

Major Map: Philosophy Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

College of Arts and Sciences Department of Philosophy Bulletin Year: 2025-2026

This course plan is a recommended sequence for this major. Courses designated as critical (!) may have a deadline for completion and/or affect time to graduation. Please see the Program Notes section for details regarding "critical courses" for this particular Program of Study.

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0 11 1 1711	Credit		Major			N 4
Critical Course Subject and Title	Hours	Grade ¹	GPA ²	Code	Prerequisites	Notes
Semester One (15-16 Credit Hours)						
! ENGL 101 Critical Reading and Composition	3	С		CC-CMW		
PHIL 114 Introduction to Formal Logic I	3			CC-ARP		
Carolina Core Requirement ³	3			CC		
Foreign language ⁴ or other Carolina Core Requirement ³	3-4			CC-GFL		
UNIV 101 The Student in the University	3			PR/CC		
or Carolina Core Requirement ³						
Semester Two (15-16 Credit Hours)	1	_		1		
! ENGL 102 Rhetoric and Composition	3	С		CC-CMW CC-INF	C or better in ENGL 101	
Carolina Core ARP Requirement	3			CC-ARP		
Carolina Core Requirement ³	3			CC		
Carolina Core Requirement ³	3-4			CC		
Foreign language ⁴ or other Carolina Core Requirement ³	3			CC-GFL		
Semester Three (15-16 Credit Hours)						
PHIL Major Course ⁵	3	С		MR		
Humanities or Fine Arts	3			CR		
History ⁶	3			CR		
Carolina Core Requirement ³	3-4			CC		
Foreign language ⁴ or Carolina Core Requirement ³	3			CR/CC		
Semester Four (15 Credit Hours)						
PHIL Major Course ⁵	3	С		MR		
Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	С		PR		
Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
Humanities or Fine Arts	3			CR		
Social Science	3			CR		
Semester Five (15 Credit Hours)						
PHIL Major Course ⁵	3	С		MR		
PHIL 390 Junior Seminar in Philosophy ⁸ (fall only)	3	C		MR		
Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
Humanities or Fine Arts	3			CR		
Carolina Core Requirement ³ or Elective ⁹	3			CC/PR		
Semester Six (15 Credit Hours)						
PHIL Major Course ⁵	3	С		MR	_	
PHIL Major Course ⁵	3	C		MR		
Cognate or Minor Course ⁷	3	C		PR		
Minor Course ⁷ or Elective ⁹	3	C (minor)		PR		
Carolina Core Requirement ³ or Elective ⁹	3	(CC/PR		
Semester Seven (15 Credit Hours)				33,1		
PHIL 490 Senior Seminar in Philosophy (fall only)	3	С		MR/CC- INT		
Minor Course ⁷ or Elective ⁹	3	C (minor)		PR		
Elective ⁹	3			PR		
Elective ⁹	3			PR		
Elective ⁹	3			PR		
Semester Eight (13-15 Credit Hours)				· ' ' `		
PHIL Major Course ⁵	3	С		MR		
Elective ⁹	3			PR		
Elective ⁹	3			PR		
Elective ⁹	3			PR		
Elective ⁹	1-3			PR		
	1-0	1				

Graduation Requirements Summary

Minimum Total Hours	Minimum Major Requirements Hours	College & Program Requirements Hours	Carolina Core Hours	Minimum Institutional GPA
120	24	52-64	32-44	2.000

- 1. Regardless of individual course grades, students must maintain a minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA.
- 2. Some colleges require a minimum GPA for major courses. Courses indicated in this column are included in the major GPA for this program of study.
- 3. The Carolina Core provides the common core of knowledge, skill and academic experience for all Carolina undergraduate students.
- 4. Students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the 122 course through course credit or the corresponding foreign language placement score. The foreign languages recommended for students majoring in philosophy are French, German, Greek, and Latin.
- 5. Philosophy Major Courses (18 hours):
 - Ancient Philosophy (3 hours): PHIL 301, 302, 303, 312, 313, 371
 - Modern Philosophy (3 hours): PHIL 304, 305, 310, 311, 372
 - PHIL 201 or above (6 hours)
 - PHIL 500-level (6 hours)
 - One writing-intensive course: PHIL 371, 372, 373 (The course that fulfills this requirement will be used elsewhere in the major. Students majoring in Philosophy are encouraged to take a writing-intensive course prior to taking PHIL 390.
- 6. 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.
- 7. The cognate is intended to support the course work in the major. The cognate must consist of twelve hours of courses at the advanced level, outside of, but related to the major. In place of a cognate, a student may choose a minor consisting of at least 18 credit hours of courses concentrated in one area that follow a structured sequence. A second major eliminates the minor/cognate requirement.
- 8. Students majoring in Philosophy are encouraged to take PHIL 390 during the junior year, or before the final 30 hours of study.
- 9. 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.

Program Notes:

- ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 must be completed in the student's first 60 semester hours of work in order for these courses to be credited toward graduation.
- All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade that covers the founding documents. This course may fulfill any requirement in the program of study. Courses that meet this requirement are listed in the academic bulletin.
- 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 Philosophy major requirements, a student must complete the following: 1) PHIL 495 Senior Thesis; 2) a minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major; 3) a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30; 4) a public presentation of the Senior Thesis (at an annual meeting of the South Carolina Society for Philosophy, a regular or special session of the Philosophy Department Colloquium Series, USC Discovery Day, or submission to an undergraduate or a professional journal).
- The last 30 credit hours toward your degree must be earned in residence at the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

University Requirements: Bachelor's degree-seeking students must meet Carolina Core (general education) requirements. For more information regarding these requirements, please visit the Carolina Core page on the University website.

Codes:							
CC	Carolina Core	CC-INF	Carolina Core – Information Literacy				
CC-AIU	Carolina Core-Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding	CC-INT	Carolina Core – Integrative Course				
CC-ARP	Carolina Core-Analytical Reasoning and Problem-Solving	CC-SCI	Carolina Core – Scientific Literacy				
CC-CMS	Carolina Core-Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component	CC-VSR	Carolina Core - Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility				
CC-CMW	Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written Component	CR	College Requirement				
CC-GFL	Carolina Core-Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language	MR	Major Requirement				
CC-GHS	Carolina Core – Historical Thinking	PR	Program Requirement				
CC-GSS	Carolina Core – Social Sciences						

Disclaimer: Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.