



Program of Study

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

1. **Carolina Core (32-44 hours)**

- a. **CMW** (6 hours): any approved CC-CMW course –*must be passed with a grade of C or higher*
- b. **ARP** (6-7 hours)
 - i. PHIL 114
 - ii. Any approved CC-ARP course
- c. **SCI** (8 hours): Two 4-credit hour CC-SCI laboratory science courses
- d. **GFL** (0-6 hours): Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required for all baccalaureate degrees. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course.
It is strongly recommended that students continuing the study of a foreign language begin college-level study of that language in their first semester and continue in that language until their particular foreign language requirement is completed.
- e. **GHS** (3 hours): any approved CC-GHS course
- f. **GSS** (3 hours): any approved CC-GSS course
- g. **AIU** (3 hours): any approved CC-AIU course

Carolina Core Stand Alone or Overlay Eligible Requirements:

Up to two of these requirements may be met in overlay courses. At least one of these requirements must be satisfied by a course not applied elsewhere in general education. (3-9 Hours)

- h. **CMS** (3 hours): any approved overlay or stand-alone CC-CMS course
- i. **INF** (0-3 hours): any approved overlay or stand-alone CC-INF course
- j. **VSR** (0-3 hours): any approved overlay or stand-alone CC-VSR course

2. **College Requirements (15-18 hours)**

- a. **Foreign language course** (0-3 hours) –*only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency*
- b. **History** (3 hours): The College of Arts and Sciences requires one U.S. History and one non-U.S. History course, both of which must be chosen from the approved Carolina Core GHS courses. Whichever is not fulfilled through the Carolina Core GHS requirement must be fulfilled through this college requirement.
- c. **Social Science** (3 hours): choose any from the list of CC-GSS approved courses
- d. **Fine Arts or Humanities** (9 hours)

3. **Program Requirements (34-49 hours)**

- a. **Cognate or Minor** (12-18 hours)

Cognate

The cognate is intended to support the course work in the major. The cognate must consist of twelve (12) hours of courses at the advanced level, outside of but related to the major. The cognate may be taken in one or more departments or programs, depending on the interests of the student and the judgment of the advisor.

Courses offered by departments and programs that are acceptable for cognate credit are outlined in the section titled [Courses Acceptable for Cognate Credit in Degree Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences](#).

For cognate course offerings in other colleges, consult the appropriate sections of this bulletin. Some major programs have specific cognate requirements.

It should be emphasized that the cognate is not a second set of elective courses to be chosen at random by the student. The cognate must be approved by the major advisor as being related to the major field of study. Students are urged to consult their major advisors for specific requirements in their major.

Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the cognate.

For Bachelor of Arts degrees, all cognate courses must be passed with a grade of **C** or higher.

Minor

In place of the cognate a student in the College of Arts and Sciences may choose a minor consisting of at least 18 credit hours of prescribed courses. (Some minors in the sciences require a minimum of 16 hours.) The subject area of the minor may be related to the major. Students pursuing interdisciplinary minors who wish to use courses in their major department for minor credit must petition the College Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions for permission to do so.

The minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. It differs from the cognate inasmuch as the courses must be concentrated in one area and must follow a structured sequence. Interdisciplinary minors can be designed with the approval of the assistant dean for academic affairs and advising.

Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher. At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at [Programs A-Z](#).

- b. **Electives (16-37 hours)** (*to reach required hours to graduate*): No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Note: 13-34 hours of electives will be needed to reach hours to graduate and Program Requirements will range from 31-46 hours, if completing the B.A. with Distinction in Philosophy.

4. **Major Requirements (24 hours)** – *a minimum grade of C is required in all major courses*

a. **Major Courses (15 hours)**

- i. PHIL 390
- ii. PHIL 490
- iii. One course from each of the following Groups (9 hours)

1. Ancient Philosophy

- PHIL 301 - Ancient Philosophy
- PHIL 302 - Greek and Roman Philosophy after Aristotle
- PHIL 303 - History of Medieval Philosophy
- PHIL 312 - Classical Origins of Western Medical Ethics
- PHIL 313 - Between Magic and Method: Ancient Medicine

2. Modern Philosophy

- PHIL 304 - Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Philosophy
- PHIL 305 - Nineteenth- and 20th-Century Philosophy
- PHIL 310 - American Philosophy
- PHIL 311 - Existentialism

3. Field of Philosophy

- PHIL 304 - Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Philosophy
- PHIL 305 - Nineteenth- and 20th-Century Philosophy
- PHIL 310 - American Philosophy
- PHIL 311 - Existentialism

b. **Major Electives (9 hours)**

- i. Two courses in philosophy at the 500-level
- ii. One course in philosophy numbered 201 or above

Notes:

Students major in philosophy are encouraged to take PHIL 390 during the junior year, or before the final 30 hours of study.

If PHIL 390 is used to satisfy both the Junior Seminar in Philosophy and Field of Philosophy requirements, then the student must take an additional course numbered 201 or above in order to reach the required 24 hours for the major.

The foreign languages recommended for students majoring in philosophy are French, German, Greek, and Latin.

B.A. with Distinction (27 hours)

The Departmental Undergraduate Research Track is available to students majoring in philosophy who wish to participate in significant research activities in collaboration with, or under the supervision of, a faculty mentor.

In addition to the General Major Requirements, student must complete the following:

- a. PHIL 495 - Senior Thesis
- b. A minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major
- c. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30
- d. A public presentation of the Senior Thesis in one of the following venues:
 - o Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Society for Philosophy (or another appropriate meeting)
 - o A regular or special session of the Philosophy Department Colloquium Series
 - o USC Discovery Day
 - o Submission to an undergraduate or a professional journal
- e. A written sponsorship agreement with the supervising faculty member will be placed on file in the Department of Philosophy office.