

Required Courses for all:

POL 343: U.S. National Security Policy

POL 550: National Security Capstone

Required: 8 credits chosen from the following:

POL 381: United States Foreign Policy

POL 385: Terrorism and Intelligence

REL 321: Ethics and International Affairs (same as IDS 321 and POL 383)

Elective: 8 credits chosen from the following:

ANT 222: Anthropology and Contemporary Global Issues

ECO 361: Development Economics I or ECO 461: Development Economics II

ECO 452: International Economics

HIS 282: World History (same as GLB 282)

HIS 351: World War I: Causes, Conduct, and Consequences (additional offerings in history dealing with diplomacy, war and politics will also be considered)

HIS 362: Topics in History of the Modern Middle East

PHL 353: Human Rights

POL 372: Development and Change in Latin America

POL 373: China in Transition

POL 376: Politics of Contemporary Europe

POL 380: Topics in International Politics: International Relations

REL 322: Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective
(same as IDS 322 and POL 375)

Any two Military Science courses depending on offering with consent of the National Security Studies Advisor and ROTC Commander. Courses must deal with military policy, history, organization or roles. Examples of such a course is:

MIL 305: U.S. Army Campaign History

Other courses related to national security and security studies as approved by the program coordinator.

Philosophy

Associate Professor Paul F. Jeffries (Chair);

Assistant Professor Joshua Filler;

Adjunct Professor Robert V. Hannaford

Departmental Mission Statement: The Department of Philosophy enables students to better pursue their own paths to wisdom. They will encounter the best that has been thought and said about basic human concerns throughout civilization. They will be encouraged to see the relevance of these ideas and practices so that they engage conceptual and social concerns with greater coherence, perspective, and responsibility. Most importantly, students should be able to see the relevance of these ideas and use the skills developed to respond to new problems that may emerge as they continue on their own lifelong pursuit of wisdom.

Communicating Plus - Philosophy: Philosophy majors develop skills in the four Communicating Plus skills areas - written communication, oral communication, critical thinking, and problem solving. The central activity of doing philosophy is solving philosophical problems - problems occurring when things don't make sense because conflicting ideas seem equally reasonable. Developing an understanding

of philosophy as a problem solving activity is the main thrust of the introductory course, with other courses concentrating on particular domains of philosophical issues. Writing is given major attention in all classes, because it is especially valuable for describing problems and showing how creative ideas might be applied to solve them. Since the structure of philosophical problems is the same as a dialogue, participation in dialogues is relied on and cultivated in the discussion format of virtually all classes. The philosophy program culminates in a capstone experience in which students develop their own philosophy and dialogue with others in a public presentation of part of that philosophy.

Requirements for a major in philosophy: PHL 324 and 326; PHL 342 or 344 or equivalent; PHL 491 and 492, and other courses for a total of 32 credits in philosophy.

Requirements for a minor in philosophy: PHL 324 or 326; at least one additional course in philosophy at the 300 level; and other courses for a total of 20 credits in philosophy.

120. Introduction to Philosophy

Staff

Four credits.

Topics may vary from section to section. Sample topics: contemporary moral problems; the meaning of life; philosophy and technology. Consideration of the nature of philosophical thinking, especially with respect to philosophical problems and the role of reasoning in identifying and responding to such problems. The relationship of these problems to one's ideas of reality, knowledge and value is approached with a view to developing one's skills in reading and writing arguments.

175. Introduction to Philosophy: Variable Topics

Staff

Four credits.

A slightly abridged version of PHL 120 when taught as part of the First-Year Studies program. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

200. Topics

Staff

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

Special subjects in philosophy not covered by regular courses. Sometimes taught in conjunction with PHL 300. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

202. Business Ethics

Jeffries

Four credits.

Consideration of varying topics which involve philosophical questions arising in an economic context, such as: How does business serve individual freedom? Do pressures of economic competition affect one's freedom and responsibilities? The course will identify prominent alternative ethical criteria and consideration of their role in moral reasoning, with application of this reasoning to case studies. *Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.*

222. Religion, Different Religions, and the Truth**Staff**

Four credits.

An examination of the nature of religion and the characteristic philosophical problems which emerge in trying to understand the nature and possible existence of the divine and the importance of that for our lives. Critical insight and appreciation will be developed for at least one major Western and one major Eastern religious tradition, along with attention to the problems which result when we become aware of conflicting religious viewpoints. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information.

241. Ethics**Jeffries**

Four credits.

Examination and development of the major Western historical and contemporary ethical theories, with particular attention to the issues of ethical relativity, ethical motivation, and reasoning about ways in which commitment to ethical norms can be supported. Examination of those relationships of conflict and cooperation among individual human beings and between individuals and society that we call moral relationships. Attention will be paid to comparing major approaches in Western and Eastern ethical thought with regard to issues of motivation and evaluation of conduct, with opportunities to examine applications of ethical theory to actual moral issues and problems in contemporary life.

243. Philosophy and the Environment**Jeffries/Filler**

Four credits.

Exploration of the relationship of human beings to the natural world. Consideration of the conflicting claims about how we are interconnected with the rest of nature and also separate from it. An examination of such contested issues as what responsibilities, if any, do we have to the rest of nature and how can we wisely weigh competing claims about natural resources. Same as ENV 243.

245. Professional Ethics**Jeffries**

Four credits.

An exploration of philosophical issues, with a special emphasis on ethics, as they apply in several professional settings. The course provides a basic overview of standard approaches to ethics and an examination of the concept of a profession. In addition to this theoretical background, philosophical and ethical issues from specific professions will be studied, primarily from the fields of medicine, law, and research at the professional level.

251. Introduction to Philosophy of Science**Filler**

Four credits.

This course explores the philosophical elements involved in the study of science. Through the examination of historical and contemporary examples, a variety of philosophical concepts will be explored including issues such as the definition of a "science," the difference between science and pseudo-sciences, the nature of scientific theories, the processes of explanation and justification of scientific theories. The course will also consider how philosophy can illuminate debates about central questions in some of the sciences such as what is a natural law and what is a species. While there is no official prerequisite for the course, it may be helpful to have at least one course in philosophy and/or in a scientific discipline broadly construed. *Prerequisite: one course in philosophy and/or one course in the natural sciences or instructor's consent.*

281. Human Nature**Filler/Jeffries**

Four credits.

Exploration of fundamental ideas about ourselves. An examination of different ideas about the nature of the self (including its nonexistence) and the reasoning behind them. The course will also examine different viewpoints with respect to whether we are capable of genuinely free choice, whether we are basically good, whether there is a fixed and common human nature, and whether we are ultimately independent as individual persons.

284. Aesthetics**Staff**

Four credits.

An exploration of the nature and value of beauty, primarily through the objects and experiences of the fine and performing arts (visual arts, architecture, music, dance, drama, film, and poetry). Included is an investigation of aesthetic theories relating to the maker or creator of art, the viewer of audience, the object or event, and the circumstances or context. Students need not have previous direct experience with the fine or performing arts.

290. Reality and Knowledge**Filler**

Four credits.

An introduction to the ways in which philosophers have understood the fundamental nature of reality (metaphysics) and how, if at all, we might come to know about it (epistemology). Classical and contemporary efforts from Western and Asian traditions will be examined.
Prerequisite: four credits in philosophy.

300. Departmental Studies**Staff**

Variable credit course, 1-4 credits.

Special subjects in philosophy not covered by regular courses. Sometimes taught in conjunction with PHL 200. This course may be repeated for credit when topics change. Please see the pertinent Schedule of Courses for the listing of topics courses. Some topics may count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisites: three hours of credit in philosophy and consent of the instructor.*

308. Logic**Filler**

Four credits.

Expansion of the logical techniques introduced in PHL 120, and an examination of philosophical issues associated with the development of logic, to include the relationships between ordinary language and logical symbolism, the development of inference rules and proof techniques, and the nature of the problems of consistency and completeness within a system of axioms. *Prerequisite: four credits in philosophy.*

324. History of Philosophy: From Classical Thought Through the Renaissance**Jeffries**

Four credits. Offered in 2015-16 and alternate years.

An exploration of the history of philosophy from its currently known written beginnings to its initial attempts to come to grips with the legacy of the Renaissance in Europe and the beginnings of modern natural science. Some key primary texts will be studied, along with attention to major issues, thinkers, and ideas, as well as to the question, "What does it mean to say that philosophy has a history?"

326. History of Philosophy: From the Enlightenment to the Present **Filler**

Four credits. Offered in 2014-15 and alternate years.

An examination of the history of philosophy from the beginnings of the Enlightenment's development of modern science and of individualism, to the present-day legacies of Anglo-American and Continental philosophy.

342. Chinese Philosophical Traditions **Staff**

Four credits.

An introduction to main currents in Chinese philosophical thought from ancient times to the present. Particular attention will be given to how the concerns of leadership are addressed and eventually problematized from the codification of prehistoric wisdom in the *Yijing* (*The Book of Changes*) to post-Maoist thought and "Third Wave" Confucianism. Sunzi's *The Art of War* will be examined, along with classical Confucian and Daoist texts. The emergence of philosophy itself in Chinese culture will be considered, along with the distinctively Chinese fusions of indigenous philosophy and Buddhism. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisite: four credits in philosophy.*

344. Indian Philosophical Traditions **Staff**

Four credits.

An overview of the major philosophical traditions of the Indian subcontinent and their historical development. A comparison of these traditions and the mainstream Western tradition in terms of ideas about reality, value, and knowledge, including logic. Particular attention will be given to thinking about the nature of the self and the meaning of life, including contemporary Indian philosophical reflection on these matters. May count toward the global and cultural studies requirement; refer to the Academic Policies: Global and Cultural Studies Requirement section for more information. *Prerequisite: four credits in philosophy.*

353. Human Rights **Jeffries**

Four credits.

An examination of the concept of human rights in historical perspective in both Western and Eastern thought. Also, an exploration of some contemporary issues in human rights, including the rights of minority peoples and the relationship between human rights and the natural environment. *Prerequisite: four credits in philosophy.*

355. The Philosophy of Evolution **Filler**

Four credits.

An examination of the philosophical idea of evolutionary change and its particular application to the subject of the origins and development of biological species. Particular attention will be given to Darwinian and pre-Darwinian theories of species evolution, to the criticisms of evolutionary theory from within and without the scientific community, including "punctuated equilibrium" and creationism, and to other non-biological applications of evolutionary theory. *Prerequisite: PHL 120 or 175, or BIO 121, or ANT 110.*

388. Guided Readings in the History of Philosophy **Staff**

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits.

Focusing on a topic of interest to the student, students will read works from the history of philosophy in order to gain a sense of how that topic emerges and how the thought of major thinkers is relevant to it. In the process, they should also gain a history of philosophy. Read-

ings will be selected by or with the approval of the instructor. *Prerequisite: open to all philosophy majors or minors of junior or senior standing.*

390. Tutorial for Philosophy Majors and Minors **Staff**

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits.

Student-selected topics. Students select a staff member under whom they wish to complete an individualized reading program and discuss weekly or biweekly papers, perhaps culminating in a large paper, on assigned readings. *Prerequisite: open to all philosophy majors or minors of junior or senior standing.*

391. Tutorial in Epistemology **Staff**

Variable credit course, 3-4 credits.

Students are guided through readings in the history of philosophy and contemporary philosophy to learn of the major issues and major positions with respect to the nature and possibility of knowledge. *Prerequisite: open to all philosophy majors or minors of junior or senior standing.*

392. Tutorial in Metaphysics **Staff**

Variable credit course, 3-4 credits.

Students are guided through readings in the history of philosophy and contemporary philosophy to learn of the major issues and positions with respect to the fundamental nature of reality. *Prerequisite: open to all philosophy majors or minors of junior or senior standing.*

491. Senior Statement I **Filler**

Two credits. Fall semester.

Students work at analyzing a particular philosophical problem of interest to them (fall) and on articulating their own systematic philosophy (spring). Attention will be given to consistency and coherence, the latter in the sense of an integration of the various aspects of philosophy. Reflective critiques of alternative positions will be expected, as well as an awareness of historical roots of one's ideas. *Prerequisites: 12 credits in philosophy and senior standing.*

492. Senior Statement II **Jeffries**

Two credits. Spring semester.

Students will build upon the work begun in the fall semester, with a focus on both developing one's own philosophical commitments and developing a presentation to be delivered publicly to the Ripon College community at the end of the semester. *Prerequisite: PHL 491.*

540. Independent Study **Staff**

Variable credit course, 2-4 credits.

Open to majors who have a 3.0 or better average in philosophy. To enroll, students must first submit an outline of a study project and research plans acceptable to the instructor with whom they intend to work. Such study normally results in a substantial research paper. No more than twelve credit hours of independent study or internship may be taken, and no more than eight credit hours may be in one department. A registration form is required. *Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, consent of the department chair and a department project director, and 12 credits toward the major.*