



SACRAMENTO
STATE

Program Proposal Form B



Academic Group (College): Arts and Letters	Date of Submission to College Dean:
Academic Organization (Department): Philosophy Department	Requested Effective: Fall_07_, Spring __, 20__.
Department Chair: Thomas Pyne	Contact if not Department Chair: Matt McCormick, mccormick@csus.edu
Title of the Program: Philosophy Major Honors Program	
Type of Program Proposal: <input type="checkbox"/> Modification in Existing Program: <input type="checkbox"/> Substantive Change <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Substantive Change <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion of Existing Program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Initiation (Projection) of New Program on to Master Plan <input type="checkbox"/> New Degree Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Process <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Track Process <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Minor, Concentration, Option, Specialization, Emphasis <input type="checkbox"/> New Certificate Program	
PLEASE NOTE: Form B is to be used only as a Cover Form. Additional information is requested for each of the above as noted in the corresponding procedure in the Policies and Procedures for Initiation, Modification, Review and Approval of Courses and Academic Programs found at http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/index.htm	

Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification.

Description: Philosophy Major Honors Program. Philosophy majors, in addition to the existing requirements for the philosophy major Bachelors degree, will: 1) complete 9 upper division units (100+) of philosophy courses, with at least 3 of those units at the 190 or higher level, 2) write a supervised Honors Thesis in a philosophical area of their interest, and 3) and maintain a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA, and get a B or better (not B-) in their Honors classes. Students may retake one course if they receive a grade below a B in order to maintain Honors Program eligibility. Students will be recognized for their work with a certificate at graduation and their transcripts will receive Honors Degree certification.

Admission: The Philosophy Major Honors Program is an optional program for eligible philosophy majors. In order to be admitted into the program, students must: 1) complete all of their required lower division major courses, 2) have a minimum 3.7 Philosophy course GPA, 3) fill out an application form available in the department office or on the department webpage, and 4) have a 3.5 or better cumulative GPA.

Students in any of the existing three areas: general Philosophy major, Applied Ethics and Law concentration, Logic and Philosophy of Science concentration, may apply to the program. Non-majors may not apply.

Any of the existing (or to be developed) upper level and 190+ level Philosophy courses may be applied towards the Honors Major Program requirements.

Fiscal impact on the department/College: the department anticipates no additional fiscal impact besides a slight increase in enrollments in upper level Philosophy courses.

Catalog Copy: see attached sheets.

Justification: The Philosophy department perceives a need to develop a major honors program for several reasons:

- 1) such a program will allow students who excel in the major to pursue additional courses in philosophical topics of their choice.
- 2) it will allow them to get a more extensive philosophical education.
- 3) it will allow them to pursue philosophical research and develop their writing.
- 4) it will enhance the preparation and competitiveness of those students who wish to go on to graduate studies in philosophy, law, or other fields.
- 5) it will recognize outstanding student achievement.
- 6) it is an important development for the caliber and growth of the philosophy department.

Approvals:

Department Chair:  Date: 11/2/06

College Dean:  Date: 11-6-06

University Committee: _____ Date: _____

Associate Vice President and Dean
for Academic Affairs: _____ Date: _____

Old Program

BACHELOR OF ARTS
APPLIED ETHICS AND LAW CONCENTRATION
LOGIC AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
CONCENTRATION
MINOR
CAREER POSSIBILITIES
FACULTY
CONTACT
COMPLETE COURSE LISTING

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.

Sacramento State offers the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Philosophy as well as a Philosophy minor. Philosophy is an excellent vehicle for refining one's skills in critical reasoning and rational decision-making, making it a useful major for a wide variety of career goals. For instance, Philosophy is good preparation for the study and practice of law. 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.

Concentrations

- **BA: General Major / Applied Ethics and Law / Logic and Philosophy of Science**

Special Features

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

New Program

BACHELOR OF ARTS
APPLIED ETHICS AND LAW CONCENTRATION
LOGIC AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE
CONCENTRATION
PHILOSOPHY HONORS DEGREE PROGRAM
MINOR
CAREER POSSIBILITIES
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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. Its 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 general 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.

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- The Philosophy Department offers a Philosophy Major Honors Program for qualified students. This program provides motivated students with an opportunity to expand their philosophy education, develop their writing, pursue philosophical research, prepare for graduate studies or law school, or enhance their career preparations. Honors students will complete 9 units of 100 or higher level philosophy courses with at least 3 of those units at 190 or higher in addition to the major requirements, and they will write a supervised Honors thesis. They will be recognized with a certificate in the department, they will be acknowledged at graduation, and their transcripts will show an Honors designation. Students must apply and be accepted into the program and plan a course of study with the Department Honors Committee. Any Philosophy major who has a 3.5 or better cumulative GPA and a 3.7 or better Philosophy GPA, and who has completed his/her required lower division philosophy courses may apply. Honors students must maintain their 3.5 overall GPA and get a B or better in their Honors classes. Contact the Philosophy Department for further details.

Old Program

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS · BACHELOR OF ARTS

Units required for the Major: 36
Minimum total units required for the BA: 120
Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.

Students should choose from one of the three concentrations below.

Seniors are required to submit a sample philosophy essay to the Philosophy Department. This essay submission requirement is for the purpose of program assessment, not individual assessment, so it is not graded. The essay should be an example of the student's best work at Sacramento State. Ordinarily the essay should have been written for an upper division philosophy course, but an exception may be made for work done outside a course. The deadline for submission is the end of the first week of student's final semester or of the semester immediately following completion of 105 units, whichever is first. Further information on this graduation requirement is available at the [Philosophy Department Web](#) page.

New Program

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS · BACHELOR OF ARTS

Units required for the Major: 36-45
Minimum total units required for the BA: 120
Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.

Students should choose from one of the three concentrations below.

Seniors are required to submit a sample philosophy essay to the Philosophy Department. This essay submission requirement is for the purpose of program assessment, not individual assessment, so it is not graded. The essay should be an example of the student's best work at Sacramento State. Ordinarily the essay should have been written for an upper division philosophy course, but an exception may be made for work done outside a course. The deadline for submission is the end of the first week of student's final semester or of the semester immediately following completion of 105 units, whichever is first. Further information on this graduation requirement is available at the [Philosophy Department Web](#) page.

Old Program

REQUIREMENTS · BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE · CONCENTRATION IN LOGIC AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Units required for the major: 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 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
- (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. Logic (6 units)

- (3) PHIL 060 Symbolic Logic I

New Program

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C. Logic (6 units)

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Old Program

(3) PHIL 160 Symbolic Logic II (MATH 031, PHIL 060, or instructor permission)

D. Philosophy of Science (9 units)

(3) PHIL 104 Bioethics OR PHIL 105 Science and Human Values
(3) PHIL 125 Philosophy of Science
(3) PHIL 153 Philosophy of Mind (3 units in philosophy or instructor permission)

E. Upper Division Electives (6 units)

Any courses listed above that are not taken to satisfy the above requirements; other upper division philosophy courses; courses in other departments (with consent of Department Chair or program coordinator).

REQUIREMENTS - MINOR

Total units required for Minor: 18
Specific course requirements are:

A. Lower Division Courses (9-12 Units)

Select at least three of the following:

(3) PHIL 006 Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge, World and Self
(3) PHIL 020 History of Ancient Philosophy
(3) PHIL 021 History of Early Modern Philosophy
(3) PHIL 060 Symbolic Logic I

B. Upper Division Courses (6-9 Units)

Select upper division courses in Philosophy to complete 18 units. These can include Philosophy courses taken for GE.

Note: Students who minor in Philosophy are free to plan a sequence of courses suited to their individual needs and interests. However, for a given major, the Department offers certain courses that have particular relevance. Contact Department advisors for course recommendations.

New Program

(3) PHIL 160 Symbolic Logic II (MATH 031, PHIL 060, or instructor permission)

D. Philosophy of Science (9 units)

(3) PHIL 104 Bioethics OR PHIL 105 Science and Human Values
(3) PHIL 125 Philosophy of Science
(3) PHIL 153 Philosophy of Mind (3 units in philosophy or instructor permission)

E. Upper Division Electives (6 units)

Any courses listed above that are not taken to satisfy the above requirements; other upper division philosophy courses; courses in other departments (with consent of Department Chair or program coordinator).

REQUIREMENTS - HONORS DEGREE OPTION

Total units required in addition to the required major units: 9
Specific course requirements are:

A. Upper Division Courses (9 Units)

Select 9 upper division units in Philosophy. 3 of these units must be from courses numbered 190 or above. Upon admission into the Honors program, students must have a course plan approved by the Department Honors Committee.

B. Honors Thesis

Students must also write and submit an Honors Thesis proposal to the Department Honors Committee for approval.

Students must then write a supervised Honors Thesis based on that approved proposal and the thesis must be approved by the Department Honors Committee.

REQUIREMENTS - MINOR

Total units required for Minor: 18
Specific course requirements are:

A. Lower Division Courses (9-12 Units)

Select at least three of the following:

(3) PHIL 006 Introduction to Philosophy: Knowledge, World and Self
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