

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Graduates of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences emerge from Kean University as the well-rounded, intellectually strong job candidates that employers seek. The majors available in the College promote three elements that are essential for success in the job market – creativity, critical thinking and communication. In a world where the average person will change careers five times or more, the adaptability furnished by a liberal arts education at Kean University is invaluable.

National Accreditations:

Council on Social Work Education

National Association of School Psychologists

Dean:

Dean, Kenneth Dollarhide, Ph.D.

Assistant to the Dean, Ms. Joy Moskovitz
CAS-405 (908) 737-0430

ACADEMIC DEGREES, PROGRAMS

B.A. in Communication

Communication Option

Print Journalism Option

B.A. in English

Standard Option

Teacher Certification Option

Teacher of Students with Disabilities Option

Writing Option

B.A. in History

Teacher Certification Option

Teacher of Students with Disabilities Option

B.A. in Philosophy and Religion

B.A. Political Science

International/Comparative Politics Option

Teacher Certification Option

B.A. in Psychology

B.S. in Psychology/Psychiatric Rehabilitation

B.A. in Sociology

B.S.W. in Social Work

B.A. in Spanish (see Foreign Languages)

Teacher Certification Option

DEPARTMENTS, FACULTY

Communication

Faculty: Baker, Fitch, Lynch (Chairperson), Remmers, Sargent, Wheaton, Yedes, Yuan

English

Faculty: Balakian, Banks, Best, Brilliant, Casale, Chandler, Cirasa (Chairperson), Connor, Ducksworth, Evans, Fyne, Gover, Griffith, Gruesser, Gupta-Casale, Katz, Nelson, O'Day, Rich, Robinson, Rodriguez-Bachiller, Shaffer-Koros, Snyder, Sutton, Weinstein, Zamora

Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Faculty: Bermudez, Edreira, Feito, Gnarra, Pintado-Casas (Chairperson), Portuondo, Sanders

History

Faculty: Argote-Freyre, Banit, Bellitto, Blum, Esposito, Gronewold, Jandrowitz, Klein, Lender (Chairperson), Letterese, Mayer, Pfau, Spaulding, Zimmer

Philosophy and Religion

Faculty: Diaz, D'Souza, Fethe, Pashman, Pezzolo, Sitelman (Chairperson), Toby

Political Science

Faculty: Boateng, Chang, Hunt (Chairperson), Kahn, Kelly, Richani, Rubin

Psychology

Faculty: Avioli, Bousquet (Chairperson), Boyd-Jackson, Fantaousakis, Feigenbaum, Filardo, Finger, Garro, Gratz, Hamway, Hamm-Baugh, Harris, Jaffe, Kaplowitz, Lorber, O'Desky, Roth, Singer, Smith, Springer

Social Work

Faculty: Bryant, Capello, Ellis, Himchak, Lightfoot, Nesoff, Norward, Pearson (Chairperson), Rizzo, Sherman, Williams

Sociology and Anthropology

Faculty: Conyers, Donoghue, Kamerman, Keil, Krauss, Langer, Mayo, Naughton, Nevarez, Sanchez (Chairperson), D. Wheeler, B. Wheeler, White

Philosophy and Religion

Chairperson: Dr. Robert Sitelman

J 104, (908) 737-3980

A wide ranging interdisciplinary program designed to help the student understand the ways in which religious and philosophical issues appear throughout our culture, in politics, art, history and ethics.

B.A. DEGREE

GE 1000 Transition to Kean¹ 1

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS 48-56

FOUNDATIONS REQUIREMENTS² 12-15³

ENG 1030 College Composition⁴ 3

MATH 1000 Algebra for College Students 3

COMM 1402 Speech Communication as Critical Citizenship 3

GE 2023 Research and Technology 3

DISCIPLINARY/INTERDISCIPLINARY DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS 36-41

Humanities 9

*ENG 2403 World Literature 3

Select two courses from different areas:

Fine Arts or Art History 3

Philosophy or Religion 3

Foreign Languages 3

Music or Theatre 3

Interdisciplinary 3

Social Sciences 9

*HIST 1000 History of Civil Society In America 3

Select two courses from different areas:

Psychology 3

Economics or Geography 3

Political Science 3

Sociology or Anthropology 3

Interdisciplinary 3

Science and Mathematics 10-11

*MATH O R CPS 3

Select two courses from below; at least one must be a lab science:

Biology 3,4

Chemistry or Physics 3,4

Astronomy, Geology or Meteorology 3,4

Interdisciplinary 3,4

Earth Science 3,4

¹Required of all Freshmen and Transfers with fewer than 10 credits.

²See GE prerequisites and equivalencies on page 33.

³Additional 3-credit course paired with Reading may be required by placement testing.

⁴Eng 1030 requires a C or better.

*Required distribution course or discipline.

Health/Physical Education 2-3

ID 1225 Issues Contemporary Health 3

OR

Physical Education 2

CONCENTRATION⁵ 6-8

MAJOR & GE CAPSTONE REQUIREMENTS⁶ 30

Required Courses 12

PHIL 1100 Philosophy – or an alternate philosophy course at 1000 level 3

PHIL 2505 Critical Thinking 3

One course in history of philosophy at 2000 level or above 3

One course in religion at 2000 level or above 3

Major Electives 15

Selected with advisement 3

Major/GE Capstone Requirement 3

PHIL 4600 Senior Philosophy Seminar⁷ WE 3

FREE ELECTIVES 37-45

Selected with advisement. 50% must be at 3000 level or above.

TOTAL 124

⁵Not required of students with a second major, minor or collateral.

⁶All major courses, including the Capstone, require a grade of C or better.

⁷PHIL 4600 serves as a capstone course for both the major and the GE program. It also fulfills the Writing-Emphasis requirement.

MINOR

REQUIRED COURSES 9

PHIL 1100 Philosophy 3

REL 1700 Introduction to Religions of the World 3

PHIL 4600 Senior Philosophy Seminar 3

ELECTIVES 9

Selected with advisement. At least one course must be at 3000 level or above.

TOTAL 18

PHILOSOPHY COURSES

INTRODUCTORY

PHIL 1100 Introduction to Philosophy (3)

Survey of major issues in philosophical thought and their implications for science, ethics, religion and politics.

General Education Distribution Course

PHIL 1101 Honors Course in Philosophy (3)

A general introduction to the ideas of the great philosophers, major schools of thought and basic issues dealing with knowledge, values and experience. Classical philosophical writings are examined to show their philosophical and historical influence. This course may be substituted for PHIL 1100.

Prerequisite: Top 25% entering students on SAT verbal scores, or 3.0 cumulative average. Credit not given for both PHIL 1100 and 1101.

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 2200 Ancient Philosophy (3)

Classical philosophical views on human nature, morality, education, art and politics. Emphasis on the philosophies of Plato and Aristotle.

Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 2203 Philosophies of Asia (3)

Introduces students to philosophies of Asia through the study of philosophical and religious texts and key concepts. Provides understanding of influence of geographical, historical, and cultural particularities of Asia as alternatives to Western perspectives.

PHIL 3200 Modern Philosophy: The Age of Genius (3)

Survey of the beginnings of modern philosophical thought concerning human freedom, the nature of reality, the foundations of knowledge and the conflict between reason and emotion. Emphasis on the philosophies of Descartes, Spinoza, Hobbes and Leibnitz.

Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3205 Making of the Modern Mind: A Critical Exposition of Hume and Kant (3)

Study of the role of reason and experience in the philosophies of Hume and Kant and the impact of these philosophers on modern thought.

Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3208 Hegel, Marx and Nietzsche: 19th Century German Philosophy (3)

A study of some of the great metaphysical systems produced by nineteenth century German philosophy. Among the philosophers to be considered will be Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, Fichte and Schopenhauer.

Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3209 Latin American Philosophy (3)

A study of the historical background and present trends in Latin American philosophy.

Prerequisite: PHIL 1100 or permission of instructor.

PHIL 4200 Contemporary Philosophy: The Analytic School (3)
Fundamental themes and methods of twentieth century British and American analytical philosophy. Among philosophers covered are Moore, Russell, Wittgenstein and Ayer.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

VALUE THEORY

PHIL 2300 Introduction to Ethics (3)
Introduction to philosophical methods for developing a personal moral code and dealing with moral conflicts. Emphasis on issues concerned with sex and gender, racial discrimination, family obligations, free speech and human rights.
General Education Distribution Course

PHIL 2301 Feminist Philosophies (3)
An introduction to feminist philosophies, from an historical and thematic approach.

PHIL 2302 Philosophy of Peace (3)
Philosophical analysis of ideological conflicts, causes of war, world community, the morality of war, alternatives to violence, the concept of justice.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 2303 Sounds and Sensibilities: Values and Meanings in American Popular Music (3)
Exploration and analysis of the diverse aesthetic sensibilities associated with American popular music from blues and jazz to rock and soul. Focus on values and meanings expressed in the work of representative artists from Bessie Smith to Madonna.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3300 Social and Political Philosophy (3)
The nature of the good society, the justification and criticism of social institutions as well as proposals for their reconstruction; a critique of the basic moral assumptions underlying various political doctrines and an analysis of concepts like law, natural law, rights, political obligation, equality, liberty and the common good.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3304 The Symbolism of Evil (3)
A dialogue on the nature of evil: its manifestations in defilement, sin and guilt; its expression in symbol, myth and religion.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3305 Aesthetics (3)
A critical analysis of the meaning of aesthetic terms, the aesthetic experience, the structure of the aesthetic object, the nature of creative activity, and the nature of aesthetic judgment and its possibility of verification.
Prerequisites: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor, and junior standing.

PHIL 3307 The Philosophy of Law (3)
A critical discussion of the most prominent theories of the sources, nature, and function of the law, as well as a study of basic problems such as the logic of legal argumentation and the relation between law and morality.

PHIL 3308 Values in Conflict (3)
An introduction to the basic theories of values and ethics, with practical application to problems which the student may face in personal and professional life.

PHIL 3309 Theories of Punishment (3)
A description and critical appraisal of various philosophical and legal justifications for punishment. Special emphasis on philosophical pictures of human nature relative to punishment.

PHIL 3310 Business Ethics (3)
An applied ethics course that examines the role of moral principles in contemporary business practices. Theory and cases are used to provide the tools for ethical decision-making through the examination of actual dilemmas faced by managers in organizations.

PHIL 3311 Values and Society (3)
Practical and theoretical introduction to problems in ethics and social philosophy. Emphasis on developing philosophical techniques for making decisions about actions, social issues and life styles.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3312 Contemporary Ethical Theory (3)
Analysis of significant problems in ethical theory: the nature of the good; the moral ought; naturalistic fallacy; metaethics and the meaning of ethical terms.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3313 Justice and Human Rights (3)
Philosophical theories of social justice and their application to contemporary problems in human rights. Emphasis on issues related to equality, discrimination and reverse discrimination, economic justice and the right to violence.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3314 Moral Problems in Medicine and Health Care (3)
Introduction to philosophical theories dealing with moral problems in medicine and health care. Emphasis is given to problems concerning patients' rights, justice in health care distribution and experimenting on human subjects.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3800 Environmental Philosophy
Critical examination of crucial environmental issues such as animal and plant rights, preservation of the ecosystem, pollution, and toxic waste disposal from historical and modern philosophical perspectives.

METAPHYSICS, PHILOSOPHY OF THE PERSON, THEORY OF ACTION

PHIL 2400 Philosophy of the Person (3)
A study of some of the modern and classical philosophical approaches to human nature; perception and intellection, free will and determinism, soul and mechanism; mind and body. An investigation into some of the philosophical foundations of modern theories of psychology.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3402 Existentialism (3)
The nature and modes of human consciousness, the meaning of embodied existence and being-in-the-world, the problem of freedom and value. Selected readings from the philosophies of Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, Husserl, Jaspers, Heidegger, Sartre, Camus and Merleau-Ponty.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3404 Philosophy of Mind (3)
A conceptual study attempting to analyze the following topics: the mind, its relation to the body, the problems of motivation, intention, freedom, action, the self, the unconscious, emotion, memory and imagination.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

PHIL 3406 Contemporary Schools of Philosophy (3)
Major philosophic clashes of our time: the uses of language; the sources, limits, and test of knowledge; and the nature of the universe, man, morality, and the good society. Modern and traditional approaches including idealism, existentialism, neoscholasticism, pragmatism, logical empiricism and realism.

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE AND LOGIC

PHIL 2505 Critical Thinking (3)
Evaluation of arguments in many areas: advertising, everyday life, ethics, multicultural encounters, politics, religion, and the applied and social sciences. Emphasis on constructing effective arguments.
General Education Distribution Course

PHIL 3503 Theory of Knowledge (3)
Analysis of the concepts of knowledge, belief, truth, falsity, error, meaning and ideas.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

SEMINARS AND INDEPENDENT STUDY

PHIL 4600 Senior Philosophy Seminar (3)
Intensive research and writing on selected topics integrating knowledge of philosophical theories and issues with skills in presenting philosophical reasoning and analysis. (Formerly entitled: Seminar in Great Philosophers.)
Prerequisite: Senior status or permission of instructor.
General Education Capstone Course. Writing Emphasis Course

PHIL 4605 Seminar in Major Philosophical Problems (3)
The study in-depth of one major philosophical issue. The problems to be studied vary.
Prerequisite: Nine hours in philosophy or 6 semester hours with permission of instructor.

PHIL 4610 Independent Study in Philosophy (3)
Independent research projects under the guidance of members of the department. Meeting hours and times are arranged by the student and instructor.
Prerequisite: Nine hours in philosophy or six hours with permission of instructor.

RELIGION COURSES

REL 1700 Introduction to Religions of the World (3)
Survey of Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, emphasizing the origin, tenets, developments and cultural and social influence.
General Education Distribution Course

REL 2700 Eastern Religions (3)
The history and thought of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Taoism, Confucianism and Shinto; their role in the culture of India, China, Japan and South East Asia; their impact on the west.

REL 2702 Western Religions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam (3)
The history and impact of three major Western religions; their differences and similarities, and their role in the formation of contemporary religious thought.
General Education Distribution Course

REL 3700 Philosophy of Religion (3)
The philosophical basis of the major Western religions. Attention is given to traditional proofs of God's existence, the problem of evil, the relation between science and religion, and religion's responses to the challenges of atheism and secularism.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor.
Writing Emphasis Course

REL 3701 New Religions in America (3)
Background, survey and analysis of Oriental mysticism in America; Zen, Yoga, Meher Baba, Transcendental Meditation, Krishnamurti, Tibetan Buddhism, International Society for Krishna Consciousness and other contemporary movements.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor.

REL 3702 Foundations of Mystical Experience (3)
Critical analysis of the truth-claims underlying mystical experience.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

REL 3703 Origin and Impact of the African-American Church (3)
Study of the founding of the churches among African Americans, and the role that the churches have played in educational leadership, social and cultural advancements, economic, moral and spiritual empowerment.

REL 3704 Types of Religious Philosophy (3)
Study of two or three classical Western philosophers of religion selected from the following: Aquinas (classical theism), Eckhart (mysticism), Spinoza (pantheism), Hume (skepticism), Kant (moral theism), Hegel (absolute idealism), Kierkegaard (existentialism).
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or permission of instructor.

REL 3705 Major Ideas in Jewish Religion (3)
The major ideas of Jewish religious thought beginning with the Old Testament and the Talmud. Jewish philosophers from Philo of Alexandria and Saadya Goan; some of the great Jewish philosophers of the Middle Ages.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor.

REL 3706 Major Trends in Jewish Philosophy in the 19th and 20th Centuries (3)
An analysis of the problems and issues in Jewish thought in the past century and a half, set against the background of general philosophy and within the scope of changes in Jewish life during the same period.
Prerequisite: Three hours in philosophy or religion or permission of instructor.

REL 3708 Black Theology and Black Liberation Movements (3)
Examination of significant personalities, movements and organizations that have been involved in the ideological articulation of Black protests and liberation movements in America. Special emphasis on developments such as the Black Theology movement and the leadership of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King.

REL 3709 Liberation Theology (3)
A critical and expository survey of liberation theology, from its beginnings in Latin American and African American communities to its present adoption by other groups, including an analysis of common themes and problems.
Prerequisite: REL 1700 or permission of instructor.
General Education Distribution Course

REL 3709 SL Liberation Theology: Service Learning
Students will enhance their understanding of the dimensions of liberation theology by becoming involved in the development of service programs run by faith-based organizations. Field experience will be integrated into the course through journals, reports, and group activities.
Co-requisite: REL 3709

REL 4000 Religion In Contemporary Life (3)
An in-depth look at the pervasive influence of religion and the way in which policies are affected by its response to a broad range of issues within social institutions including the family, the economy, schools, government, and faith organizations.

REL 4615 Independent Study in Religion (3)
Independent research projects under the guidance of members of the department. Meeting hours and times are arranged by the student and instructor.
Prerequisites: Nine hours in philosophy/religion or 6 hours with permission of instructor.

REL 4800 Honors Course in Critical Issues in Modern Religion (3)
A study of selected significant issues in modern religious thought—natural science and religion; biology and religion; social theory and religion; history and religion. Arrangements have been made to utilize the resources of lecturers from the natural, biological and social sciences.
Prerequisites: "B" average, Junior or Senior level, and permission of Instructor.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

The following are found in the Interdisciplinary courses section (See Index.)

ID 3010 Philosophy in Literature (3)

ID 3300 Approaches to the Holocaust (3)

ID 3315 Ethics and Public Policy (3)