affirmative action, corporate responsibility, industry and environmental damage, social effects of advertising, the computer threat to personal privacy, ownership of computer programs. Discussion will focus on basic moral principles and concepts relevant to these issues. 3 units.

PHIL 104. Bioethics. Ethical dilemmas faced by professionals and patients in the field of medicine, e.g., patient self-determination and informed consent, euthanasia, abortion, surrogate motherhood, genetic modification, and rights to health care. Emphasis is on the well-reasoned application of general moral principles to practical medical decisions. 3 units.

PHIL 105. Science and Human Values. An examination of the values implicit in a scientific culture and the problems that arise as a commitment to the development of scientific knowledge and technology. These problems include: distinguishing good scientific practice from bad; the intrinsic value of scientific knowledge independent of its benefits in application; the proper and improper applications of scientific knowledge. 3 units.

PHIL 112. History of Ethics. An investigation of the main approaches to ethics in Western moral philosophy. Emphasis on Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant and Mill. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

PHIL 115. Philosophy in Literature. A study of selected works of fiction which focus on philosophically controversial questions, e.g., basic moral dilemmas, the meaning of life, alienation, nihilism, the existence of God. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

PHIL 117. Existentialism. A study of the problem of the existing individual, or inner self — most especially the problem of choice in the context of radical freedom and finitude. Particular attention will be paid to the philosophical writings of Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger and Sartre, though some major literary works of these figures and others (Camus, Dostoevsky) will also be considered. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

PHIL 122. Political Philosophy. A critical evaluation of different political ideals such as classical liberalism, welfare state liberalism and socialism. 3 units.
PHIL 125. Philosophy of Science. A study of the philosophical problems that arise in the sciences: how claims are justified, the limits and styles of explanation, identifying pseudoscience, values in science, unity and diversity of the sciences, and science’s impact on our world view. 3 units.

PHIL 131. Philosophy of Religion. An inquiry into the concepts and presuppositions of religion. 3 units.

PHIL 136. Philosophy of Art. An inquiry into the nature of art, beauty and criticism, with critical consideration of representative theories. 3 units.

PHIL 145A. Chinese Philosophy. A survey of the major philosophical traditions of China and Japan, focusing on concepts of nature, man, society, freedom and knowledge. Special attention will be given to Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism, and recent philosophical movements. Taught alternate semesters with PHIL 145B. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

PHIL 145B. Indian Philosophy. A survey of the major schools of Indian philosophical development. Taught alternate semesters with PHIL 145A. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

PHIL 152. Ethical Theory. Major topics in ethical theory with attention to their contemporary formulation, including such topics as utilitarianism vs. rights-based theories and the dispute over the objectivity of ethics. 3 units.

PHIL 153. Philosophical Psychology. Rival theories of the nature of the mind and mental activity, including dualism, materialism, functionalism. Difficulties in achieving a theoretical understanding of familiar psychological concepts such as belief, sensation, emotion, intention. Prerequisite: 3 units in philosophy or instructor permission. 3 units.

PHIL 154. Philosophy of Language. Traditional and contemporary theories of meaning. The connection between language, thought and reality. 3 units.

PHIL 155. Philosophy of Law. Theories of the nature of law, e.g., natural law, legal positivism, legal realism. Selected controversies in contemporary law will also be studied, such as the justification of punishment, the legislation of morality, judicial activism vs. judicial restraint. 3 units.

PHIL 160. Symbolic Logic II. Further study of deductive logic. Topics include: principles of inference for quantified predicate logic; connectives; quantifiers; relations; sets; modality; properties of formal logical systems, e.g., consistency and completeness; and interpretations of deductive systems in mathematics, science, and ordinary language. Prerequisite: MATH 031, PHIL 060, or instructor permission. 3 units.

PHIL 176. Twentieth Century Anglo-American Philosophy. The rise of the analytic tradition in contemporary Anglo-American philosophy represents a turn toward common sense, science, language, logic and rigor. Readings will cover the philosophical movements of common sense, logical atomism, logical positivism, ordinary language philosophy and more recent analytical philosophy. 3 units.

PHIL 180. Theory of Knowledge. Examines the concept to knowledge. Representative topics include: the role of sense perception and memory, the importance of certainty, the justification of belief, philosophical skepticism, the concept of truth and the nature of philosophical inquiry. Emphasis is on contemporary formulations. Prerequisite: 6 units in philosophy or instructor permission. 3 units.

PHIL 181. Metaphysics. Examines arguments concerning the nature of reality. Representative topics include: substance, space, time, God, free will, determinism, identity, universals. Emphasis is on contemporary formulations. Prerequisite: 6 units in philosophy or instructor permission. 3 units.

PHIL 190. Seminar: Major Philosopher. Intensive study of a single philosopher. May be repeated for credit provided seminar topic is not repeated. Prerequisite: 6 units in philosophy or instructor permission. 3 units.

PHIL 192. Seminar: Philosophical Theme. Intensive study of important philosophical theme or issue. May be repeated for credit provided seminar topic is not repeated. Prerequisite: 6 units in philosophy or instructor permission. 3 units.

PHIL 196. Experimental Offerings in Philosophy. Experimental offerings will be scheduled as needed. 3 units.

PHIL 199. Special Problems. Special projects calling for independent philosophical investigation under the supervision of an individual faculty member. Note: Admission requires prior approval of the faculty member under whom work is to be conducted. 1-3 units.

PHIL 299. Special Problems. Special projects calling for independent philosophical investigation under the supervision of an individual faculty member. Note: Admission requires graduate standing and prior approval of the faculty member under whom work is to be conducted. 1-3 units.