“PHILOSOPHY!? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THAT?”

Philosophy asks the most fundamental questions of human existence, about what people believe, value, and do. Philosophy courses teach analytic and problem-solving skills, critical reading and thinking skills, and effective argumentation and writing. Majors and minors encounter the big questions of life in their classes and acquire the skills to address those questions in every part of life.

A study conducted by the National Institute of Education and reported in the Chronicle of Higher Education found that Philosophy Majors received higher scores on the LSAT than students in all other humanities areas, higher scores than all social and natural science majors except economics and mathematics, and higher scores than all applied majors. (The study compared the scores of 550,000 college students who took the LSAT, GMAT, and the verbal and quantitative portions of the GRE with data collected over the previous eighteen years.)

From “Average 2007-2008 LSAT Scores,” Michael Nieswiadomy, June 25, 2009, ranking average test scores by college major:

1 Philosophy 157.4 (tie)
  1 Economics 157.4 (tie)
  3 Engineering 156.2
  4 History 155.9
  5 English 154.7
  7 Political Science 153.0
  8 Psychology 152.5
  9 Sociology 150.7
  12 Criminal Justice 145.5

THE FACULTY

Michael Brownstein (on leave)
Matias Bulnes (Sub Instr.)
Jacoby Adeshei Carter
Enrique Chavez-Arvizo
James DiGiovanna
Jonathan Jacobs
Catherine Kemp
Kyoo Lee
Amie A. Macdonald
Mary Ann McClure
John P. Pittman
Timothy Stroup

Department of Philosophy
524 West 59th Street
NB 8.63.23
New York, NY 10019
212.237.8325

http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/philosophy/x.asp
## The Philosophy Major

**Total Credit Hours: 39**

### A. Core Courses (15 credit hours)
1. PHI 105 Critical Thinking and Informal Logic
2. PHI 210 Ethical Theory *
3. PHI 231 The Big Questions *
4. PHI/LAW 310 Ethics and Law
5. PHI 330 Philosophical Modernity

### B. Area Courses (15 credit hours)
(Select one from each category).

#### I. Critiques
- PHI 343 Existentialism
- PHI 351 Classical Chinese Philosophy
- PHI/AAS 354 Africana Philosophy
- PHI 3XX Latin American Philosophy

#### II. Ethics & Value Theory
- PHI 201 Philosophy of Art *
- PHI 203 Political Philosophy
- PHI/ANT/PSY/SOC 224 Death, Dying and Society
- PHI 302 Philosophy of Rights
- PHI/GEN 333 Theories of Gender and Sexuality
- PHI 315 Philosophy of Rule of Law
- PHI/CRJ 321 Police Ethics
- PHI/CRJ 322 Judicial and Correctional Ethics
- PHI 340 Utopian Thought
- PHI/POL 423 Selected Topics in Justice

### III. History of Philosophy
- PHI 202 Philosophical Visions of American Pluralism *
- PHI 326 Topics in the History of Modern Thought
- PHI 327 19th Century European and American Philosophy
- PHI 343 Existentialism
- PHI 351 Classical Chinese Philosophy
- PHI/AAS 354 Africana Philosophy
- PHI 3XX Latin American Philosophy

### IV. Metaphysics & Epistemology
- PHI 104 Philosophy of Human Nature
- PHI 204 Logic
- PHI 205 Philosophy of Religion
- PHI 304 Philosophy of Mind
- PHI 374 Epistemology
- PHI 377 Reality, Truth, and Being: Metaphysics

### V. Capstone Course
- PHI 400 Senior Seminar in Ethics
- PHI 401 Senior Seminar in the History of Philosophy
- PHI 402 Senior Seminar in Metaphysics and Epistemology

### C. Electives (9 credit hours)
Students must select three additional philosophy courses in consultation with an advisor. Electives must be drawn from courses listed at the 300 level or higher.

## The Philosophy Minor

**Total Credit Hours: 18**

1. Required: PHI 231 The Big Questions *.
2. At least two courses drawn from those listed at the 300 level or higher.
3. All philosophy courses satisfy requirements for the minor.
4. HJS 250, Justice in the Western Traditions, may also satisfy a requirement for the minor.

### Courses marked * satisfy requirements in the new general education curriculum. For these, and for prerequisites for all 300 level courses, please see the current college Bulletin.

- No course may fill more than one requirement for the major or the minor.

### Major/Minor Coordinator:
Mary Ann McClure
mmclure@jjay.cuny.edu

**First-Year Seminar:**
PHI 102 Ethical Foundations of a Just Society *