

# PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

Philosophy is unique and in a constant state of change. The great American philosopher William James once called philosophy “a collective name for questions that have not yet been answered to satisfaction of all by whom they have been asked.” Philosophy, in other words, addresses those multifaceted, world-view type questions that confront everyone who thinks.

Those who study philosophy are empowered to develop, express, and defend their own philosophical perspectives. Those who study it here learn to bring their ideas into dialogue with the past masters and current dignitaries, many of whom are great Christian minds.

By using a distinctly critical, historical, and Christian approach, our goal is to help produce the next generation of excellent thinkers. Students will interact with perspectives foreign to and familiar with the Christian tradition. Our graduates will know how to think carefully about these views. And they will be prepared to stake claims and provide reasons with a design plan aimed at truth, goodness, and beauty.

A few of our graduates will take philosophy *as* their life’s work. The rest will take philosophy *to* their life’s work. But wherever they may find themselves, all of them will bring the best tools of philosophy to bear on the fundamental moral and intellectual questions of our time.

## Majors

- Philosophy Major (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/trinity-college/academic-life/majors-minors-department/philosophy/philosophy-major>)

## Minors

- Philosophy Minor (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/trinity-college/academic-life/majors-minors-department/philosophy/philosophy-minor>)

## Courses

### PH 170 Logic - 3 Hours

A study of the principles of correct reasoning. This course will consider induction, deduction, informal fallacies, traditional logic, and symbolic logic. Offered every Fall for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 180 Introduction to Philosophy - 3 Hours

An introduction to philosophy that focuses on the principal issues in the theory of knowledge, metaphysics, ethics, and the construction of worldviews. Offered each semester for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate, online, REACH/Excel undergraduate.

### PH 182 Ethics - 3 Hours

An introduction to problems and concepts in ethical theory, plus a consideration of contemporary moral problems. Offered every Spring for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 190 Introduction to Apologetics - 3 Hours

The course is designed to introduce students to the major cultural and philosophical challenges facing Christianity and begin developing the intellectual resources for its defense. The course covers the proofs for God’s existence and the basic philosophical methods for supporting Christian faith. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 231 Philosophy of Human Nature - 3 Hours

An interdisciplinary inquiry into human nature. The course will treat the person both as an individual and as related to others in social contexts. Prerequisite: PH 180. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 234 Love and Friendship - 3 Hours

This course is an integrated, philosophical study of the nature of love and friendship. Topics treated include various perspectives on love and friendship, different kinds of love and friendship, the role of friendship in the Christian life, married love, tough love, the possibility of love, and love for God. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 250 Special Topics in Philosophy - 3 Hours

Selected topics in philosophy not taught under a specific course title. May be repeated for credit if topic differs. Offered on demand for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 350 Asian Religious Thought - 3 Hours

Historical survey of the origins and growth of the major Asian religions. Beliefs, practices, and worldviews of the major traditions will be examined with attention given to understanding the underpinnings of the lifestyles, ideologies and communication patterns of various Asian peoples. Comparisons and contrasts with Western and Christian-based perspectives will be offered. Delivery mode: REACH/Excel adult undergraduate.

### PH 351 Topics in Apologetics - 3 Hours

Selected topics in apologetics not taught under a specific course title. May be repeated for credit if topic differs. Offered on demand for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Prerequisite: PH 180. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 352 Topics in Ethics - 3 Hours

Selected topics in ethics not taught under a specific course title. May be repeated for credit if topic differs. Offered on demand for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Prerequisite: PH 180. Offered on demand. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 353 Topics in Philosophy of Religion - 3 Hours

Selected topics in philosophy of religion not taught under a specific course title. May be repeated for credit if topic differs. Offered on demand for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Prerequisite: PH 180. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 359 Topics for Honors Students - 3 Hours

Selected topics not taught under specific course titles. Depending on the topic, the course will be designated as falling under one or more departments. May be repeated for credit if the topic differs. Offered spring semester for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 360 Advanced Topics in Philosophy - 3 Hours

Selected advanced topics in philosophy not taught under a specific course title. May be repeated for credit if topic differs. Offered on demand for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Prerequisite: PH 180. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

### PH 362 Philosophy of Religion - 3 Hours

An examination of the philosophical implications in Christian theism, including the existence of God, the nature of religious language, revelation, faith and reason, and the problem of evil. Prerequisite: PH 180. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 363X Survey of Religious Diversity - 3 Hours**

A survey of the world's major religions, including Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and other religious movements. The specific aim of the course is to learn how to understand and engage a full range of religious worldviews from the perspective of the Christian faith. Special attention is given to comparing and contrasting religious movements with the historic Christian faith. The course probes various dimensions of the problem of religious truth, explores the possibility of constructing a systematic understanding of religions, and seeks to formulate creative and thoughtful responses to the problem of religious diversity. Cross listed with BRS 363X. Offered fall semester for Deerfield traditional undergraduate; online as scheduled. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate, online.

**PH 381 History of Western Thought I - 3 Hours**

A survey of ancient, medieval, and Renaissance thought. Prerequisite: PH 180. Offered every other year for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 382 History of Western Thought II - 3 Hours**

A study of principal philosophers and perspectives from Descartes to the present. Prerequisite: PH 180. Offered every other year for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 390 Advanced Apologetics - 3 Hours**

Apologetics prepares students to make an intellectual defense of the Christian faith. The course surveys the historic challenges to the Christian truth claims and the means and methods Christians have used to address these challenges. Emphasis is given to the current state of affairs in the academy and culture in terms of the major problems and solutions under discussion. Prerequisite: PH 170, PH 180, PH 182, or PH 190. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate, REACH/Excel undergraduate.

**PH 431 Contemporary Philosophy - 3 Hours**

A study of significant philosophers and perspectives in the twentieth century. Prerequisites: PH 180 plus six hours of philosophy beyond the 100 level. Offered every other year for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 432 Problems in Philosophy - 3 Hours**

An examination of selected issues in epistemology, ethics, and metaphysics. Prerequisites: PH 180 plus six hours of philosophy beyond the 100 level. Offered every other year for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 450 Independent Study - 1-4 Hours**

Research and specialized studies designed to meet the needs of the individual student. Prerequisite: consent of the instructor. Offered on demand for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 474X Introduction to Bioethics - 3 Hours**

An overview of the Hippocratic/Judeo-Christian tradition in medical ethics against the background of biblical- theological discussion of human nature, medicine, and healing, and as a context for the rise of the new bioethics. Prerequisite: PH 180 or consent of instructor. This course is taught at the Trinity Graduate School (BE 5000). Offered fall semester. May substitute undergraduate Bioethics Institute (offered in July; register in May Term). Cross-listed with BE 474X. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 475X Topics in Bioethics - 1-3 Hours**

Selected courses taught either at the College or at the Trinity Graduate School. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. Offered fall or spring semester, or annually, in mid-July, in conjunction with the Bioethics Conference for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. Cross-listed with BE 475X. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 476X Undergraduate Bioethics Institute - 3 Hours**

This institute provides an overview of relevant bioethical issues and principles from a biblical-Christian perspective. It includes reading and assignments to be completed before the first class meeting and other assignments after the last class meeting, as well as a final paper. Participation in the associated National Bioethics Conference offered by The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity (usually spring and summer) is also required. The course is a unique opportunity to consider the subject and interact with a variety of academic experts, practitioners, and students at various stages of vocational and ethical preparation. Note: BE/PH 476x and BE/PH 477x are special courses, associated with The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity's Annual Summer Conference. The courses and conference provide a unique opportunity for students to interact with internationally recognized professionals in their field, and complete one or both courses for credit. Because of their unique nature, BE 476 and BE 477 are not included in the tuition remission option of TIU's three-year degree, due to the expenses associated with the conference and courses. Cross-listed with BE 476X. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 477X Undergraduate National Conference - 2-3 Hours**

This course enables students to take advantage of the opportunity offered by the National Bioethics Conference sponsored by The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity on an annual basis (usually spring and summer). Attendance at conference session and preparatory readings will allow students to reflect critically on the issues of the conference. Selection of a specific topic of interest from those considered in the conference and/or reading materials provide opportunity for extended research. Note: BE/PH 476x and BE/PH 477x are special courses, associated with The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity's Annual Summer Conference. The courses and conference provide a unique opportunity for students to interact with internationally recognized professionals in their field, and complete one or both courses for credit. Because of their unique nature, BE 476 and BE 477 are not included in the tuition remission option of TIU's three-year degree, due to the expenses associated with the conference and courses. Cross-listed with BE 477X. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.

**PH 499 Fall Senior Seminar - 1 Hour**

This course prepares students to meet their vocational objectives by consolidating the philosophy department's curriculum and the student's academic experiences into a personal portfolio and life plan. The portfolio requirements include items such as the completion of a curriculum vitae, a sample paper, the acquisition of references, the creation of a graduate school target list (or equivalent job opportunity list), the completion of the GRE or LSAT, the completion of a senior assessment and an exit interview. This course fulfills the "Professional Experience General Education Requirement" for students in the Philosophy Major. Possible fulfillment experiences include regular philosophy tutoring, public presentation and delivery of a philosophy paper, or regular group discussion or paper grading leadership in conjunction with a philosophy class. Prerequisites: The student must be a philosophy major, have taken at least five philosophy courses, and be of junior or senior standing. Offered fall semester for Deerfield traditional undergraduate. This course fulfills the IDS 499X Integrative Thought Capstone requirement for students in the Philosophy major. Delivery mode: Deerfield traditional undergraduate.