Change in the Major for Philosophy

To be adopted:

**Present Philosophy Major**

The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Philosophy are as follows:

Fifty-two (52) units of course work in Philosophy including at least 36 upper-division units.

1. PHIL 007 or PHIL 007H and PHIL 008 or PHIL 008H

2. Four courses in the history of philosophy with at least one from each of the areas below (Select courses from PHIL 030 (E-Z), PHIL 120 (E-Z), PHIL 121 (E-Z); a specific list is provided by the Philosophy Department. Not more than two courses may be from PHIL 030 (E-Z).
   
   a) Ancient Philosophy
   
   b) Medieval to Early Modern Philosophy
   
   c) Late Modern to Nineteenth-Century Philosophy

3. At least one course in each of the following areas:
   
   a) Epistemology: PHIL 130 through PHIL 143
   b) Metaphysics: PHIL 151 through PHIL 169
   c) Moral and Political Philosophy: PHIL 116/BSAD 116, PHIL 117, and PHIL 171 through PHIL 189 (E-Z)

The department has its own undergraduate advisor, and students are urged to consult the advisor in preparing their course of study each quarter while at UCR.

**Proposed Philosophy Major**

The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Philosophy are as follows:

Fifty-six (56) units of course work in Philosophy, including at least 36 upper-division units.

1. PHIL 007 or PHIL 007H and PHIL 008 or PHIL 008H

2. Sophomore-Junior Seminar (PHIL 100)

3. Three courses in the history of philosophy, at least one of which must be in ancient Greek or Roman Philosophy. (Select courses from PHIL 030 (E-Z), PHIL 120 (E-Z), PHIL 121 (E-Z); a specific list is provided by the Philosophy Department. Not more than two courses may be from PHIL 030 (E-Z).)

4. At least two courses in metaphysics, epistemology, or philosophy of language: PHIL 130 through 169

5. At least one course in moral and political philosophy: PHIL 116/BSAD 116, PHIL 117, and PHIL 171 through PHIL 189 (E-Z)

The department has its own undergraduate advisor, and students are urged to consult the advisor in preparing their course of study each quarter while at UCR.
Justification

The total number of units required for the major is being increased from 52 to 56, in order to make the major more demanding, and to bring the total number of courses required in line with the requirements of philosophy programs on other UC campuses.

We are adding the Sophomore-Junior Seminar requirement to give philosophy majors better preparation in reading, writing and analytical skills early on in the major. This will enable them to get more out of subsequent upper division courses.

The number of courses required in the history of philosophy is being reduced from 4 to 3 to give students more flexibility in planning their courses. The Department thinks that 3 courses in this area are adequate. Currently students are required to take one course in the general area of meta-physics and one course in the general area of epistemology. Since these areas of philosophy are closely related, we propose to collapse this requirement to 2 courses in the general areas of metaphysics, epistemology and philosophy of language for purposes of simplification.

Effective Date: Fall 2001
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Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: April 19, 2001