The curriculum in philosophy is designed to give students a broad grounding in the literature and methods of philosophy and in philosophical approaches to contemporary problems. Philosophy is inherently foundational for all other disciplines and philosophical training sharpens the student’s ability to reason soundly, to formulate basic concepts and questions clearly and to work intelligently at solving human problems.

The philosophy curriculum is balanced among historical study, philosophical problem areas and applied courses. Graduates from the philosophy department have distinguished themselves in a variety of fields. A 1982 graduate was recently nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and numerous former students have attended some of the country’s finest graduate programs. Study in philosophy provides an excellent basis for careers in law, business, government, journalism, teaching, social work and the sciences.

**Philosophy**

**Bachelor of Arts Major Requirements**

(183 credits required for the degree [http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/undergraduateprograms/traditionalbachelorsprogram/bachelorofarts])

40 credits above the 1000 level, including the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Symbolic or practical logic</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ancient or medieval philosophy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Modern or contemporary philosophy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Courses at the 3000 level</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select an additional 12 credits of philosophy beyond the 1000 level</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 3999</td>
<td>Philosophy Assessment (must complete prior to graduation)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits**

40

**Area of specialization**

Students are not required to choose an area of specialization.

**Critical Theory**

Students must take at least one course in these three major areas of critical theory at the undergraduate or graduate level listed below. These courses must be approved by the undergraduate advisor. These courses may be taken outside of the Philosophy Department. Students must declare the specialization by filing a declaration form with the department. Completion of the critical theory specialization will not be reflected on the student’s transcript or degree.

**19th Century Critical Theory**

- Freud
- Hegel
- Kant
- Marx
- Nietzsche

**20th Century Critical Theory**

- Adorno
- Agamben
- Badiou
- Benjamin
- Deleuze
- Derrida
• Foucault
• Gramsci
• Horkheimer
• Irigaray
• Kristeva
• Lacan
• Lukcas
• Marcuse
• Ranciere

**Contemporary Topics in Critical Theory**

• Critical Literature Theory
• Critical Race and Post-Colonial Theory
• Feminist Theory
• Queer Theory
• Structuralism and Post-Structuralism

**Secondary Major Requirements**

40 credits. Same requirements as for BA degree.

**Minor Requirements**

20 credits in philosophy above the 1000 level.

**Prerequisites**

All seminars (3000-level courses) require at least junior standing or instructor’s permission.

**Area of specialization**

Students are not required to choose an area of specialization.

**Critical Theory**

Students must take at least one course in these three major areas of critical theory at the undergraduate or graduate level listed below. These courses must be approved by the undergraduate advisor. These courses may be taken outside of the Philosophy Department. Students must declare the specialization by filing a declaration form with the department.

**19th Century Critical Theory**

• Freud
• Hegel
• Kant
• Marx
• Nietzsche

**20th Century Critical Theory**

• Adorno
• Agamben
• Badiou
• Benjamin
• Deleuze
• Derrida
• Foucault
• Gramsci
• Horkheimer
• Irigaray
• Kristeva
• Lacan
• Lukcs
• Marcuse
• Ranciere

Contemporary Topics in Critical Theory
• Critical Literature Theory
• Critical Race and Post-Colonial Theory
• Feminist Theory
• Queer Theory
• Structuralism and Post-Structuralism

Requirements for Distinction in the Major in Philosophy
• Minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA
• Minimum 3.85 major GPA
• Completion of a thesis