PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, & LAW

This interdisciplinary major combines, in a systematic and structured way, basic education in philosophy, political theory, and elements of law. It may be of particular interest to students contemplating post-graduate work in law, those interested in a career in public service or politics, and those attracted by the rigor of philosophy and its attention to foundational issues who are also interested in politics and law.

Opportunities for Students

- **Philosophy Club:** Students from any major with an interest in philosophy can join this club. Meetings include guest speakers and discussions on many different philosophical topics.

- **Honors Program:** Ideal for students planning to continue their studies at the graduate level, or just looking for a more intensive course of study, the Honors program requires a capstone seminar and completion of a senior thesis. Students must also earn a 3.5 or higher in their philosophy courses.

- **Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics:** The mission of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics is to motivate students to become active in the world of politics and to encourage public officials to participate in the daily life of USC. The Unruh Research in Applied Politics Program supports research that addresses political topics of concern to the polity.

- **Study Abroad:** Explore the origins of Western philosophy by spending a year in Athens, while learning about ancient Greek civilization, Byzantine art, and examining cultural trends in modern Greece.

Notable Courses

- **PHIL 428: Anglo-American Philosophy Since 1950** — The maturing of the analytic tradition from the later Wittgenstein through Ryle, Strawson, Hare, Austin, Grice, Quine, Davidson, Kripke, and beyond.

- **PHIL 430: Philosophy of Law** — Philosophical theories about the nature of law, relations between law and morality, and analysis of normative concepts central to law, such as responsibility, punishment, and negligence.

- **POSC 335: Political Parties, Campaigns, and Elections** — Organization and function of political parties, nominations and elections, strategy and tactics of campaigning, professional candidate management finance, political machines, voting behavior.

- **POSC 345: International Law** — Nature, origin, and development of international law; basic principles analyzed and illustrated with cases.
PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, & LAW

Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Lower Division Course Requirement (select one)**
- PHIL 135: Legal Controversies and Ethical Principles
- PHIL 140: Contemporary Moral and Social Issues
- PHIL 141: The Professions and the Public Interest in American Life
- POSC 130: Law, Politics, and Public Policy

Logic Course Requirement (select one)*
- PHIL 350: Symbolic Logic
- PHIL 351: Reasoning and Logic
- PHIL 352: Logic and Language

Philosophy of Law Course Requirement (select one)*
- PHIL 430: Philosophy of Law
- PHIL 431: Law, Society, and Politics

Philosophy Gateway Course Requirement (select one)**
- PHIL 300: Introduction to Philosophical Classics
- PHIL 340: Ethics

Additional Philosophy Course Requirement (select one)**
- PHIL 423: The Critical Philosophy of Kant
- PHIL 465: Philosophy of Language
- PHIL 470: Theory of Knowledge

Constitutional Politics Course Requirement (select one)**
- POSC 340: Constitutional Law
- POSC 444: Civil and Political Rights and Liberties

Comparative or International Politics and Law Course Requirement (select one)**
- ANTH 345: Politics, Social Organization, and Law
- POSC 345: International Law

Politics, Law and Public Policy Course Requirement (select one)**
- POSC 443: Law in Film
- SWMS 349: Women and the Law

Law Course Requirement*
- LAW 300: Concepts in American Law

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/phil/undergraduate-programs/. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.