

Date: 14 January, 2009

To: Curriculum Committee, Indiana University School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI.

From: John Tilley, Chair, Department of Philosophy, IUPUI.

Subject: Changes to the undergraduate philosophy major and minor.

Dear Committee Members:

With the unanimous support of the philosophy department, I write to make two recommendations:

FIRST, that the requirements for the undergraduate philosophy *major* be changed (effective fall 2009) from Set A (the *current* set of requirements) to Set B. You'll notice that in Set B, the required number of credit hours, as well as the required number of credits at the 300 level or above, is greater than it is in Set A. Also, Set B lists all three of our introductory courses as required.

Set A:

A minimum of 24 credit hours in philosophy, including:

1. Either a survey of philosophy (P110, Intro. to Philosophy; or S110, Intro. to Philosophy – Honors) or a basic course in ethics (P120, Ethics; S120, Ethics – Honors; P237, Environmental Ethics; P326, Ethical Theory; or P393, Biomedical Ethics).
2. A basic course in logic (P162, Logic; or P265, Elementary Symbolic Logic).
3. A minimum of 9 credit hours at the 300 level or above.
4. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) in each philosophy course.

Set B:

A minimum of 30 credit hours in philosophy, including:

1. A basic survey of philosophy (either P110, Intro. to Philosophy; or S110, Intro. to Philosophy – Honors).
2. A basic course in ethics (either P120, Ethics; or S120, Ethics – Honors).
3. A basic course in logic (either P162, Logic; or P265, Elementary Symbolic Logic).
4. A minimum of 15 credit hours at the 300 level or above.
5. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) in each philosophy course.

SECOND, that the requirements for the undergraduate philosophy *minor* be changed (effective fall 2009) from Set C (the *current* set) to Set D. Note that in Set D, requirement 1 is more streamlined than it is in Set C; also, in Set D the minimum grade of "C" is made explicit.

Set C:

A minimum of 15 credit hours in philosophy, including:

1. One course from each of at least two of these three groups of basic courses:
 - A. P110, Intro. to Philosophy; S110, Intro. to Philosophy – Honors.
 - B. P120, Ethics; S120, Ethics – Honors; P237, Environmental Ethics; P326, Ethical Theory; P393, Biomedical Ethics.
 - C. P162, Logic; P265, Elementary Symbolic Logic.
2. A minimum of 6 credit hours at the 300 level or above.

Set D:

A minimum of 15 credit hours in philosophy, including:

1. One course from each of at least two of these three groups of basic courses:
 - Group A: P110, Intro. to Philosophy; S110, Intro. to Philosophy – Honors.
 - Group B: P120, Ethics; S120, Ethics – Honors.
 - Group C: P162, Logic; P265, Elementary Symbolic Logic.
2. A minimum of 6 credit hours at the 300 level or above.
3. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) in each course.

We are making these recommendations for several reasons. One of them is that the changes (especially the increase in required credits for the major) will bring the philosophy major more in line than it presently is with other majors in SLA. Another is that most of these recommendations were made, and well defended, by the program review team during our recent department program review.