

Sample Courses Philosophy

Year 1	
1020	Introduction to Philosophy
1030A/B	Understanding Science
1040F/G	Ethics, Law and Politics
1130F/G	Big Ideas
1305F/G	Questions of the Day
Year 2	
2020	Basic Logic
2021A/B	Oppositions and Paradoxes
2032F/G	Einstein for Everyone
2033A/B	Environmental Philosophy
2037F/G	Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence *NEW
2073F/G	Death
2077F/G	Gender and Sexuality
2092F/G	Philosophy and Pop Culture *NEW
2356F/G	Philosophy and Climate Change *NEW
Year 3	
3010F/G	Philosophy of Food
3012F/G	Medieval Philosophy
3022F/G	Cartesianism and its Critics
3031F/G	Women in Early Modern Philosophy
3501F/G	Epistemology
3601F/G	Metaphysics
3730F/G	Research Ethics *NEW
3990A/B	Skepticism
Year 4	
4023F/G	The History of Skepticism from Hellenistic Time to Descartes
4035F/G	Early Modern Thought about Temporal Experience and Spatial Awareness
4045F/G	Special Topics in 18th Century Philosophy
4050F/G	Seminar in Kant's First Critique

NOTE: Not all courses may be offered each year.

Philosophy



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What is Philosophy?

Philosophy is the study of classical and contemporary thought. Philosophers critically examine moral responsibilities and social obligations, question values and beliefs, and attempt to understand the nature of interactions between individuals and society and the problems in our existence. Do we have free will? Can machines think? Can we know the world as it really is? Is the future predetermined? Philosophy students engage in many of the following areas of investigation: the mind, science, ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, art, social and political philosophy, logic, philosophy of law, and phenomenology. Philosophy students also tend to excel on entrance exams for graduate and professional schools as they develop a set of skills important for success in a broad range of fields.

The Department of Philosophy at Western

Philosophy has been taught at Western University since the first days of the university in 1878. Today, the Department is home to over 30 faculty members and is regularly ranked as one of the top departments in the country. Committed to offering a broad general education in philosophy, while also being home to many faculty members and students who work in specialized areas, the Department of Philosophy maintains strong ties with the departments of pure and applied mathematics, biology, physics and astronomy, medicine and epidemiology, women's studies, psychology, the Brain and Mind Institute at Western and with the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo.

At Western, philosophy courses are taught by esteemed faculty, many of whom have been the recipients of prestigious teaching awards. Through their lectures, students will be introduced to some of the greatest thinkers, and greatest challenges, of the past and present. Whether working towards a BA in philosophy or just a few courses, Western provides excellent teaching in philosophy and prides itself on developing students' skills as readers, writers and critical analysts.

The Department of Philosophy at Western offers six degree options to choose from:

- Honors Specialization
- Specialization
- Major
- Minor, Philosophy
- Minor Philosophy of Science,
- Minor, Ethics



Certificate and Diploma in Ethics

In addition to the six degree options, the Diploma and Certificate in Ethics were designed as a response to a wide growing interest in the ethical dimensions of professional and public life. The Diploma is geared towards students who hold undergraduate degrees in other programs such as business, medicine or science, and it may be completed full or part-time. The Certificate is taken concurrently with a bachelor's degree.

The Rotman Institute

The creation of the Rotman Institute of Philosophy in 2008 has allowed Western to broaden its research profile by bringing together philosophers and scientists to focus on theoretical issues and their practical and ethical implications in various areas of science, from cosmology to conservation ecology, evolutionary biology, and medicine.



The Rotman Institute brings world-class speakers to campus and facilitates a number of conference, research and collaborative opportunities. For more information please visit www.rotman.uwo.ca

For further information about the Department of Philosophy visit www.uwo.ca/philosophy or contact:

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Fund Your Education: Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships for students in Philosophy

For a comprehensive list of awards available visit:
uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/scholarships.html

Meet Julia

"Studying philosophy at Western has given me tools that will be helpful no matter what I choose to do in the future. I feel ready to tackle whatever comes my way. I think adding philosophical tools into my life has helped me refine the way I think, and to think carefully."

- Julia Lei, Philosophy

