

Majoring in Philosophy



The Philosophy major aims to provide students with a grounding in basic skills and background in philosophy (including logic, ethics, and the history of philosophy), while leaving leeway for students to pursue themes or periods of particular interest to them. The major requires 13 courses, four of which satisfy the core requirements, and nine of which are electives.

The four core requirements (along with the courses that fulfill them) are as follows:

- **Logic: PHIL 150 or PHIL 250**
- **Ethics: PHIL 260 or PHIL 261**
- **History of Philosophy: PHIL 210-1 (Ancient Philosophy)**
- **History of Philosophy: PHIL 210-3 (Early Modern Philosophy)**

Of the remaining 9 additional courses, at least 6 must be at the 300 or 400 level. A student who is admitted to and completes 1 or more 400-level courses may apply such courses toward this requirement. These electives may not include PHIL 101-7 and -8, 373, 398, and they may include at most 2 (two) different PHIL 399. One course offered by another department may be counted as an elective for the major, provided that it has substantial philosophical content (as determined by the [Director of Undergraduate Studies](#).)

The department strongly recommends that students complete required courses (above) as early as possible, particularly if you plan to spend time outside NU, e.g. studying abroad.