

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE and ECONOMICS

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The Philosophy, Political Science and Economics Program offers a major.

Philosophy, Political Science and Economics major (52 credits)

Bachelor of Arts

The philosophy, political science and economics (PPE) major provides students with the opportunity to form an interdisciplinary integrated knowledge that combines foundational understanding of each discipline. In order to understand complex social phenomena one must approach them from several complementary disciplinary directions and analytical frameworks. The study of philosophy equips students with broad knowledge of the ideas and theories that shape society and culture, and the intellectual tools needed for ethical reflection. The study of political science acquaints students with the political structures that govern society and introduces the complexities involved in the choices political systems and regimes regularly make. Knowledge of economics is vital for explaining and understanding the social world. There is at least some truth to Marx's claim that all social phenomena are at their core economic. All three disciplines equip students with meta-tools such as the ability to think rigorously and logically, but each employs different methodologies. This is what makes the PPE major genuinely interdisciplinary: PPE students explore contemporary questions about distributive justice; the ethical significance of the competitive market economy; and the dynamic relationships between the economic, political and legal orders by employing and integrating the tools methods and perspectives of each discipline. The PPE major provides career oriented liberal arts students with the Integrated Knowledge and Lifelong Skills necessary for success and leadership in a rapidly evolving world.

Learning Outcomes for PPE

1. Students will be able to identify and critically discuss in written and oral fashion government structures and decision making processes.
2. Students will be able to identify and critically discuss in written and oral fashion key concepts, figures, movements, and ideas in philosophy.
3. Students will be able to identify and critically discuss in written and oral fashion the function of market forces and the larger social issues related to economic forces and decision making.
4. Students will be able to identify and critically discuss in written and oral fashion the integration of the fundamental concepts and ideas of Philosophy,

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Political Science, and Economics and the way these ideas shape fundamental societal issues of justice, citizenship, social order, wealth and poverty, globalization, freedom, et. al.

5. Students will be able to identify, analyze, and respond critically to relevant issues using appropriate research and bibliographic materials and facilities commonly employed in the fields of Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics.

Core Courses

- I. All Philosophy, Political Science and Economics majors must take:
 - A. Philosophy, Politics and Economics 101, Introduction to PPE
 - B. Philosophy
 - Philosophy 101, Introduction to Philosophy
 - Philosophy 320, Ancient and Mediaeval Philosophy or
 - Philosophy 321, Modern and Contemporary Philosophy
 - One additional Philosophy course at any level. (Pre-law students are encouraged to take Philosophy 105, Logic)
 - C. Political Science
 - Politics 141, Introduction to American Politics or
 - Politics 201, Politics of the World's Nations
 - Politics 275, Political Theory
 - One additional 300 level Politics course.
 - D. Economics
 - Economics 105, History of Economic Thought
 - Economics 124, Microeconomics or
 - Economics 225, Macroeconomics
 - One additional 300 level course in Economics or one of the following:
 - Business 290, Principles of Business Law; Business 304, Principles of Finance; Business 310, Employment and Labor Law; Business 361, International Business
 - PPE 499, Capstone
- II. All PPE majors will select a concentration in either Philosophy, Political Science, or Economics Majors must complete two additional courses in either Philosophy, Political Science, or Economics. At least one of these courses must be at the 300 level.

Required Support Courses

Option 1

Completion of a modern language through 202 or

Option 2

History 103 or 104 and

Two from the following:

English 255; History 103 or 104 (whichever not taken above); History 108;
Religion 106

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101. Introduction to Philosophy, Politics and Economics S1 4 credits

A discussion-based interdisciplinary course exploring the interrelated nature of fundamental ideas and methods used by philosophers, political scientists, and economists to study important socio-economic issues such as globalization, freedom and markets, citizenship and political power, and others. (*Sp*)

499. Philosophy, Politics and Economics Capstone 4 credits

The capstone course will have 4 components. 1) A major research paper: Each capstone student will propose and write a research paper on a topic approved by the capstone instructor. 2) Oral defense: each student will present and defend his or her research project to a panel of faculty in the major and other capstone students. 3) Comprehensive exam: each student will take an exam created by faculty in the major to test their mastery of the broad content of the major. 4) Transition plan: Students will be assisted in preparing a transition plan to career or graduate school as described in the capstone experience guidelines. Prerequisite: Senior standing as a PPE major. (*Sp*)