

M Philosophy

Our department is designed to allow students to learn about the philosophical traditions of Asia and the West. The study of Asian philosophies is essential to an understanding of Asian cultures and traditions, and as such is indispensable to anyone who is interested in Asian society, politics, history, literature or doing business in Asian countries. In the Singapore context, the study of Asian philosophies not only provides an opportunity for students to explore their own cultural roots, but also contributes significantly to understanding the complexity and cultural diversity of the modern world. Western Philosophy also develops those analytical and critical skills which will be invaluable in any discipline, profession or in the daily business of life. The Department offers a variety of modules in Asian and Western philosophy, including topics such as Chinese Philosophy, Indian Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Logic, Political Philosophy, and Art & Philosophy, etc. leading to the degrees of BA and BA (Hons). Graduate programmes by research are also available. The critical and analytical skills students develop through their acquaintance with philosophy, as well as their awareness of Asian cultural traditions as a result of their acquaintance with one, or more, Asian philosophical traditions, allow them to do well in many career areas.

Philosophy graduates have been recruited by very diverse organisations – the Straits Times, IBM, Mediacorp Singapore, multinationals (e.g., Shell, Neptune Orient Lines), Singapore International Airlines and various Government Ministries and Statutory Boards. Large organisations and employers value the evidence of independent thought, capacity for research, and flexible, integrative and critical thinking that an education in philosophy provides.

Entry Requirements

There are no entry requirements to major in Philosophy.

Subject Requirements

Single Major [BA (Hons)]

To major in PH, students need to:

1. Pass GET1029. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 84 MCs of PH modules or PH-recognised modules which include the following:
 1. GET1028
 2. a minimum of 60 MCs at level-3000 or higher, with
 3. a minimum of 40 MCs at level-4000 or higher
 4. a maximum of 10 MCs of PH-recognised modules
 5. a maximum of 2 PH modules at level-5000
(subject to department's approval).

Note 1:

To declare Honours track, students must have completed 110 MCs, including 44 MCs in the Major, with a CAP of 3.20 and above.

Note 2:

The Honours Thesis/Project (15 MCs) is optional. To qualify for the Honours Thesis/Project (15 MCs), students must complete 110 MCs including 44 MCs of PH major requirements with a minimum CAP of 3.50. In order to obtain Honours (Highest Distinction), students must achieve a CAP of 4.50 or higher.

Note 3:

Students who do not attempt the Honours Thesis/Project will read Level-4000 modules to fulfil the Honours Requirements.

Note 4:

Students may also read a Level-4000 Independent Studies Module (5 MCs). The Level-4000 ISM carries a prerequisite of 100 MCs completed, including 44 MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20. It precludes the Honours Thesis/Project.

Note 5:

All Level-4000 modules carry a general prerequisite of having completed 80 MCs, including 28 MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20 OR being on the Honours track (some Level-4000 modules may have different prerequisites).

Single Major (BA)

To major in PH, students need to:

1. Pass GET1029. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 44 MCs of PH modules or PH-recognised modules which include the following:
 1. GET1028
 2. a minimum of 20 MCs at level-3000 or higher,
 3. a maximum of 10 MCs of PH-recognised modules

Note 1:

Students are allowed to read Level-4000 modules subject to departmental approval.

Second Major

To major in PH, students need to:

1. Pass GET1029. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 44 MCs of PH modules or PH-recognised modules which include the following:

1. GET1028
2. a minimum of 20 MCs at level-3000
3. a maximum of 10 MCs of PH-recognised modules

Note 1:

Students are allowed to read Level-4000 modules subject to departmental approval.

Minor

Pass at least 24 MCs of PH modules, or PH recognised modules, which include the following:

1. GET1029 Life, the Universe, and Everything
2. a minimum of 4 MCs at Level-3000
3. a maximum of 4 MCs of PH-recognised modules

Note 1:

A maximum of 8 MCs from the minor can be used to satisfy the requirements of a major or another minor.

For the latest updates, please visit the Department website at: <http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/philo>