Philosophy Major Worksheet

History of Philosophy (12 cr, 4 courses)

Take these two courses:

- [ ] PHI 310 Ancient Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 330 Early Modern Philosophy

Additionally, choose two from this list of courses:

- [ ] PHI 312: Morality in African Literature and Film
- [ ] PHI 315: Eastern Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 320: History of Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 340: History of Nineteenth-Century European Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 350: American Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 360: Existentialism
- [ ] PHI 370: Analytic Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 380: Postmodernism and After
- [ ] PHI 390: Language and Interpretation

Philosophy Electives (18 cr, 6 courses)

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)
6)

Only one course at the 100-level may be used towards the major!

Select 2 Seminars (6 cr, 2 courses)

The same seminar can be repeated for credit provided the figure/topic is different.

- [ ] PHI 400 Philosophy Topics Seminar
- [ ] PHI 405 Major Figure Seminar in Philosophy
- [ ] PHI 409 Research Seminar

Optional Senior Thesis

- [ ] PHI 410

The successful completion of PHI 400 is a prerequisite for taking PHI 410.
The 36 Credits of Philosophy

Major Requirements for Philosophy

I

The History of Philosophy (4 courses, 12 credits)
Take these two courses:
PHI 310 Ancient Philosophy (3 credits)
PHI 330 Early Modern Philosophy (3 credits)

Additionally, choose two from this list of courses:
PHI 312, PHI 315, PHI 320, PHI 340, PHI 350, PHI 360, PHI 370, PHI 380, PHI 390 (6 credits)
It is not necessary to take these courses in sequence.

II

Philosophy Electives (6 courses, 18 credits)
You will arrange a program of courses in conference with the Department chair or your faculty adviser. Only one 100-level course may count towards the major requirements.

III

Seminars in Philosophy (2 courses, 6 credits)
Complete two 400-level seminars in philosophy. The seminar courses are:
PHI 400 Philosophy Topics Seminar
PHI 405 Major Figure Seminar in Philosophy
PHI 409 Research Seminar
Major figure and seminar topics rotate among Philosophy Department faculty. Students may repeat a seminar if it is of a different figure or topic.

IV

Optional Senior Thesis
In the last year, a senior thesis (PHI 410) is optional. The successful completion of PHI 400 is a prerequisite for taking PHI 410. This thesis consists of a major paper (minimum length: 50 pages) on a topic selected by you, the student, and directed by one professor in the Department. Upon completion of the paper, an oral examination will be conducted by the full Department.

Honors status in the major is granted if the student’s GPA in philosophy is at least 3.33 or higher upon completion of all requirements for the major.

A total of 120 credits are required to complete a baccalaureate degree at USM. The USM core curriculum, listed on the Philosophy checklist, totals around 45 credits depending on prerequisites and possible major, minor and core area overlap. Speak with your adviser about how best to tailor your general electives, thematic core, or minor to suit your aspirations and interests.

www.usm.maine.edu/phi (207) 780-4258