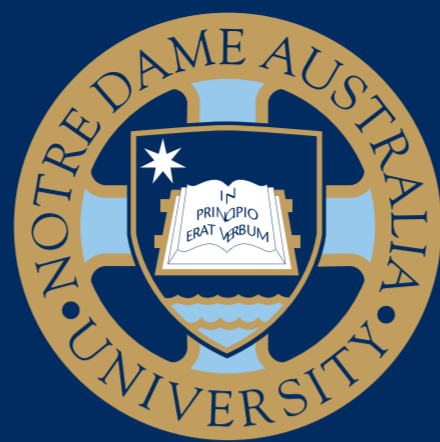


HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

Ancient



- > Undergraduate and postgraduate
- > In-person or online
- > Open to students from all universities
- > Available for audit

Presented by the **School of Philosophy & Theology** and the **Centre for the History of Philosophy** at the University of Notre Dame Australia



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A Four-Course Journey

Chart the full sweep of Western philosophy from antiquity to today



Follow the history of Western philosophical inquiry, from the Pre-Socratics to the 21st century, in this integrated four-course sequence covering the four major periods of Western philosophy: **ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary**.

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Together, these four courses comprise a **Graduate Certificate in the History of Philosophy** and can serve as a pathway into further Notre Dame degrees, such as the Master of Liberal Arts.



PHIL2100 / PHIL6100

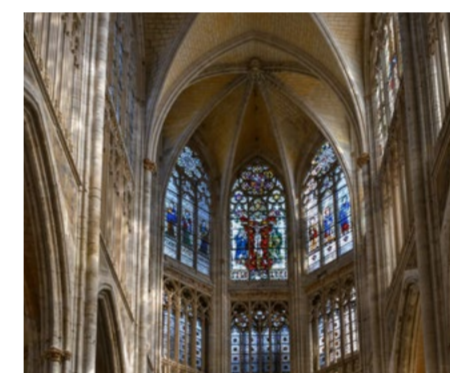
Ancient Philosophy

Greece and Rome

Follow the development of classical philosophy from the Pre-Socratics through Socrates, Plato and Aristotle then into the Hellenistic schools and Neo-Platonism, culminating in Augustine. The course highlights the enduring influence of Plato and Aristotle on Greek and Roman thought while situating later voices within that legacy.

Key themes:

Defining philosophy • Nature, change, teleology • The good life • Soul, city, cosmos • Hellenistic schools



PHIL2110 / PHIL6110

Medieval Philosophy

5th – 15th century

Trace philosophy's evolution from Augustine to the Renaissance, examining its crucial role in European intellectual traditions through the Middle Ages. Engage with figures like Thomas Aquinas, Avicenna and Maimonides who integrated Greek thought with Abrahamic ideas. Study the interplay of religion and rationality and the reshaping of metaphysics, logic, ethics and politics through translation movements and medieval institutions.

Key themes:

Faith & reason • Platonism & Aristotelianism • Creation, being, causality • Jewish & Islamic thinkers • Scholasticism



PHIL2130 / PHIL6130

Modern Philosophy

Renaissance to Romanticism

Analyse the revolutionary transition from medieval worldviews to modernity. Through thinkers such as Bacon, Descartes, Hume and Kant, investigate the rise of natural science, the clash between rationalism and empiricism, and revolutionary ideas that transformed Western views of metaphysics, knowledge, morality and religion—ideas that still shape our society today.

Key themes:

The Scientific Revolution • Rationalism & empiricism • Modern epistemology & scepticism • Evolution of moral theory



PHIL2140 / PHIL6140

Contemporary Philosophy

20th & 21st century

Examine the major movements that have shaped philosophy since 1900. Through figures like Frege, Wittgenstein, Heidegger and Derrida, this course introduces analytic and continental approaches to language, mind, existence and culture, and recent revivals that reconnect contemporary debates with classical sources.

Key themes:

Analytic & continental philosophy • Phenomenology • Language and analysis • Existentialism • Revival of metaphysics

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