

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS MAJOR

Our Website (<https://ppe.liberalarts.vt.edu/>)

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The Kellogg Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) oversees two highly interdisciplinary, research-driven undergraduate degree programs, a major and minor in PPE. The degree programs provide students with the tools, methods, and knowledge to develop comprehensive solutions to complex interdisciplinary decision-making problems, solutions that are not only economically sound, but also socially, ethically, and politically informed. The degree programs prepare students to become leaders in the fast-changing and complex social world of the 21st century.

Due to its analytical rigor, combination of normative and empirical analyses, and emphasis on the development of transferable skills, PPE prepares students for a wide variety of careers in the private and public sectors. PPE graduates have successful careers in management, marketing, consulting, industry, investment banking, finance, business administration, law, journalism, government, public administration, public policy, think tanks, health care, international affairs, international development, and non-profit organizations. In addition, PPE prepares students exceptionally well for academic programs, especially for law school, medical school, business school, and master's and doctoral programs in philosophy, political science, and economics, as well as related social sciences.

To enrich its undergraduate curriculum and allow students to develop professional skills, the Kellogg Center organizes research-focused events (<https://ppe.liberalarts.vt.edu/events/>), in particular a research speaker series, research fellow panels, conferences, workshops, and public lectures. In addition, it offers student-centered events and activities (<https://ppe.liberalarts.vt.edu/student-involvement/>), such as an undergraduate journal, reading groups, discussion colloquia, and a PPE Club. The Center's programming fosters dialogue among faculty, students, and the public and supports the integration of research and teaching.

Degree Requirements

The graduation requirements in effect during the academic year of admission to Virginia Tech apply. Requirements for graduation are listed on checksheets. Students must satisfactorily complete all requirements and university obligations for degree completion. The university reserves the right to modify requirements in a degree program.

Please visit the University Registrar's website at <https://www.registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/checksheets.html> for degree requirements.

Major in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

The PPE major allows students to study systematically some of the most important social, ethical, economic, and political problems that our contemporary societies face. It offers a highly interdisciplinary curriculum with distinct learning outcomes centered on an undergraduate research project. The PPE major is structured around four central integration courses and an optional complementary internship course:

1. The PPE First-Year Experience Course (PPE 1004) introduces students to important classic and contemporary texts in PPE. The course acquaints students with basic principles of research and writing as well as helps students to adjust to university life.
2. The PPE Gateway Course (PPE 2894) integrates the quantitative techniques, conceptual tools, and core principles of philosophy, political science, and economics.
3. Led by a faculty expert, the PPE Topics Course (PPE 3884) allows students to discuss an interdisciplinary topic in PPE in depth.
4. The PPE Capstone Course (PPE 4884) allows students to work on an advanced research project of their choice at the intersection of philosophy, politics, and economics and its application to the real world.

Minor in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

The PPE minor trains students to apply knowledge in the humanities and social sciences to related fields, and thus to examine the world from multiple perspectives and integrate knowledge across disciplines. The PPE minor requires 18 credit hours to be obtained from the PPE Gateway Course, the PPE Capstone Course, and four elective courses that include one applied area course. The PPE minor is an approved as a Pathways minor (<https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors/showcase/ppe.html>) at Virginia Tech. Relatedly, it is worth stressing that Virginia Tech is currently the only top engineering school that integrates engineering courses into its PPE curriculum. The PPE minor allows engineering students to create synergies between their engineering studies (https://enge.vt.edu/undergraduate/explore_engineering.html) and the humanities and social sciences.

Study Abroad

The Kellogg Center encourages students to participate in study abroad programs as part of their educational experience. PPE students have recently studied in continental Europe and the U.K., among other places. In general, if coordinated in advance, coursework completed abroad can count towards the PPE major and PPE minor.

The Kellogg Center has also established an international partnership with the PPE Program (<https://www.ppe.hhu.de/en/>) at the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (HHU) in Germany. The partnership allows selected PPE students at Virginia Tech to spend a semester abroad, taking courses in PPE and related departments at HHU while exploring Europe. The courses will contribute to students' PPE degree programs at Virginia Tech.

For further details, please refer to the program description, including application details, on the Global Education Office (<https://sa.globaleducation.vt.edu/?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=12496>) website. The

application cycle for the spring semester for the following year opens in mid-March.

To learn more, go to the Virginia Tech's German Program website (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/departments-and-schools/department-of-modern-and-classical-languages-and-literatures/academic-programs/german-major.html>) or contact Dr. Esther Bauer (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/departments-and-schools/department-of-modern-and-classical-languages-and-literatures/faculty/esther-bauer.html>). Please see also here for a program flyer (<https://ppe.liberalarts.vt.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/German-Program.pdf>).

Experiential Learning

Internships and related paraprofessional activities can serve as valuable opportunities for students to apply and further engage with the skills and concepts they acquire in the classroom. They also serve as means to gain valuable professional experience, which may be particularly useful to students when pursuing career opportunities or graduate study. Please work closely with your advisor to discuss possibilities.

Participating in Virginia Tech's Bridge Experience (<https://teaching.vt.edu/bridgeexperiences1.html>) initiative, the Kellogg Center provides students the opportunity to enroll in PPE 3900, a 0-credit hour, self-selected, and Center approved experiential learning opportunity aligned with post-graduation goals using research-based learning processes often in the form of undergraduate research, internships, study abroad, co-ops, and other place-based experiences in the context of their PPE degree program.

The Kellogg Center also offers students the possibility to receive credit for internships, field studies, and practicums in the context of the PPE 4964 Field Work/Practicum course. Before considering this option, students should have completed PPE 2894 PPE Gateway Course. For more information concerning experiential learning opportunities offered by the Kellogg Center, please reach out to the internship coordinator Holly Belcher (hollymb2@vt.edu).

Advising

The Kellogg Center's faculty and staff work closely with students to provide a personalized learning experience. However, before you speak with PPE advising personnel, please read carefully the PPE Student Handbook (<https://ppe.liberalarts.vt.edu/student-handbook/>) that provides a detailed overview of the PPE degree programs and other relevant student information, including information about degree requirements, study abroad, internships, PPE events, careers and placement, and professional opportunities.

For **all PPE advising** matters, including setting up an advising appointment, please contact: Heath Furrow (hafurrow@vt.edu)

For **general questions** concerning the PPE undergraduate degree programs, please contact Holly Belcher (hollymb2@vt.edu).

Code	Title	Credits
Degree Core Requirements		
<i>A. History of Philosophy</i>		
Select two of the following:		6
PHIL 2115	Ancient Through Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 2116	Ancient Through Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 2125	History of Modern Philosophy	
PHIL 2126	History of Modern Philosophy	

<i>B. Logic</i>		
PHIL 3505	Modern Logic and Its Development	3
<i>C. Metaphysics and Epistemology</i>		
Select two of the following:		6
PHIL 1204	Knowledge and Reality	
PHIL 4204	Philosophy of Mind (3 Philosophy credits required)	
PHIL 4214	Metaphysics (3 Philosophy credits required)	
PHIL 4224	Epistemology (3 Philosophy credits required)	
PHIL 4604	Philosophy of Biology	
PHIL 4614	Philosophy of Science (3 Philosophy credits required)	
<i>D. Value Theory</i>		
Select two of the following, including at least one 3000-4000 level course.		6
PHIL 1304	Morality and Justice	
PHIL 2304	Global Ethics	
PHIL 2314	Philosophy of Sex, Gender, and Race	
PSCI/PHIL 3015	Political Theory	
PSCI/PHIL/ PPE 3016	Political Theory	
PHIL/PPE 3314	Ethical Theory (3 Philosophy credits required)	
PHIL 3334	Ethical Perspectives on Artificial Intelligence	
PHIL 3414	Aesthetics	
PHIL/PPE 4304	Political Philosophy (3 Philosophy credits required)	
Subtotal		21
Major Requirements		
<i>A. Integration</i>		12
PPE 1004	Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	
PPE 2894	PPE Gateway Course	
PPE/PHIL/ PSCI/ECON 3884	Topics in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics	
PPE 4884	PPE Capstone Course	
Subtotal		12
<i>B. Focus Area</i>		15
1. Choose one Focus Area by taking at least five courses that fall under the area (Note that students may satisfy the conditions of more than one Focus Area).		
2. From the five Focus Area courses, choose at least (i) two courses from PSCI (ii) two courses from ECON, and (iii) three courses at the 3000-4000 levels.		
3. A course taken as part of the Degree Core Requirements cannot also be taken as part of a Focus Area.		
4. Students are strongly encouraged to take PPE 3900, a zero-credit Bridge Learning Experience course, as part of their degree. This course can be paired with PPE 4964: Field Work/Practicum, allowing students to gain experiential learning credit as part of their Focus Area.		
Subtotal		15
<i>C. Free Electives</i>		

Select up to 42 credit hours to complete 120 credit hours required for graduation. ¹	42
Subtotal	42

Pathways to General Education

Pathways Concept 1 - Discourse

Select 9 hours in Pathways Concept 1 - Discourse	
Pathway 1f (https://catalog.vt.edu/course-search/?attrs_pathways=attrs_pathways_G01F)	6
Pathway 1a (https://catalog.vt.edu/course-search/?attrs_pathways=attrs_pathways_G01A)	

PPE 4884 PPE Capstone Course (Pathways 1a approved)

Pathways Concept 2 - Critical Thinking in the Humanities

Select 6 hours in Pathways Concept 2 - Critical Thinking in the Humanities	
PPE 1004 Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (Pathways 2 and 7 approved)	
PPE 2894 PPE Gateway Course (Pathways 2 or 3 approved)	
PPE/PHIL/ PSCI/ECON 3884 Topics in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (Pathways 2 or 3 approved)	

Pathways Concept 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences

Select 6 hours in Pathways Concept 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences	3
PPE 2894 PPE Gateway Course (Pathways 2 or 3 approved)	
PPE/PHIL/ PSCI/ECON 3884 Topics in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (Pathways 2 or 3 approved)	

Pathways Concept 4 - Reasoning in the Natural Sciences

Select 6 hours in Pathways Concept 4 - Reasoning in the Natural Sciences	6
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Pathways Concept 5 - Quantitative and Computational Thinking

Select 9 hours in Pathways Concept 5 - Quantitative and Computational Thinking	
Pathway 5f (https://catalog.vt.edu/course-search/?attrs_pathways=attrs_pathways_G05F)	6
Pathway 5a (https://catalog.vt.edu/course-search/?attrs_pathways=attrs_pathways_G05A)	3

Pathways Concept 6 - Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts

Select 6 hours in Pathways Concept 6 - Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts	
Pathway 6a (https://catalog.vt.edu/course-search/?attrs_pathways=attrs_pathways_G06A)	3
Pathway 6d (https://catalog.vt.edu/course-search/?attrs_pathways=attrs_pathways_G06D)	3

Pathways Concept 7 - Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States

Select 3 hours in Pathways Concept 7 - Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States	
PPE 1004 Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (Pathways 2 and 7 approved)	

Integrative Learning Outcomes

Ethical Reasoning (This learning outcome can be combined with other Pathways courses and requires no additional credit hours)

Intercultural and Global Awareness (This learning outcome can be combined with other Pathways courses and requires no additional credit hours)

Subtotal	30
Total Credits	120

Focus Area 1: Moral, Political, Legal, and Economic Thought

Code	Title	Credits
ECON 2005	Principles of Economics (micro) or ECON 2025H Honors Principles of Economics	3
ECON 2006	Principles of Economics (macro) or ECON 2026H Honors Principles of Economics	3
ECON/PPE 3024	Economic Justice	3
ECON 3034	Economics of Poverty and Discrimination	3
ECON 3214	Money and Banking	3
ECON 4044	Public Economics	3
PHIL 1504	Critical Thinking	3
PHIL 2125	History of Modern Philosophy	3
PHIL 2126	History of Modern Philosophy	3
PHIL 2304	Global Ethics	3
PHIL/PPE 3314	Ethical Theory	3
PHIL/PPE 4304	Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 4334	Jurisprudence	3
PSCI 1014	Introduction to United States Government and Politics or PSCI 1014H Honors Introduction to United States Government and Politics	3
PSCI 2014	Introduction to Political Theory	3
PSCI/PPE 2024	Research Methods in Political Science	3
PSCI 2074	Law and Politics	3
PSCI/PHIL/PPE 3016	Political Theory	3
PSCI 3334	Judicial Process	3
PSCI 3354	Constitutional Law: Structures and Relationships	3
PSCI 3364	Constitutional Law: Civil and Political Rights	3
PSCI 3764	Contemporary Democratic Theory	3
PSCI/UAP 3774	Marxian Political Analysis	3
PSCI 4324	Senior Seminar in Constitutional Law	3
PSCI 4724	Senior Seminar in Political Theory	3
PPE 4964	Field Work/Practicum	3

Focus Area 2: Global Political Economy

Code	Title	Credits
ECON 2005	Principles of Economics or ECON 2025H Honors Principles of Economics	3
ECON 2006	Principles of Economics or ECON 2026H Honors Principles of Economics	3
ECON 3214	Money and Banking	3
ECON 3314	Middle East Economics	3
ECON 3914	European Economics	3
ECON 4074	Labor Economics	3
ECON 4124	Growth and Development	3
ECON/AAEC 4135	International Economics	3

ECON/AAEC 4136	International Economics	3
ECON 4144	Economics of China	3
PHIL 2304	Global Ethics	3
PHIL/PPE 4304	Political Philosophy	3
PSCI 1004	Nations and Nationalities	3
PSCI 1014	Introduction to United States Government and Politics	3
or PSCI 1014H	Honors Introduction to United States Government and Politics	
PSCI 2014	Introduction to Political Theory	3
PSCI/PPE 2024	Research Methods in Political Science	3
PSCI/GEOG/IS 2054	Introduction to World Politics	3
PSCI/GEOG/IS 2064	The Global Economy and World Politics	3
PSCI/IS 2084	The Evolution of World Order	3
PSCI/GEOG/IS 2134	Geog of the Global Economy	3
PSCI/PHIL/PPE 3016	Political Theory	3
PSCI/IS 3144	Global Governance and Public Policy	3
PSCI/IS 3165	Global Trade: Structures and Policies	3
PSCI/IS 3166	Monetary Foundations of the World Economy	3
PSCI/IS 3175	Global Development	3
PSCI/IS 3176	Global Development	3
PSCI/UAP 3344	Global Environmental Issues: Interdisciplinary Perspectives	3
PSCI 3354	Constitutional Law: Structures and Relationships	3
PSCI/IS 3634	Human Rights: Global Issues	3
PSCI/IS 3804	European Integration	3
PSCI/IS 3814	The European Union: Institutions and Policies	3
PSCI/IS 3854	European Political Economy	3
PSCI/ECON/IS 3914	European Economics	3
PSCI/IS 4054	Seminar in Global Political Economy	3
PSCI/IS 4064	Seminar in Global Development	3
PPE 4964	Field Work/Practicum	3

Focus Area 3: Social Justice, Policy, and Governance

Code	Title	Credits
ECON 2005	Principles of Economics	3
or ECON 2025H	Honors Principles of Economics	
ECON 2006	Principles of Economics	3
or ECON 2026H	Honors Principles of Economics	
ECON/PPE 3024	Economic Justice	3
ECON 3034	Economics of Poverty and Discrimination	3
ECON 3144	Economics of Regulation	3
ECON 3154	Managerial Economics	3
ECON 3214	Money and Banking	3
ECON 4014	Environmental Economics	3
ECON 4044	Public Economics	3

ECON 4054	Public Finance	3
ECON 4074	Labor Economics	3
ECON 4084	Industry Structure	3
ECON 4214	Economics of Health Care	3
PHIL 1604	How Science Works	3
PHIL 2304	Global Ethics	3
PHIL 2314	Philosophy of Sex, Gender, and Race	3
PHIL/PPE 3314	Ethical Theory	3
PHIL 3334	Ethical Perspectives on Artificial Intelligence	3
PHIL 3614	Philosophy of the Environment	3
PHIL/PPE 4304	Political Philosophy	3
PSCI 1014	Introduction to United States Government and Politics	3
or PSCI 1014H	Honors Introduction to United States Government and Politics	
PSCI 2014	Introduction to Political Theory	3
PSCI/PPE 2024	Research Methods in Political Science	3
PSCI 2074	Law and Politics	3
PSCI/PHIL/PPE 3016	Political Theory	3
PSCI/IS 3044	The Politics of Internet Governance	3
PSCI/IS 3144	Global Governance and Public Policy	3
PSCI/IS 3154	Topics in Global Public Policies	3
PSCI 3255	The Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Gender	3
PSCI 3256	The Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Gender	3
PSCI/IS 3374	The Politics of Energy	3
PSCI/UAP 3444	Administrative Law and Policy	3
PSCI/IS 3624	Foreign Policy and Diplomacy	3
PSCI 3724	Poverty and Welfare Policy	3
PSCI/UAP 3744	Public Policy Analysis	3
PSCI/IS 4034	Topics in Diplomacy Lab	3
PSCI/FREC/IS 4174	Climate Change and the International Policy Framework	3
PSCI/IS 4714	Senior Seminar in Policy Analysis	3
PPE 4964	Field Work/Practicum	3

Focus Area 4: Data, Decisions, and Behavior

Code	Title	Credits
BDS 2005	Fundamentals of Behavioral Decision Science	3
BDS 2006	Fundamentals of Behavioral Decision Science	3
PSYC/BDS 4194	Predicting Social Behavior	3
BDS/ECON 4864	Developing Behavioral Science Policies and Interventions	3
ECON 2005	Principles of Economics	3
or ECON 2025H	Honors Principles of Economics	
ECON 3054	Introduction to Forecasting	3
ECON/BDS 3134	Choice and Behavior	3
ECON 3254	Applied Econometrics	3
ECON 4304	Introduction to Econometric Methods	3
ECON/CMDA 4314	Big Data Economics	3
ECON 4424	The Theory of Games and Economic Behavior	3

ECON 4434	Experimental Economics	3
ECON/NEUR/ PSYC 4454	Neuroeconomics	3
MGT 3444	Multicultural Diversity in Organizations	3
MGT 4334	Ethical Leadership and Corporate Social Responsibility	3
PHIL 1204	Knowledge and Reality	3
PHIL 1504	Critical Thinking	3
PHIL 1604	How Science Works	3
PHIL 4514		3
PHIL 4614	Philosophy of Science	3
PSCI 1014	Introduction to United States Government and Politics	3
or PSCI 1014H	Honors Introduction to United States Government and Politics	
PSCI/IS 1024	Comp Gov & Politics	3
PSCI 2014	Introduction to Political Theory	3
PSCI/PPE 2024	Research Methods in Political Science	3
PSCI/PHIL/PPE 3016	Political Theory	3
PSCI/IS 3194	Nuclear Strategy & Politics	3
PSCI 3214	Political Participation	3
PSCI 3224	Public Opinion	3
PSCI 3234	Voting and Elections	3
PSCI/JMC 3244	Political Communication	3
PSCI 3314	Congress	3
PSCI 3324	The Presidency	3
PSCI 3414/ UAP 3434	Public Administration	3
PSCI/IS 3704	National Security Strategy	3
PSCI/UAP 3714	The U. S. Policy Process	3
PSCI/UAP 3744	Public Policy Analysis	3
PSCI 4214	Senior Seminar in Political Behavior	3
PSCI 4314	Senior Seminar in Political Institutions	3
PSCI 4414	Senior Seminar in Public Administration	3
PSCI/IS 4714	Senior Seminar in Policy Analysis	3
PPE 4964	Field Work/Practicum	3

Focus Area 5: Social, Political, and Economic Entrepreneurship

Code	Title	Credits
ECON 2005	Principles of Economics	3
or ECON 2025H	Honors Principles of Economics	
ECON/PPE 3024	Economic Justice	3
ECON 3054	Introduction to Forecasting	3
ECON/BDS 3134	Choice and Behavior	3
ECON 3154	Managerial Economics	3
ECON 3204	Macroeconomic Theory	3
ECON 3214	Money and Banking	3
ECON 3254	Applied Econometrics	3
ECON 3914	European Economics	3
ECON 4044	Public Economics	3
ECON 4084	Industry Structure	3

ECON 4124	Growth and Development	3
MGT 1104	Foundations of Business	3
MGT 2064	Foundations of Entrepreneurship	3
MGT 2114	Principles of Project Management	3
MGT/HTM 2314	Introduction to International Business	3
MGT 2504	Sustainable Business Management	3
MGT 2614	Foundations of Management Consulting and Data Analytics	3
MGT 3064	Cornerstones of Entrepreneurship and Innovation	3
MGT 3074	Social Entrepreneurship	3
MGT 3084	Digital Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Product Development	3
MGT 3094	Global Entrepreneurship	3
MGT 3304	Management Theory and Leadership Practice	3
MGT 3324	Organization Behavior	3
MGT 3334	Managing Human Resources	3
MGT 3344	Employee & Labor Relations Law, Bargaining, and Dispute Resolution	3
MGT 3404	Principles of Management	3
MGT 3444	Multicultural Diversity in Organizations	3
MGT 3604	Managerial Analytics	3
MGT 3614	Strategy and Competition Analytics	3
MGT 4064	Developing Entrepreneurial Ventures	3
MGT 4084	Management Consulting	3
MGT/ENGE/IDS 4094	Startup: Commercialization of Innovation	3
MGT 4314	International Management	3
MGT 4334	Ethical Leadership and Corporate Social Responsibility	3
PHIL/PPE 3314	Ethical Theory	3
PHIL/PPE 4304	Political Philosophy	3
PHIL/MGT 4324		3
PSCI 1014	Introduction to United States Government and Politics	3
or PSCI 1014H	Honors Introduction to United States Government and Politics	
PSCI/IS 1024	Comp Gov & Politics	3
PSCI 2014	Introduction to Political Theory	3
PSCI/IS 3144	Global Governance and Public Policy	3
PSCI/IS 3154	Topics in Global Public Policies	3
PSCI 3224	Public Opinion	3
PSCI/JMC 3244	Political Communication	3
PSCI/UAP 3444	Administrative Law and Policy	3
PSCI/UAP 3714	The U. S. Policy Process	3
PSCI/IS/MGT 3874	The European Business Environment	3
PSCI 4314	Senior Seminar in Political Institutions	3
PSCI 4414	Senior Seminar in Public Administration	3
PSCI/IS 4714	Senior Seminar in Policy Analysis	3
PPE 4964	Field Work/Practicum	3

¹ Note that PPE 1004 Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, PPE 2894 PPE Gateway Course, PPE 3884 Topics in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (cross-

listed: PHIL 3884/PSCI 3884/ECON 3884), and PPE 4884 PPE Capstone Course fulfill Pathways requirements and may double count towards Major Requirements. Transfer credits may reduce the number of elective credit hours depending on the total number of transfer credits awarded.

Eligibility for continued enrollment: Program requirements adhere to the "Satisfactory Progress" toward degree policy of the university (Policy 91).

Graduation Requirements

1. Departmental prerequisites and corequisites for all courses must be satisfied. Please consult the University Catalog for the latest statement of these requirements.
2. In accordance with University Guidelines, courses satisfying degree core requirements may not be double counted to satisfy other areas of degree (e.g. Pathways).
3. No more than 50% of the graded course credits required for the PPE Major may be double-counted by a student also enrolled in a Philosophy, Political Science, or Economics major.
4. All courses to fulfill the PPE major requirements must be taken A/F and be completed with a minimum GPA of 2.0. Students must also maintain an overall GPA of 2.0.
5. A minimum of 120 semester credit hours is required for graduation.

Foreign Language Requirement

Foreign language requirement: Students who did not successfully complete at least two years of a single foreign, classical, or sign language during high school must successfully complete six semester hours of a single foreign, classical, or sign language at the college level. Courses taken to meet this requirement do not count toward the hours required for graduation. Please consult the Undergraduate Catalog for details.

Undergraduate Course Descriptions (PPE)

PPE 1004 - Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (3 credits)

Discussion of classic and contemporary texts in philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE) with historical and current relevance. Core concepts, ideas, and topics include: history of moral, political, and economic thought; political economy; justice, equality, fairness, and democracy; socioeconomic status, power, class, and diversity; the human condition and its cultural evolution and experience in the United States and abroad. Course introduces students to basic principles of research and writing. First-Year Experience course.

Pathway Concept Area(s): 2 Critical Thinking Humanities, 7 Identity & Equity in U.S., 10 Ethical Reasoning

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

PPE 1214 - Economic History of Diversity and Inclusion (3 credits)

Economic analysis of topics concerning diversity and inclusion. Emphasis on Virginia and surrounding states. Introduction to the basic principles of economic analysis and economic history, with a special emphasis on models of institutional change, economic growth, discrimination, inequality, migration, and indigenous economic systems. Impact of institutions, environment, and technological change on labor markets, asset markets, and standard of living. Consideration of the role of data in understanding diversity and related ethical issues.

Pathway Concept Area(s): 3 Reasoning in Social Sciences, 7 Identity & Equity in U.S., 10 Ethical Reasoning

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Course Crosslist: ECON 1214

PPE 2024 - Research Methods in Political Science (3 credits)

Introduction to research in political science; formulation of theory, operationalization and measurement, gathering, analysis and interpretation of data.

Prerequisite(s): (PSCI 1014 or PSCI 1014H) and (PSCI 1024 or PSCI 1024H or IS 1024 or IS 1024H)

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Course Crosslist: PSCI 2024

PPE 2894 - PPE Gateway Course (3 credits)

Integrated study of philosophy, politics, and economics. Trains students to make decisions that are not only economically sound, but also socially, ethically, and politically informed. Core concepts, topics, and ideas include: models of human nature, rational choice theory, social cooperation, distributive justice, markets, and democracy. Pre: Sophomore standing.

Pathway Concept Area(s): 2 Critical Thinking Humanities, 3 Reasoning in Social Sciences, 10 Ethical Reasoning

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

PPE 2974 - Independent Study (1-19 credits)

Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course

PPE 3016 - Political Theory (3 credits)

Analysis of the fundamental ideas in the history of political theory. 3015: The thought and ethical implications of philosophers from the ancient Greeks to early modern times. Analysis of writings from Plato through medieval theorists to those of the Seventeenth Century. 3016: The thought and ethical implications of philosophers from the late Seventeenth Century to the present. Analysis of key concepts in the thought of theorists from the early modern period until the present.

Prerequisite(s): PSCI 2014

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Course Crosslist: PHIL 3016, PSCI 3016

PPE 3024 - Economic Justice (3 credits)

This course explores how different assumptions regarding the basis of claims for access to economic resources lead to different outcomes. Students will explore a variety of theories and examine their own beliefs about economic justice.

Prerequisite(s): (ECON 2005 or ECON 2025H) and (ECON 2006 or ECON 2026H)

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Course Crosslist: ECON 3024

PPE 3314 - Ethical Theory (3 credits)

Careful examination of some important historical or contemporary ethical theories. Includes coverage of such topics as the assessment of character and action, the foundations of ethical theories, their justification, their relationship to scientific theories, and their objective or subjective status. 3 Philosophy credits required.

Pathway Concept Area(s): 2 Critical Thinking Humanities, 10 Ethical Reasoning

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Course Crosslist: PHIL 3314

PPE 3884 - Topics in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (3 credits)

Topics-based course in philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE). Discussion of important topics and thinkers in PPE with historical and practical relevance. Focus on interdisciplinary analysis and methods. Topics include: limits of markets; well-being theory, science, and policy; socioeconomic justice; economic and political institutions; and global poverty. May be repeated 1 time with different content for a maximum of six credit hours. Pre: 3 credit hours in PPE, PHIL, PSCI, or ECON.

Pathway Concept Area(s): 2 Critical Thinking Humanities, 3 Reasoning in Social Sciences, 10 Ethical Reasoning

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Repeatability: up to 6 credit hours

Course Crosslist: ECON 3884, PHIL 3884, PSCI 3884

PPE 3900 - Bridge Experience (0 credits)

Application of academic knowledge and skills to in a work-based experience aligned with post-graduation goals using research-based learning processes. Satisfactory completion of work-based experience often in the form of internship, undergraduate research, co-op, or study abroad; self-evaluation; reflection; and showcase of learning. Pre: Departmental approval of 3900 plan.

Instructional Contact Hours: (0 Crd)

PPE 4304 - Political Philosophy (3 credits)

Study of fundamental topics in political philosophy, such as distributive justice, equality, individual rights, constitutional government, and the justification of political authority. 3 Philosophy credits required.

Pathway Concept Area(s): 2 Critical Thinking Humanities, 10 Ethical Reasoning

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

Course Crosslist: PHIL 4304

PPE 4884 - PPE Capstone Course (3 credits)

Discussion of advanced concepts, methods, and ideas at the intersection of philosophy, politics, and economics. Focus on utility theory, game theory, social choice theory, public choice theory, markets, justice, and democracy. Senior research project. Senior standing required.

Prerequisite(s): PPE 2894 or PHIL 2894 or PSCI 2894 or ECON 2894

Pathway Concept Area(s): 1A Discourse Advanced, 2 Critical Thinking Humanities, 11 Intercultural&Global Aware.

Instructional Contact Hours: (3 Lec, 3 Crd)

PPE 4964 - Field Work/Practicum (1-19 credits)

Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course

PPE 4984 - Special Study (1-19 credits)

Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course

PPE 4994 - Undergraduate Research (1-19 credits)

Instructional Contact Hours: Variable credit course