

Philosophy (PHIL)

What is Philosophy? Philosophy is a discipline that examines fundamental questions about everyday life and the natural world. The main objectives of studying **Philosophy at College of Alameda** are: (1) to critically analyze ideas, texts, arguments, traditions, and contemporary culture, and (2) to synthesize knowledge for the purposes of inspiring personal and social change. By studying philosophy, you will gain wisdom, clarity, and awareness about a wide variety of philosophical issues that arise within different cultural and historical contexts.

Philosophy will prepare students to transfer to any discipline of their choice within the humanities and social sciences at a college or university. In addition, you will learn valuable life skills such as critical thinking, cultural competence, social activism, community-building, and conflict resolution. Course work in philosophy can be applied to a range of careers in law, education, business, medicine, nursing, law, psychology, sociology, anthropology, theology, social work, and grass-roots and nonprofit organizations.

PHIL 1

Introduction to Philosophy

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Study of selected classic examples of original works of philosophers: Literature of the discipline and analytical methods, aims, goals, and types of problems peculiar to philosophers and philosophical inquiry; metaphysics, epistemology, valuing and axiology, aesthetics, and religion. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3B

PHIL 2

Social and Political Philosophy

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Focus on classic examples of social and political philosophy in Western civilization: Original writings by classic Greeks (Plato and Aristotle), Americans (Hamilton, Madison, and Jefferson), modern Europeans (Marx and Mill), and appropriate contemporary philosophers. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3B

PHIL 4

Philosophy of Religion

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Philosophy of religion from both an existential and historical perspective: Existentially, through an examination of "religion" as personal, social and theological; and historically, through an examination of common doctrines in the Semitic, Vedic and East Asian religions. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3B

PHIL 5

Ethical Problems

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Analysis of ethical problems such as violence, sex, war and oppression: Imaginative literature, cinema, current events reported in the media, and great traditions of Western civilization. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3B

PHIL 10

Logic

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Consideration of logical problems of language: Deduction and induction, fallacies, theory of argument and the scientific method, and study of correct reasoning in Aristotelian and modern logic. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area A3

PHIL 20A

History of Ancient Greek Philosophy

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Chronological development of leading philosophical perspectives that have been associated with Western civilization from the Ionians to the Scholastics. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3B

PHIL 20B

History of Modern European Philosophy

- 3 units, 3 hours lecture (GR)
- Phil 20A is not prerequisite to PHIL 20B.
- Acceptable for credit: CSU, UC

Chronological development of leading philosophical perspectives of Modern Europe from the Renaissance to present. 1509.00

AA/AS area 3; CSU area C2; IGETC area 3B

PHIL 49

Independent Study in Philosophy

- .5-5 units, .5-5 hours lecture (GR or P/NP)
- Acceptable for credit: CSU

In-depth exploration of an area or problem of the student's choice not covered by regular catalog offerings in Philosophy. Student must obtain approval from an appropriate faculty member. For more details, see the section on independent study in the college catalog. 1509.00