



Department of Philosophy
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

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Date: November 1, 2017
To: Undergraduate Programs Committee
From: Marina Banchetti, Chair
Department of Philosophy
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
RE: Changes to BA in Philosophy and Minor in Philosophy

The department of philosophy is proposing one new course, one course title change, and several revisions to the catalog description that more accurately reflect more accurately our current curriculum.

The first proposal is for a new course in ‘Symbolic Logic’, to complement our current offerings in ‘Logic’ and ‘Critical Thinking’. The course has been offered several times as a Special Topics course and there is demand for this class among the philosophy majors. Therefore, the department will be offering the course regularly as an elective course for the major.

The second proposed change is a course title change for PHI 4661 from ‘Ethics’ to ‘Ethical Theory’. The content and the syllabus of the course will not change. However, the new title better reflects the content of the course and helps to avoid possible confusion between this core course and the courses in applied ethics, such as ‘Biomedical Ethics’ and ‘Environmental Ethics’.

The third change concerns revisions that need to be made to the catalog copy. For the past several years, the department of philosophy has been offering Critical Thinking (PHI 2100), Moral Problems (PHI 3638), and Philosophy of Medicine (PHI 3456). Two of these courses are currently being offered online, thereby contributing to the University’s distance learning offerings. These courses count as electives for the BA in Philosophy and also count toward the minor in philosophy. However, this is not reflected in the current the catalog description of the BA in Philosophy and of the minor in philosophy.

Attached are the proposed revisions to the catalog descriptions, with the above changes highlighted in bold.

Approved by:

Department Chair _____ Date _____
College Curriculum Chair _____ Date _____
College Dean _____ Date _____
UUPC Chair _____ Date _____
Undergraduate Studies Dean _____ Date _____
UFS President _____ Date _____
Provost _____ Date _____