

Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Co-Directors: [Audrey Flemming](#), [Mark Hébert](#), and [Daniel Nuckols](#)

Given its interdisciplinary nature, the Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) program offers students the opportunity to journey beyond the borders of any single discipline by offering an integrated study of philosophy, political science, and economics. Initiated at Oxford University in 1924 and now adopted by colleges and universities across the globe, the PPE’s mission is to cultivate a breadth of study not found in any one disciplinary field and hence, augment the student’s historical, theoretical, and methodological perspective as they address historical topics and contemporary affairs. Coming out of the PPE program, the student will be well prepared to enter both the public and private sector, taking positions in government, business, and the non-profit arena. The student will also be well positioned to enter university graduate programs in philosophy, economics, political science, business, and policy/public affairs.

To complete the PPE program, the student will engage in an 8-4-4 course format, dispensing with the traditional Austin College requirement to graduate with a minor or additional major.

Select one of the following options to determine the major and minor concentrations:

Major concentration: philosophy (8 courses) - Minor concentrations: political science (4 courses) and economics (4 courses)

Major concentration: political science (8 courses) - Minor concentrations: philosophy (4 courses) and economics (4 courses)

Major concentration: economics (8 courses) - Minor concentrations: philosophy (4 courses) and political science (4 courses)

Major Concentration (select 1 Concentration)

Philosophy concentration	Political Science concentration	Economics concentration
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.
7. Bridge course	7. Bridge course	7. Bridge course
8. Capstone course	8. Capstone course	8. Capstone course
At least three courses at the 300 level or above	At least three courses at the 300 level or above	At least three courses at the 300 level or above
		Supporting Courses
		MATH 120
		MATH 151

Minor Concentrations (select 2 concentrations)

Consist of the two disciplines not selected as a major concentration. For instance, if students select philosophy as the major concentration then the minor concentrations would be in political science and economics.

Philosophy concentration	Political Science concentration	Economics concentration
1. Bridge Course	1. Bridge Course	1. Bridge Course

2.	2.	2. ECO 101
3.	3.	3. ECO 102
4.	4.	4.
At least one course at the 300 level or above	At least one course at the 300 level or above	At least one course at the 300 level or above

Other Considerations When Planning for the PPE program:

- Students must complete a “capstone” course, Philosophy 490, Political Science 490, or Economics 490 depending of the relative major concentration selected. Students complete an independent research paper that is specifically oriented toward a topic that calls for PPE multidisciplinary treatment. If it meets the PPE mission, an Honors Thesis (491 course) will also fulfill the capstone requirement.
- Students must take at least one “bridge” course in each of the disciplines that covers material/topics that offer notable integration of philosophy, political science, and economics. See the list of eligible bridge courses listed in the section called Eligible Bridge Courses.

Total Credits Requirement = 16 course credits (not including Supporting Courses)

Eligible Bridge Courses

Philosophy

PHIL 205	Ethics
PHIL 207	Ethics and the Environment
PHIL 209	Ethics and Medicine
PHIL 211	Feminist Thought and Its Critics
PHIL 213	Law and Morality
PHIL 302	Ethical Theory
PHIL 314	Social and Political Philosophy
PHIL 250, 350, 450	When topic is appropriate, e.g. Justice and Difference; Public Health Ethics

Political Science

PSCI 120	American Political Thought
PSCI 130	Introduction to International Relations
PSCI 140	Introduction to Global Comparative Politics
PSCI 410	U.S. Constitutional Law
PSCI 420	Political Theory
PSCI 428	Origins of Modern Liberalism
PSCI 250, 350, 450	When topic is appropriate, e.g. Identity Politics; Advanced International Relations; The Politics of Empire; Japanese Imperialism

Economics

ECO 234	Development Economics
ECO 242	Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
ECO 270	Economic History
ECO 341	Urban and Regional Economics
ECO 472	Law and Economics
ECO 474	Labor Economics
ECO 485	History of Economic Thought
ECO 250, 350, 450	When topic is appropriate, e.g. Energy Economics; Behavioral Economics

Refer to the departments listed above for current course descriptions.