## Sample Courses

### Philosophy

#### Year 1
- **1020**: Introduction to Philosophy
- **1030A/B**: Understanding Science
- **1040F/G**: Ethics, Law and Politics
- **1130F/G**: Big Ideas
- **1305F/G**: Questions of the Day

#### Year 2
- **2020**: Basic Logic
- **2021A/B**: Oppositions and Paradoxes
- **2032F/G**: Einstein for Everyone
- **2033A/B**: Environmental Philosophy
- **2037F/G**: Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence *NEW
- **2073F/G**: Death
- **2077F/G**: Gender and Sexuality
- **2092F/G**: Philosophy and Pop Culture *NEW
- **2366F/G**: Philosophy and Climate Change *NEW

#### Year 3
- **3010F/G**: Philosophy of Food
- **3012F/G**: Medieval Philosophy
- **3022F/G**: Cartesianism and its Critics
- **3031F/G**: Women in Early Modern Philosophy
- **3033F/G**: Epistemology
- **3601F/G**: Metaphysics
- **3700F/G**: Research Ethics *NEW
- **3990A/B**: Skepticism

#### Year 4
- **4023F/G**: The History of Skepticism from Hellenistic Time to Descartes
- **4035F/G**: Early Modern Thought about Temporal Experience and Spatial Awareness
- **4045F/G**: Special Topics in 18th Century Philosophy
- **4050F/G**: Seminar in Kant’s First Critique

*NOTE: Not all courses may be offered each year.*
**What is Philosophy?**

Philosophy is the study of classical and contemporary thought. Philosophers critically examine moral responsibilities and social obligations, question values and beliefs, and attempt to understand the nature of interactions between individuals and society and the problems in our existence. Do we have free will? Can machines think? Can we know the world as it really is? Is the future predetermined? Philosophy students engage in many of the following areas of investigation: the mind, science, ethics, epistemology, metaphysics, art, social and political philosophy, logic, philosophy of law, and phenomenology. Philosophy students also tend to excel on entrance exams for graduate and professional schools as they develop a set of skills important for success in a broad range of fields.

**The Department of Philosophy at Western**

Philosophy has been taught at Western University since the first days of the university in 1878. Today, the Department is home to over 30 faculty members and is regularly ranked as one of the top departments in the country. Committed to offering a broad general education in philosophy, while also being home to many faculty members and students who work in specialized areas, the Department of Philosophy maintains strong ties with the departments of pure and applied mathematics, biology, physics and astronomy, medicine and epidemiology, women’s studies, psychology, the Brain and Mind Institute at Western and with the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo.

At Western, philosophy courses are taught by esteemed faculty, many of whom have been the recipients of prestigious teaching awards. Through their lectures, students will be introduced to some of the greatest thinkers, and greatest challenges, of the past and present. Whether working towards a BA in philosophy or just a few courses, Western provides excellent teaching in philosophy and prides itself on developing students’ skills as readers, writers and critical analysts.

The Department of Philosophy at Western offers six degree options to choose from:

- Honors Specialization
- Specialization
- Major
- Minor, Philosophy
- Minor Philosophy of Science,
- Minor, Ethics

**Certificate and Diploma in Ethics**

In addition to the six degree options, the Diploma and Certificate in Ethics were designed as a response to a wide growing interest in the ethical dimensions of professional and public life. The Diploma is geared towards students who hold undergraduate degrees in other programs such as business, medicine or science, and it may be completed full or part-time. The Certificate is taken concurrently with a bachelor’s degree.

**The Rotman Institute**

The creation of the Rotman Institute of Philosophy in 2008 has allowed Western to broaden its research profile by bringing together philosophers and scientists to focus on theoretical issues and their practical and ethical implications in various areas of science, from cosmology to conservation ecology, evolutionary biology, and medicine.

The Rotman Institute brings world-class speakers to campus and facilitates a number of conference, research and collaborative opportunities. For more information please visit www.rotman.uwo.ca

For further information about the Department of Philosophy visit www.uwo.ca/philosophy or contact:

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**Fund Your Education:**

Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships for students in Philosophy

For a comprehensive list of awards available visit: uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/scholarships.html

**Meet Julia**

“Studying philosophy at Western has given me tools that will be helpful no matter what I choose to do in the future. I feel ready to tackle whatever comes my way. I think adding philosophical tools into my life has helped me refine the way I think, and to think carefully.”

- Julia Lei, Philosophy