

FIRST YEAR

- Choose 1 Communication
- Choose 1 Mathematics
- Choose 1 Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Choose 1 American History
- Choose 1 Language, Philosophy & Culture
- UNIV 1301 Learning Framework
- Choose 1 Communication
- Choose 1 American History
- Choose 1 Intro to Logic or PHIL 1340
- PHIL 1388 (Honors)
- Choose 1 Creative Arts
- Choose 1 Integrative/Experiential Learning

SECOND YEAR

- Choose 1 Government/Political Science
- Choose 1 Life and Physical Sciences
- Choose 1 PHIL 13XX-43XX From Value Theory
- Choose 1 PHIL/RELS 13XX-43XX
- Choose 1 Diversity & Pluralism in Philosophy
- Choose 1 Integrative/Experiential Learning
- Choose 1 Government/Political Science
- Choose 1 Life and Physical Sciences
- Choose 1 Life and Physical Sciences
- Choose 1 Free Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Elective

THIRD YEAR

- PHIL 3301 Ancient Philosophy
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- PHIL 3303 Modern Philosophy (1600-1800)
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Philosophy Advanced Elective

FOURTH YEAR

- Choose 1 PHIL 4310 Epistemology or PHIL 4312 Metaphysics
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- PHIL 4380 Senior Seminar
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective
- 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective

Courses in red are part of the General Education Core Curriculum (GEC). "Choose 1" indicates course options. If options are not listed, please review the General Education Core or the degree plan for this major: www.utrgv.edu/degreeplans

2019-2020 ACADEMIC PLAN

UTRio Grande Valley



PHILOSOPHY (BA)

*Electives (no minor)

Catalog: 2019-20
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Degree Info

Training in philosophy helps one think more clearly, more perceptively, and more effectively. Regardless of one's personal and occupational goals, and regardless of the projects in which one is interested, being able to think clearly and effectively about them is important. Americans today switch careers (not just jobs) two to three times on average over their lives. More than ever it is important to have the learning, critical thinking, and analytical skills that philosophy provides to be able to transition between different professions. The study of philosophy uniquely helps one to better understand and appreciate oneself, the world outside, and how the two are related. In order to live a happy and fulfilled life, it is important to make sense of life and one's place in it. The satisfaction of that need is at the core of philosophy.

Additional Info

- Students majoring or minoring in Philosophy are strongly encouraged to seek advising and mentorship from the Philosophy faculty. Please attend departmental Major/Minor Meetings which occur each semester just prior to registration
- Students may major in Philosophy with or without a minor or second major. If Philosophy is the sole major/minor there are additional degree requirements.
- Though there are no official tracks or concentrations, Philosophy majors are encouraged to focus on topics related to their particular post graduate goals. Please see Philosophy faculty for guidance and mentorship.
- Students should take PHIL 4380: Senior Seminar.

Contact Info

Department Chair
Dr. Greg Gilson
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BLUEPRINT EXPERIENCES

FIRST YEAR

SECOND YEAR

THIRD YEAR

FOURTH YEAR AND BEYOND

CAREERS

MILESTONES

- UTRGV has a Writing Center and a Learning Center. Make it a point to visit them!
- Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
- Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Take MATH in your first year.

ADVICE & SUPPORT

- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
- Choose a major with confidence- Visit my.UTRGV.edu and check out MyMajors.
- Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class, the Philosophy Major and your vocational goals.
- Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
- Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus with free office visits.

APPLY WHAT YOU LEARN

- Look for a service-learning course! For guidance, visit Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Ask a student in class to study with you.

GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.edu.
- Attend a diversity based campus or community event (e.g. MLK Day of Service).
- Attend a departmental program such as a Philosophy club or Majors/Minors meeting.
- Join a student organization! Consider looking into the Philosophy Club or Ethics Bowl or visit VLink (utrgv.edu/vlink) for options.

LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Handshake icon: (My.UTRGV.edu).
- Got summer plans? Visit Career Center and ask about places to do some job shadowing.
- Research shows that students who work on campus perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a job on Handshake!
- Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger- locate and attend one student workshop.

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Complete major foundation classes, such as PHIL 1340: Introduction to Logic.
- Complete 30 credit hours.

- Want to explore different careers? Check out MyMajors!
- Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor.
- Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your speeches.
- Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available

- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.

- Look at study abroad opportunities!
- Check out a cultural campus or community event such as HESTEC or FESTIBA.
- Join another student organization. Perhaps participate in Ethics Bowl or visit VLink for options.
- Check out a campus event that offers free lunch- bring a friend!

- Update your resume in Handshake and have it reviewed.
- Visit the Career Center site to find a job fair to attend. At the event, approach a recruiter and discuss internships.
- Will a minor expand your career options? Please discuss with the Philosophy faculty.
- Explain to someone how your academic program aligns with your strengths and interests.

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.

- Seek out research opportunities within your major and join a professional organization such as PISKI.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.
- Apply for internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.

- Go show off your research, service-learning or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium!
- Sharpen your writing skills! Take an intensive writing course or become the secretary for your organization.

- Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit VLink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information!
- Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.

- Check out the Philosophy department website for postings on career/graduate school.
- Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks' advance notice!
- When is the deadline for your graduate school application? Visiting the program admissions webpage and speak with Philosophy faculty. Most do not accept late applicants!

- Shoot for a GPA of 3.5.
- "I have a plan for after graduation." If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
- Register for PHIL 4380: Senior Seminar.
- Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
- Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for fulltime employment.

- Engage in an independent study project or an academic internship to complement your major, such as PHIL 4398: Independent Research or Study or PHIL 4399: Internship.
- Discuss future plans with your faculty mentor or advisor that includes employment, finances, and other life goals.
- Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center to ensure you are on track.

- Continue to present research or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium or at an undergraduate philosophy conference.
- Set up an informational interview with an individual (especially an alumnus) currently in the field you aspire to work in.

- Identify employers of interest and seek them out at job fairs, online, at on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, etc. The Career Center can help.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Career Center or speech coaching with the Communication Hauser Lab.

- Have you received your acceptance for graduate school or an employment offer? If not, network: talk to faculty, the Career Center, and get on LinkedIn.
- Formulate and implement a strategy for life after graduation: attend career fairs, graduate fairs, apply to fellowships, etc.
- Update your information with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events and continued access to Career Center services!
- Remember to do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov.

- Teaching
- Research
- Medical/Clinical
- Bioethics
- Environmental
- Law-related
- Colleges and universities
- Professional or graduate schools, including medical
- Adult education programs
- Vocational-technical educational programs

For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out "What Can I Do With This Major?" www.utrgv.edu/careercenter