

**Philosophy**  
**Student Learning Outcomes**  
**University of Rhode Island**

By the time a student graduates from the University of Rhode Island with a B.A. in Philosophy, s/he should:

1. Recognize patterns of valid and fallacious logical reasoning, and basics of logical theory (PHL 101 and 451);
2. Read a major philosophical text analytically and be able to write out critical evaluations of philosophical arguments (205);
3. Be familiar with major ethical theories and their practical applications (PHL 212 and PHL 314);
4. Possess a basic knowledge of the history of philosophy, in particular Ancient Philosophy and Modern Philosophy (PHL 321 and PHL 323);
5. Be familiar with the "Analytic" approach to philosophical questions, and at least one of the fields of philosophical inquiry in which this approach is most commonly practiced (PHL 341, 342, and 452);
6. Be familiar with the "Continental" approach to philosophical questions, and at least one of the fields of philosophical inquiry in which this approach is most commonly practiced (PHL 204, 318, 324, and 346);
7. Be able to engage critically both the primary and secondary literature on philosophical subject matter, to present one's critical assessment orally to a group, and to produce a written document reflecting one's independent research on a philosophical subject (PHL 490); and

*Optional*

8. Be able to write a substantial essay on a given philosophical topic reflecting directed research and independent analysis and conclusions (PHL 499).