

ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



University Curriculum Committee

Telephone: 309/438-3183
Office of the University Registrar
Campus Box 2202
109 Moulton Hall

December 15, 2004

TO: Lane Crothers, Chairperson
Academic Senate

FROM: University Curriculum Committee

RE: Proposal from Department of Philosophy to Delete B.S. Major in Philosophy

Attached, for Academic Senate review, you will find a proposal to drop the B.S. Major in Philosophy from the Department of Philosophy. This proposal was approved by the University Curriculum Committee October 20, 2004. The Philosophy Department's rationale for this change follows:

Rationale: (1) Survey of current majors indicates that those taking the B.S. option do so to avoid the foreign language requirement associated with the B.A. As of Fall 2005, all students in CAS will have to satisfy a foreign language requirement and this will remove the main incentive for taking the B.S. in philosophy. (2) ISU has practically the only B.S. major in philosophy anywhere so that it is doubtful that this option has much significance beyond our campus. These changes will bring ISU's philosophy major more into line with recommendations of the American Philosophical Association, other Illinois universities and programs in other schools generally. (3) The current requirements leave room for only 2 or 3 electives. Survey of current students suggests that students' interests would be better served, and the program to that extent more attractive, with greater flexibility in choice of electives. (4) With so many courses specified under the current requirements, the faculty find themselves teaching the same courses repeatedly. We expect more latitude for electives will enable faculty to teach a broader range of courses and encourage them to develop more new courses.

Cc: James Swindler
Joseph Trefzger

NEW, REVISED, OR DELETED PROGRAM COVER SHEET
2004-2005
University Curriculum Committee
Undergraduate Programs (Majors, Minors, Sequences)

DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL ____ Department of Philosophy _____ DATE __July 27, 2004__

A. Proposed Action: (more than one item may be checked if a revision).

- _____ New Major CIPS CODE _____ (obtain from Planning, Policy Studies and Info Systems)
- _____ New Minor CIPS CODE _____ (obtain from Planning, Policy Studies and Info Systems)
- _____ New Sequence
- _____ Change in requirements for major
- _____ Change in requirements for minor
- _____ Change in requirements for sequence
- _____ Other program revisions
- _____ More than 50% of courses in this program are distance education.
- Program deletion: **B.S. in Philosophy**

B. Summary of proposed action (see Part A), including title and exact *Undergraduate Catalog* copy for a new or altered program. (See *Catalog* and Program Checklist for format and examples.) Provide a summary of the revisions in addition to the exact current *Catalog* copy.

Summary. Pending approval of the accompanying changes to the Philosophy B.A., the Department proposes deletion of the philosophy B.S. degree. Catalog copy attached.

C. Routing and action summary:

1. _____ Department/School Curriculum Committee Chair	_____ Date Approved	4. _____ College Dean	_____ Date Approved
2. _____ Department Chair/School Director	_____ Date Approved	5. _____ Teacher Education Council Chair if appropriate (10 copies to the Dean of the College of Education)	_____ Date Approved
3. _____ College Committee Chair	_____ Date Approved	6. _____ University Curriculum Committee Chair (8 copies to the Catalog Editorial Assistant)	_____ Date Approved

Submit 20 copies of **NEW** Undergraduate proposals to University Curriculum Committee

Submit 8 copies of **REVISED** Undergraduate proposals to University Curriculum Committee c/o the Undergraduate Catalog Editorial Assistant in 109 Moulton. All new and deleted programs (majors, minors, sequences) are routed by the U.C.C. to the Academic Senate. **The Senate rules mandate electronic submission (in MS Word or HTML format) of all materials for Web site posting.**

5/02

Institution: Illinois State University

Responsible department: Department of Philosophy

Proposed program title: Deletion of B.S. degree option in Philosophy

Date of implementation: 2005-2006 Catalog

Description of proposed program: Pending approval of the accompanying changes to the Philosophy B.A., the Department proposes deletion of the Philosophy B.S. degree.

New Catalog copy:

Degrees Offered: B.A.

MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY

- 30 hours in Philosophy
 - Required courses by area: **Research Methods:** PHI 199; **Logic:** either PHI 112 or PHI/MAT 210 (PHI/MAT 210 is strongly recommended); **Ethics:** PHI 232; **History of Philosophy:** PHI 254 and PHI 255; **Senior Thesis:** PHI 395.
 - At least 15 additional hours in Philosophy with no more than 3 hours at the 100 level and at least 6 hours at the 300 level.
 - Each major works out a coherent program of supporting courses tailored to the student's needs in consultation with a faculty advisor.
- Majors are strongly encouraged to take PHI 199 concurrently with or after completing their first philosophy course.**

Concentrations. Philosophy majors may elect to take courses in one or more of the following areas of concentration, depending on individual interests. (Note that a concentration is not required and will not appear on the student's transcript or diploma.)

- Pre-law: PHI 234, PHI 236, PHI 238, PHI 240, PHI 242, PHI 246, PHI 340
- Ethics: PHI 233, PHI 234, PHI 236, PHI 248, PHI 330
- Metaphysics & Epistemology: PHI 207, PHI 208, PHI 222, PHI 224, PHI 250, PHI 251, PHI 253, PHI 310, PHI 363
- History of Philosophy: PHI 207, PHI 208, PHI 256, PHI 305, PHI 350

Old Catalog copy:

Philosophy Programs

Degrees Offered: B.A., B.S.

MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY, B.A.

- 30 hours in Philosophy.
- Required Philosophy courses by area: **Research Methods:** PHI 199; **Logic:** PHI 112 or MAT/PHI 210; **History of Philosophy:** PHI 254, PHI 255 and PHI 256; **Ethics:** PHI 232; and either PHI 233 or PHI 240; **Senior Thesis:** PHI 395.
- At least 9 additional hours at the senior college level with at least 6 of these hours at the 300-level.

MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY, B.S.

- 30 hours in Philosophy.
 - Required Philosophy courses by area: **Research Methods:** PHI 199; **Logic:** MAT/PHI 210; **History of Philosophy:** PHI 254, PHI 255 and PHI 256; **Ethics:** PHI 232 and either PHI 233 or PHI 240; **Philosophy of Science or Philosophy and the Behavioral Sciences:** PHI 250 or 253; **Senior Thesis:** PHI 395.
 - At least 6 additional hours at the 300-level.
 - All students earning a B.S. degree in Philosophy must complete the following science literacy courses: PHY 102, Atoms to Galaxies; BSC 101, Fundamental Concepts of Biology; or a minimum of 9 hours in one natural science.
 - **NOTE:** Each major works out a coherent program of supporting courses tailored to the student's needs in consultation with a faculty advisor.
- Majors are strongly encouraged to take PHI 199 concurrently with or after completing their first philosophy course.**

Rationale: (1) Survey of current majors indicates that those taking the B.S. option do so to avoid the foreign language requirement associated

with the B.A. As of Fall 2005, all students in CAS will have to satisfy a foreign language requirement and this will remove the main incentive for taking the B.S. in philosophy. (2) ISU has practically the only B.S. major in philosophy anywhere so that it is doubtful that this option has much significance beyond our campus. These changes will bring ISU's philosophy major more into line with recommendations of the American Philosophical Association, other Illinois universities and programs in other schools generally. (3) The current requirements leave room for only 2 or 3 electives. Survey of current students suggests that students' interests would be better served, and the program to that extent more attractive, with greater flexibility in choice of electives. (4) With so many courses specified under the current requirements, the faculty find themselves teaching the same courses repeatedly. We expect more latitude for electives will enable faculty to teach a broader range of courses and encourage them to develop more new courses.

Impact of proposal on existing campus programs: We would not expect these changes to affect any other campus programs since we will continue to offer philosophy courses that are required or recommended by other programs. On the other hand, students in other programs may well benefit from a broader range of course offerings in philosophy.

Expected curricular changes. We propose no new courses or course deletions at this time.

Milner resources. We anticipate no change in the need for library resources as a result of the present proposal. Resources are adequate now and should remain so.

Staffing. We anticipate no changes in staffing as a direct result of the present proposal. Students who are interested in the philosophy major will take the B.A. degree instead of having the option to take the B.S. degree. Since this will affect only students entering the program in Fall 2005 and after, loss of this option should have minimal impact on enrollments in the major. On the other hand, since the new B.A. requirements provide greater flexibility, including all the current courses, it is possible that the program will attract more students. But the department has sufficient faculty and staff to accommodate a substantial increase in the number of majors.

Funding. We anticipate no changes in funding needs as a result of the present proposal.