BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY

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Philosophy is an ancient project, but one that continues to evolve as humans respond ethically to challenges in the coming century: peace, environmental sustainability, globalization, technology, the needs for health and security, and the yearning for love and justice. The philosophy major is structured to equip students with the conceptual tools and techniques of inquiry necessary to arrive at thoughtful responses to the world’s challenges through their knowledge of different eras, themes and figures in the history of philosophy, both inside and outside the Western tradition.

Students learn to reflect critically, ethically and holistically on the significance of these tools and techniques to their own lives and to the world they are about to inherit. Students develop analytical and research skills in philosophical inquiry as they explore the history of philosophy and the current status of the main problems in epistemology, metaphysics and ethics.

Students who major in philosophy develop competence in reasoning techniques, and will appraise the validity (and invalidity) of arguments, expose hidden assumptions, recognize fallacies and make a precise and coherent case in support of their own views. Philosophy graduates will be skilled in combining and synthesizing information from a wide range of sources, and in reflecting on their own thinking and experience. Students complete the major with a senior seminar in which they isolate and define a specific philosophical question that they explore in a senior thesis.

BA in Philosophy Curriculum

Students must obtain a minimum grade of C in all philosophy courses. No more than 6 credits of independent study (PL 299, PL 399) may count toward completion of the major. Students majoring in philosophy must meet the following requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University Curriculum</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum</td>
<td>21-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PL 102</td>
<td>Introduction to Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL 103</td>
<td>Logical Reasoning</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PL 332</td>
<td>Ancient Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PL 333</td>
<td>Modern Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL 401</td>
<td>Senior Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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Electives

Select six philosophy or cognate courses: 18

Philosophy courses:

- PL 214 Ancient Greek History (HS 214)
- PL 222 Bioethics
- PL 235 Philosophy of Science
- PL 236 Philosophy of Language
- PL 237 Philosophy of Mind

Additionally, students earning a bachelor of arts must fulfill separate requirements for breadth and depth of study.

College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum

The College of Arts and Sciences offers bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees. As the home of the liberal arts at Quinnipiac, CAS encourages students to pursue a balanced program of study across multiple disciplines. In pursuit of that goal, CAS imposes additional requirements beyond the University Curriculum.

All CAS students (both bachelor of science and bachelor of arts) must complete one foreign language through the 102-level. Foreign language classes may also count toward the UC Personal Inquiry II requirement.

Free Electives 17-20

Total Credits 120-126

1 All students must complete the University Curriculum (http://catalog.qu.edu/academics/university-curriculum/) requirements.
2 Students must complete the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum (http://catalog.qu.edu/arts-sciences/cas-curriculum/) requirements specific to their major. See details below.
3 In addition to philosophy courses, a student may count up to two of the cognate courses toward completion of the philosophy major.
For the breadth requirement, students must complete at least 3 credits in each of the four CAS disciplinary areas other than the area of the student’s major. These areas are: fine arts, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. For example, a student majoring in political science—a social science discipline—would complete at least 3 credits each in fine arts, humanities and natural science. A course taken to fulfill the CAS breadth requirement may not simultaneously fulfill any UC requirement.

For the depth requirement, students must complete at least 9 credits within a single subject area other than that of the major. (A “subject area” is identified with a catalog subject code, such as PL, CJ, WS, MA, etc.) CAS depth courses may also count toward UC requirements.

Students pursuing a bachelor of science, a double major, or certain accelerated degree programs are exempt from the CAS breadth and depth requirements, but must complete the foreign language requirement.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will achieve the following competencies:

1. **Knowledge**: Demonstrate understanding of the major traditions, themes and figures in metaphysics, epistemology and ethics across global history and as they emerge in specific cultures, regions or nations of the world.

2. **Reflection**: Ability to reflect critically, ethically and holistically on human problems affecting their lives (e.g., peace, environmental sustainability, globalization, technology, health, death, social and political justice), and to isolate and define specific philosophical questions for further inquiry.

3. **Critical Thinking**: Ability to use inquiry and critical thinking techniques for detecting fallacies and for appraising the validity of arguments.

4. **Synthesis**: Skills of creatively synthesizing new ideas, based on knowledge from a diverse range of historical, regional and cultural perspectives.

5. **Communication**: Ability to communicate effectively one’s own views and judgments in precise, reasoned, coherent and persuasive writing and speaking.

Admission Requirements: College of Arts and Sciences

The requirements for admission into the undergraduate College of Arts and Sciences programs are the same as those for admission to Quinnipiac University.

Admission to the university is competitive, and applicants are expected to present a strong college prep program in high school. Prospective first-year students are strongly encouraged to file an application as early in the senior year as possible, and arrange to have first quarter grades sent from their high school counselor as soon as they are available.

For detailed admission requirements, including required documents, please visit the Admissions (http://catalog.qu.edu/general-information/admissions/) page of this catalog.