

PATHWAYS MINORS PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND ECONOMICS



What is it?

The minor in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics trains students to **examine the world from multiple perspectives and integrate their knowledge across disciplines and domains of learning through a hands-on, minds-on approach**. In addition, since the minor involves twelve departments in seven colleges on campus, it teaches students to apply knowledge from the humanities and social sciences in different fields.

Why do it?

Our world is characterized by complex individual and collective decision-making problems that often cut across the boundaries of academic disciplines. The PPE minor trains students to address such **interdisciplinary decision-making problems in our globalized world**. It enables students to make decisions that are not only economically sound, but also socially, ethically, and politically informed.



Who is it for?

This minor is ideal for **anyone interested in learning more about concepts in philosophy, politics, and economics**. STEM students needing to take classes focused on Advanced Discourse, Critical Thinking in the Humanities, or Reasoning in the Social Sciences might be particularly interested in the PPE minor. Non-STEM students might also be interested because the concepts explored in this minor will complement different majors across the curriculum.

Pathways Core Concepts

- 1a- Advanced/Applied Discourse
- 2 - Critical Thinking in the Humanities
- 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences

Pathways Integrative Concepts

- Ethical Reasoning
- Intercultural and Global Awareness

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Requirements

The 18-credit minor in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics requires a 3-credit gateway course and a 3-credit capstone course. In addition, students pursuing the minor complete 12 credit hours of electives in core and applied areas.

Required courses

PHIL/PSCI/ECON 2894: Introduction to Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

PHIL/PSCI/ECON 4884: Advanced Topics in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Elective courses

Students complete 9 credits of core area electives (3 each in philosophy, political science, and economics) and 3 credits of an applied areas elective course (in one of the following areas: business; engineering; public and international affairs (SPIA); geography; agriculture and applied economics; or fish, wildlife, forest, and environmental conservation). For a complete list of elective courses, consult the checksheet at www.registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/checksheets/minors.



Students are strongly advised to take one elective course in each of the core areas of the PPE minor before they take the PHIL 2894 gateway course. At least one elective course must be taken at the 3000-4000 level. The PPE gateway course must be taken before the PPE capstone course, which is the final course in the minor sequence.

Core Area Electives

Select one course in PHIL, PSCI, and ECON from a list of approved courses

PPE Gateway Course

Integration of the quantitative techniques, conceptual tools, and core principles of philosophy, political science, and economics

Applied Area Electives

Business, engineering, SPIA, geography, agricultural and applied economics, fish and wildlife conservation, or forest resources and environmental conservation

PPE Capstone Course

Advanced research project at the intersection of philosophy, politics, and economics and its application to the real world

www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors

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PATHWAYS TO GENERAL EDUCATION