



UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS IN
PHILOSOPHY

PHILOSOPHY.COLUMBIA.EDU
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Philosophy Department

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Department of Philosophy Website

Faculty Contacts

Aitken, Allison	717 Philosophy Hall allisonaitken@columbia.edu	Asian Philosophy (esp. Indian and Tibetan Buddhist Philosophy), Early Moderns Philosophy (esp. Locke)
Albert, David	706 Philosophy Hall da5@columbia.edu	Philosophical Problems of Modern Physics, Philosophy of Space and Time, Philosophy of Science
Bilgrami, Akeel	709 Philosophy Hall ab41@columbia.edu	Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Political Philosophy and Moral Philosophy, Moral Psychology
Carman, Taylor	326C Milbank Hall tcarman@barnard.edu	19 th - and 20 th -Century European Philosophy, Phenomenology, Existentialism, Hermeneutics
Clarke-Doane, Justin	712B Philosophy Hall jc4345@columbia.edu	Metaethics, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Logic & Mathematics, Foundations of Physics
Collins, Jessica	714 Philosophy Hall jessica.collins@columbia.edu	Formal Epistemology, Decision Theory
Fusco, Melissa	717 Philosophy Hall mf3095@columbia.edu	Philosophy of Language, Decision Theory
Gaifman, Haim	715 Philosophy Hall hg17@columbia.edu	Logic, Foundations of Probability, Rational Choice, Philosophy of Mathematics, Philosophy of Language, Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein
Goehr, Lydia	710 Philosophy Hall lg131@columbia.edu	Philosophy of Music, Aesthetics, Critical Theory, Philosophy of History, 19 th - and 20 th -Century Philosophy
Honneth, Axel	704 Philosophy Hall ah2592@columbia.edu	Social and Political Philosophy, Ethics, Social Theory
Jagannathan, Dhananjay	721 Philosophy Hall dj2493@columbia.edu	Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy, History of Ethics
Lando, Tamar	712A Philosophy Hall tal2108@columbia.edu	Logic, Epistemology
Lewis, Karen	326E Milbank Hall klewis@barnard.edu	Philosophy of Language, Philosophical Linguistics
Mann, Wolfgang	705 Philosophy Hall wrm4@columbia.edu	Ancient Philosophy, German Idealism, Metaphysics
Mercer, Christia	707 Philosophy Hall cm50@columbia.edu	Early Modern Philosophy, History of Platonism, History of Gender, Late Medieval Meditative Traditions
Moody-Adams, Michele	702 Philosophy Hall moody-adams@columbia.edu	Moral Philosophy and Applied Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy, The Philosophy of Social Science, The Empiricists
Morrison, John	326B Milbank Hall jmorrison@barnard.edu	Philosophy of Mind, Early Modern Philosophy (esp. Spinoza)
Neuhouser, Frederick	326D Milbank Hall fneuhous@barnard.edu	19 th -Century German Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy
Peacocke, Christopher	704 Philosophy Hall cp2161@columbia.edu	Philosophy of Mind and Psychology, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Philosophy of Music
Rovane, Carol	711 Philosophy Hall cr260@columbia.edu	Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language and Mind, Ethics
Russell, Francey	326A Milbank Hall frussell@barnard.edu	Moral Psychology, Ethics, Kant, Freud, Aesthetics
Varzi, Achille	713 Philosophy Hall av72@columbia.edu	Logic, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language
Vogt, Katja	719 Philosophy Hall kv2101@columbia.edu	Ancient Philosophy, Metaethics, Normative Epistemology, Skepticism

Requirements

Requirements for Philosophy Majors:

Substituted courses must be selected in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies

At least 30 points in philosophy, chosen from courses prefixed with UN, GU, or GR, including:

- PHIL UN2101* or another course in ancient or medieval philosophy
- PHIL UN2201* or another course in the history of late medieval or early modern philosophy (e.g., PHIL UN3237 or UN3264)
- PHIL UN3411 or, in exceptional cases, a more advanced course in logic
- At least one course in either metaphysics or epistemology (e.g., PHIL GU4501, UN3601, or a related course to be chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies)
- At least one course in either systematic ethics or social and political philosophy (e.g., PHIL UN2702, UN3701, UN3751, or a related course to be chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies)
- At least one major seminar (e.g., PHIL UN3912)

PHIL UN3912 registration is taken in order of the following preference:

- Senior majors who have not taken a previous Majors Seminar
- Junior majors who have taken 5 or more philosophy courses and have NOT taken a Majors Seminar
- Senior majors who have taken 1 previous Majors Seminar
- Junior majors who have taken 5 or more philosophy courses
- Senior concentrators who have taken 5 or more philosophy courses

Note: PHIL UN1401 Intro to Logic does not count towards the undergraduate philosophy major.

Note: No more than one course at the 1000-level can be counted toward the major.

Note: Students must take at least four courses in philosophy before enrolling in a 4000-level course.

Note: Students may register for a GR-prefixed course only with instructor permission.

Note: Courses in which a grade of D or below has been received do not count toward the major or concentration.

Philosophy Requirements for Joint Economics-Philosophy Major:

- An Introductory course (most often PHIL UN1010 Methods and Problems of Philosophical Thought)
- PHIL UN3411 Symbolic Logic
- One 3000-level course in moral, political, or social philosophy (e.g., PHIL UN3701 Ethics)
- One 3000-level course in epistemology, the philosophy of science, or in the philosophy of one of the particular sciences (e.g., PHIL UN3551 Philosophy of Science, PHIL UN3960 Epistemology, etc.)
- PHIL GU4561 Probability and Decision Theory
- ECPH UN4950 Senior Seminar in Economics and Philosophy

Prospective majors are strongly advised to discuss the major early in their sophomore year. Each major is expected to meet with the departmental advisers in the middle of their junior year and at the beginning of their senior year.

Requirements for Philosophy Concentrators:

- Concentrators must take at least 24 points in Philosophy from courses prefixed with UN or GU.

Scheduling Guide

Course	Points	Requirement Fulfilled

Pass/Fail: Courses taken pass/fail only count towards the major in unusual circumstances.

Summer Courses: Two courses taken in summer sessions can count towards the major.

Classes in Other Departments: In some instances, courses in other departments can count for credit toward the major. Questions about whether courses in other departments will count towards the major should be submitted to the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Barnard Courses: The Columbia and Barnard Philosophy Departments function together as a unit. The courses specifically designed for Barnard students (first-year and senior seminars) do not count toward the Columbia major or concentration. All other courses in the Columbia-Barnard joint curriculum count towards the major or concentration requirements, regardless of whether the instructor is associated with Barnard or Columbia.

Core Classes: Core classes such as Contemporary Civilization will not count toward the major or concentrator requirements.

Transfer Credits/Study Abroad: Courses taken at other institutions may count only after review and approval by the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The student or DUS must submit a written record to approval to the Academic Programs Coordinator. No more than 5 courses taken elsewhere may be applied to the major, and no more than 4 to the concentration.

Program Contacts

Professor Wolfgang Mann
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708 Philosophy Hall
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Senior Thesis & Honors

Senior Thesis

Undergraduates majoring in Philosophy or Economics-Philosophy may propose to write a senior thesis. Students who wish to write a thesis should approach a faculty member at the end of their junior or the beginning of their senior year and begin working on the proposal early in the fall semester of their senior year.

Proposals are due in early December and will be reviewed by a committee, which will include the Director of Undergraduate Studies and will be notified of the decision within two weeks. Students whose proposals are approved should register for their faculty advisor's section of Supervised Independent Research for the spring term of the senior year.

Theses are due in early April.

Departmental Honors

Departmental honors are highly competitive. Normally no more than 10% of the majors graduating in the department each year will receive departmental honors. To qualify for departmental honors in philosophy, a student must have a grade point average of at least 3.6 in the major.

For Students with a GPA of 3.6 or above, there are two possible routes for consideration:

1. A student may complete a senior thesis. Those students who complete senior theses will automatically be considered for honors without having to be nominated.
2. A student may be nominated by a faculty member early in the spring semester of the senior year. Nominated students will be invited to submit a writing sample of at least 15 pages in length. A nominated student writing a thesis may submit their thesis as the writing sample or may choose to submit a different work.

Both the senior theses and writing samples are due in early April. The departmental honors committee will then review the submitted material and the academic records of the writers and will report to the full faculty. The faculty will then decide which students to recommend for departmental honors to the Columbia College and General Studies administrations.

Major in Cognitive Science

Cognitive Science

The Department of Philosophy participates in the Cognitive Science program with the Department of Economics, the Department of Psychology, the Department of Computer Science, and other affiliates at Columbia University and Barnard College. For more information on the Cognitive Science Major, please see the following page for more information:

<https://cogsci.barnard.edu/>