PHILOSOPHY MAJOR - B.A.

Primary Faculty, Rockland:  Dr. James Danaher, Dr. Jeffrey Dueck
Primary Faculty, NYC:  Alfredo G. Cid

Mission
The mission of the Philosophy Department at Nyack College is to promote academic excellence and personal transformation by exposing the students to the history of ideas and the rigorous and deep thinking that is philosophy.

Student Learning Goals
At Nyack College, the study of philosophy will:
1. Enhance the student’s ability to solve problems, write clearly, and reason cogently in order that they would be better prepared for the fullness of life to which God is calling them.
2. Acquaint the students with the history and methods of philosophy which, because philosophy is elementary to almost all areas of inquiry, will prepare students for graduate school and advanced study in whatever specific area they choose to pursue as Christian scholars.
3. Instill in the students an awareness of the deeper questions, and promote a desire for lifelong learning.

Program Assessment
The following assessments are used to assess program effectiveness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Location in Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Test the student’s knowledge of philosophical terms, concepts,</td>
<td>Written examinations</td>
<td>At the midterm and end of each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>perspectives, methods of reasoning, as well as the history of philosophy</td>
<td></td>
<td>semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and its major schools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Test the student’s ability to write coherently, argue cogently, and</td>
<td>Written Paper</td>
<td>At the end of each semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reason philosophically.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Test the student’s ability to organize and conduct philosophical</td>
<td>Senior Seminar where the</td>
<td>Senior year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lectures and discussions</td>
<td>students conduct the classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No prior year assessments. Assessments will be instituted Fall 2009.

Assessment results are evaluated on an annual basis for program improvement. No individual student is identified in the evaluation of the program data. Results are reported below with percentage of students in each performance category.

The philosophy curriculum at Nyack consists of course offerings in three major areas. The first area is that of the major branches or subdivisions of philosophy, such as: Epistemology, Ethics, Logic, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Religion, and Social and Political Philosophy. The second area of the philosophy curriculum is the history of philosophy and includes such courses as: The Dialogues of Plato; Aristotle and the Medievals; Kant; The British Empiricist; Locke, Berkeley, and Hume; Modern Continental Philosophy from Descartes to Hegel; and Recent Philosophy. Finally, the curriculum also offers courses that center on particular philosophical movements or topics of interests to the students and faculty of the philosophy department. Such courses include: Existentialism, Pragmatism, Twentieth Century Continental Philosophy, and Philosophy of Love.

The philosophy major is particularly practical in providing an excellent basis for graduate school since philosophy explores all of the fundamental questions and issues that underlie many other disciplines and
Philosophy Major

areas of inquiry. It is especially appropriate as a basis for advanced studies in law, teaching, educational administration, public service, health care, the social sciences, or as a preparation for seminary.

120 credit hours, distributed as follows, are required for the Bachelor of Arts degree:

Liberal Arts and Science Core Component .................................................. 35

Foreign Language Component ................................................................. 6
  1 year (2 semesters) of the same language

Bible and Ministry Minor Curriculum ....................................................... 15

Major Field Component (27 credits)
(PHI101 Intro to Philosophy in the Core component contributes to the major)
PHI 202 - Logic .................................................................................................. 3
PHI 321 - Dialogues of Plato
  or PHI 322 - Aristotle & the Medievalss .................................................... 3
PHI 323 - The Empiricists
  or PHI 324 - Modern Continental Philosophy ......................................... 3
PHI 348 - Philosophical Hermeneutics ......................................................... 3
PHI 470 - Philosophy Seminar ...................................................................... 3
Philosophy electives ...................................................................................... 12

Miscellaneous/Liberal Arts Elective Component (37 credits)
Miscellaneous electives ............................................................................... 24
Liberal arts electives .................................................................................. 13

Total credits required .................................................................................. 120

Philosophy Major Suggested Program Plan

FIRST YEAR: Fall
PMN 101-Intro to Spirit Form .... 2
ENG 101-College Writing I .... 3
HIS 113-Hist. of World Civ. I .... 3
MAT-Math Elective ............
PHI 101-Intro. to Philosophy .... 3

SECOND YEAR: Fall
BIB 201-New Testament Lit .... 3
ENG 201 or 202-Glob Lit. I or II .... 3
Foreign Language ............
PHI 321-Plato or PHI 322-Aristl. .... 3
Laboratory Science ............

THIRD YEAR: Fall
BIB 303 Christian Thought .... 3
SOC 347-Cont American Soc .... 3
Liberal Arts Elective .........
PHI-Elective ........ ..
Elective ..............................

FOURTH YEAR: Fall
PHI 348-Phil Hermeneutics .... 3
PHI-Elective .........................
Electives ..............................

FIRST YEAR: Spring
BIB 102-Old Testament Lit .... 3
ENG 102-College Writing II .... 3
HIS 114-Hist. of World Civ. II .... 3
PHI 202-Logic .............
Social Science Elective .... 3
LIB 101-Info Literacy ......

SECOND YEAR: Spring
Art History requirement .... 3
Foreign Language .........
PHI 323-Empiricists or
  PHI 324-Mod. Cont. Phil. .... 3
PHI-Elective ................
PMN 201-Nyack Heritage .... 1
Elective .........................

THIRD YEAR: Spring
BIB-Elective .....................
PHI-Elective .....................
Liberal Arts Electives ........ 9

FOURTH YEAR: Spring
PHI 470-Philosophy Seminar .... 3
PHI-Elective .....................
Electives .......................... 8