Philosophy (PHL)

200 Introduction to Philosophy (4)
A study of philosophical methods and concepts via selected philosophical systems and problems. (*fall and spring semesters)

201 Logic (4)
Studies principles of correct reasoning: formal and informal arguments. (*fall and spring semesters)

202 Ethics (4)
Examines major systems of thought regarding problems of moral value and the good life. (*every other spring semester)

203 Contemporary Philosophy (4)
Examines major concepts and methods of 20th-century philosophy. (*every other spring semester)

204 Aesthetics (4) (A)
An examination of selected topics in the philosophy of art and critical appreciation such as the nature of art, aesthetic experience, and aesthetic objects. (*every other fall semester)

206 Philosophy of Religion (4)
Examines the nature and validity of religious beliefs. (*every other fall semester)

208 Business Ethics (4)
An examination by case study of moral problems in the business world. Topics include the obligation of industry to the natural environment, governmental regulation of private enterprise, employee rights and truth in advertising. Develops a number of ethical theories to assist the analysis.

209 Biomedical Ethics (4)
An investigation of selected moral problems that arise in the contemporary biomedical setting. Issues include abortion, euthanasia, patient rights, animal experimentation, in-vitro fertilization, surrogate motherhood and genetic engineering. (*every other fall semester)

210 Environmental Ethics (4) (NW) (IG)
An examination of issues that arise from human beings interacting with their natural environment. Initial discussion involves selected ethical problems that arise from human use of “common systems” (e.g., the atmosphere, oceans, wilderness). Further discussions consider whether ecological systems, natural features and non-human animals have moral worth independent of their utility for human commerce.

212 Critical Thinking (4)
Designed to strengthen students’ skills in reasoning about problems and issues of everyday life by helping them to distinguish between good and bad arguments. Students work to achieve these goals through reading and discussion of course materials, written analyses of others’ arguments or development of their own arguments, and class debates for practice in persuasive argument. (*fall and spring semesters)

215 Ancient Philosophy: Plato and Aristotle (4)
An examination of ancient philosophy in the Western world with a concentration on the philosophical views of Plato and Aristotle.

217 Social and Political Philosophy (4)
A study of major social and political systems and issues from Plato to the present. (*every other fall semester)

218 Minds, Brains, and Metaphysics (4)
What is the mind? How is it related to the brain and body? How is it connected to the world? What exactly is consciousness? This course is an introduction to the philosophy of
mind, with a focus on issues of metaphysics. Topics covered may include mind-brain dualism, logical behaviorism, mind-brain identity theory, functionalism, connectionism, artificial intelligence, philosophical questions about mental representation and the nature of consciousness, embodied cognition, and other current trends in philosophy of mind.

220 Problems of Philosophy (4) (NW) (IG)
An in-depth study of selected philosophers or philosophical problems. May be repeated if content varies.

225 Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant (4)
A study of the views of selected modern philosophers from Descartes to Kant.

237 Indian and Asian Philosophy (4) (NW) (IG)
Cross-listed as REL 217. Investigates and discusses Asian thought, focusing on Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism.

305 Philosophy of the Emotions (4)
An investigation into the nature of emotions and their relationship to rationality and moral responsibility. We first examine some traditional philosophical accounts that analyze emotions in terms of specific sensations. We then examine a Freudian account of emotion which holds that one can have an unconscious emotion. Existential theories of emotion are then considered, followed by an examination of contemporary cognitive theories. (*every other fall semester)

306 Existentialism (4)
A study of central themes in existential philosophy and literature. (*every other spring semester)

308 Film Aesthetics (4) (A)
Cross-listed as COM 308. A study of film as an aesthetic medium. Explores the social, technological, historical and artistic influences on the development of cinema. Also examines how theories of film (i.e., realism, formalism, expressionism and semiology) affect the aesthetic construction and critical reception of films. (*every other spring semester)

310 Theories of Democracy (4)
Cross-listed with GWA 310. What is democracy? How is it tied to justice? Is liberal democracy the only legitimate form of democracy? Can we make democracy better? How should democracy be shaped by culture and context? This course focuses on contemporary philosophical debates about democracy, but readings also include texts in political theory and political philosophy. Specific topics may include: democratic representation; minimalism/reality about democracy; liberal democracy; classical pluralism; social choice theory; difference democracy and issues of gender, race, and class; deliberative democracy; green/environmental democracy; globalization and cross-cultural issues as they relate to democracy.

Physical Education Service (PES)
111 Aerobic Dance (2) (Elective)
A co-educational activity class providing instruction in the principles of aerobic conditioning and development of aerobic dance skills. (*according to availability of faculty)

112 Ballroom Dance (1) (Elective)
A co-educational activity providing instruction in basic ballroom dancing and associated skills. Special emphases are placed upon balance, rhythm, coordination and creative expression. (*according to availability of faculty)

113 Bowling (1) (Elective)
A co-educational activity class for developing and improving basic bowling skills. (*according to availability of faculty)