

## DISCOVER

# Philosophy

Philosophy involves intellectual explorations of fundamental questions about human experience, beliefs, and concerns. Philosophers pursue deepened understanding as they question the nature of reality, the limits of human knowledge, and the nature of a good life for human beings. Entering into major currents of philosophical reflection, Cottey students wrestle with perspectives and theories that continue to exert influence in the world today. Courses aim to confront the writings and outlooks of historic and contemporary thinkers carefully selected to represent important and significantly different ways in which we may try to understand the world, society, and our own lives.

### Educational Benefits and Career Opportunities

Philosophy can help to promote deeper appreciation and reasoned understanding of the world and of the diversity of human concerns and possibilities. It may contribute, thus, to a more satisfying college experience, as well as to the achievement of a life of more thoughtful fulfillment. Serious reflection in philosophy can help the student of science to better consider the nature and ethical implications of her outlook and practices. Students in the arts and humanities, on the other hand will be challenged to move toward greater depth, rigor, and clarity of thought and expression.

Relative to a variety of career areas, study in philosophy may offer excellent preparation. Philosophical study promotes the development of transferable intellectual skills and insightfulness. It aims to heighten student abilities to analyze, articulate, and evaluate many kinds of positions and forms of

reasoning. Such skills are important not only in philosophical research, but also in such areas as law, social science, journalism, theology, business, and education.

In addition to the classic areas of systematic philosophical questioning (such as metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics), many professional philosophers now pursue research in specific fundamental problems areas of science, religion, language, mathematics, art and history. While most professional philosophers seek employment in colleges and universities, employment is also possible in a number of fields of applied philosophy. For example, some philosophical ethicists pursue employment in business or medicine, while logicians and epistemologists may work in cognitive science or computer science.

### Internship and Directed Study Opportunities

As a philosophy major, your range of important experience and study may

### Get Involved

Want to pursue meaningful develop of your leadership skills and improve your resume at the same time? Then get involved at Cottey College and in the Nevada community.

Cottey College has more than 35 student clubs and organizations in which to be involved. Plus, the Nevada and surrounding community offer an abundance of service opportunities.

As a prospective philosophy major, and area of interest, you might consider participating in SGA (Student Government Association) or a local political organization. Possibilities for service exist in numerous charitable agencies and organizations, including churches and shelters. Applications of critical thinking can be tried out in even such short term commitments as the judging of high school debates.

be increased through internship or directed studies.

Students at Cottey College may participate in internships with a variety of businesses, organizations, and non-profit agencies. A successful internship provides a student with an opportunity for first hand experience and for workplace applications of learning.

With the assistance of faculty and the transfer and career planning coordinator, philosophy majors may pursue opportunities locally with churches and religious organizations, law offices, government agencies, elementary and secondary schools, political organizations, newspapers, or other relevant organizations.

Directed study opportunities exist in a variety of disciplines. Under faculty supervision, qualifying students may pursue academic credit on a topic or project that is related to, but that extends beyond, a department's regular course offerings.

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# SHAPING YOUR OWN DESTINY

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# PHILOSOPHY (4-Semester Sample Schedule)

Students should consult the catalog of the college to which they plan to transfer for specific requirements in their major. This suggested schedule is designed to provide the Associate in Arts degree candidate with the appropriate Cottey College core curriculum and enough coursework in their field to complete the 62 hours required for an A.A. degree. *Schedules may vary based on available classes and interests.*

First Year Fall Semester	Credit Hrs.	First Year Spring Semester	Credit Hrs.
ENG101 English Composition I	3	ENG102 English Composition II	3
PHI101 Philosophical Quests*	3	PHI103 Ethics*	3
Foreign Language	3 or 4	Foreign Language	3 or 4
HIS101 History of Western Civ. to 1500 or		MAT103 College Algebra or higher	3 or 4
HIS102 History of Western Civ. since 1500*	3	Physical Activity	1
Physical Activity	1	Electives	1 to 3
Electives	1 to 3		

Second Year Fall Semester	Credit Hrs.	Second Year Spring Semester	Credit Hrs.
PHI121 Human Nature, Society and Ed.*	3	Fine Arts Theory	3
REL105 World Religions I or		PHI112 Introduction to Logic*	3
REL106 World Religions II*	3	REL105 World Religions I or	
Social Science	3	REL106 World Religions II*	3
Laboratory Science	4 or 5	Electives	8
Electives	1 to 3		

### \* Courses recommended for major

In choosing electives, students should aim to build a strong base of background knowledge related to the interests they anticipate pursuing in philosophy. For example:

- Students with strong interests in ethics or political philosophy are wise to pursue courses in the social sciences, literature, and religion. Interests in applied ethics could also call for coursework in such areas as business or biology.
- Students with interests in metaphysics or theory of knowledge should build a strong base in the physical sciences and psychology. Familiarity with competing religious views of humanity and reality may also be helpful.
- Students with interests in history of philosophy should take courses not only in history but also in any area emphasizing historical developments or historical readings. Literature, art history, and religion, as well as physical and social sciences are helpful for some philosophical areas of emphasis.

Please note that some graduate programs have specific foreign language requirements. In philosophy, French and/or German reading proficiency may be required.

## Faculty Advising

Preparing a class schedule, investigating majors, and researching transfer institutions can be confusing for a first-year student. At Cottey College, academic advising assists the individual student in clarifying and achieving her educational goals.

Each student is assigned a full-time faculty member as an academic advisor. Together the advisor and student devise a balanced academic program, which encompasses the student's educational

and career ambitions. The advisor reviews all registration decisions, the advisee's academic progress, and suggests transfer and career options.

This personalized approach to student advising allows the student to take responsibility for her own academic program, while tapping into faculty expertise.

For more information contact:  
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# COTTEY