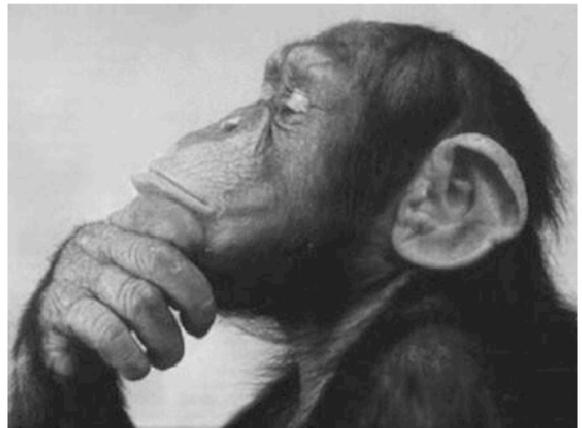


The Philosophy Major

Philosophy critically examines our most basic beliefs about the world and our place in it. Inquiry in philosophy grapples with such basic questions as, “Can we be sure of our beliefs?” “What are the grounds for correct judgments?” “How do we distinguish between right and wrong?” “What is a person?” “Are we free or causally determined?” “What is a just society?” “How can we act in a global world?” “What makes one a good doctor?” “How should we treat animals?” “What is power?”

There is a multiplicity of links between philosophy and other disciplines and professions such as the sciences, the arts, medicine and law. Philosophy serves to place the study of such disciplines within a broader intellectual perspective and provides logical and analytical tools for understanding them. Since philosophy can enter into so many different programs, philosophical studies may be pursued as an intrinsic component of any liberal or professional education.



Philosophy Department Requirements:

- a total of 36-40 PHL credits, including:
- History of Philosophy: PHL 210 and PHL 211
- Logic: PHL 130 or PHL 330 or PHL 432
- Value Theory: PHL 340 or PHL 350
- at least three courses at the 400 level (besides PHL 492)
- the senior seminar PHL 492 (offered spring semester only)
- Epistemology and Metaphysics: PHL 418 or PHL 420 or PHL 460 or PHL 461 or PHL 462 or PHL 480.

College of Arts and Letters Requirements:

- second-year equivalence in a foreign language
- work in two cognate areas or another minor or major.

QUESTIONS AND CONTACT:

Professor Debra Nails
Director of Undergraduate Program
Department of Philosophy
503 South Kedzie Hall

Phone: 517-353-9392
<http://www.philosophy.msu.edu>
email: nails@msu.edu

In philosophy you learn how to

- think critically and write argumentatively
- analyze complex social, practical, and global problems
- express your thoughts in a clear fashion
- judge on rational grounds
- be human