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**MEMORANDUM**

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**ATTENTION** Senate **DATE** September 12, 2012  
**FROM** Jon Driver, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/1  
**RE:** Faculties of Art and Social Sciences and Health Sciences: Full Program Proposal for a Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences (SCUP 12-30)

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At its September 5, 2012 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the Full Program Proposal for a Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences in the Department of Philosophy within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and in the Faculty of Health Sciences, effective Fall 2013.

**Motion:**

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences in the Department of Philosophy within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and in the Faculty of Health Sciences, effective Fall 2013.

encl.

c: E. Tiffany  
M. Lechner



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c: E. Tiffany  
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OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AND  
ASSOCIATE PROVOST

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**MEMORANDUM**

<b>ATTENTION</b>	Senate Committee on University Priorities	<b>DATE</b>	August 3, 2012
<b>FROM</b>	Bill Krane, Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies	<b>PAGES</b>	1/1 
<b>RE:</b>	Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (SCUS 12-29e)		

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of August 2, 2012, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion:

That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the Full Program Proposal for the Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences in the Department of Philosophy within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Health Sciences.

The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.

# **Full Program Proposal**

## **Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences**

**FHS Undergraduate Studies Committee  
Philosophy Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

**Simon Fraser University**

**May 17, 2012**

### **Executive Summary**

- A BA Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences is proposed by the Department of Philosophy and Faculty of Health Sciences to be jointly administered by the Philosophy Department and Faculty of Health Sciences.
- The B.A. in Philosophy and Health Sciences is designed for students who are interested in focusing on and expanding their expertise in areas where these two fields of study intersect. Students who complete the joint major gain broad training in both Philosophy and Health Sciences. Students develop solid foundations in ethical theory, epistemology, metaphysics and the history of philosophy and a grounding in health-related knowledge with an emphasis on applied ethics in health and the philosophy and history of health science.
- The proposed program addresses the following university goal as stated in the President's Agenda 2005-2009 (Michael Stevenson, June 2005)
  - “ we must continue to increase the diversification of our programmes, increasing the number of professional and quasi-professional programmes, as well as creating new interdisciplinary specializations.”
- Based upon existing courses, this program can be mounted immediately with minimum requirement for new resources.
- The program will be directed by an undergraduate Coordinating Committee, comprised of two representatives from each of the Department of Philosophy and the Faculty of Health Sciences.
- Students will be enrolled from existing students in the Philosophy and Health Sciences programs. We are confident the program has a potential to attract new students to SFU.
- The Joint Major will be re-evaluated in the future and, depending on its success in attracting existing students to this stream, we will consider including other departments such as the Faculties of Business and the Environment to expand course offerings in applied ethics.
- Graduates of this degree will be well-prepared to move on to:
  - Professional schools
  - Graduate degrees in a number of areas including bioethics, philosophy, and public health.
  - Employment in careers that intersect with health ethics and the philosophy of science.
  - Employment in the burgeoning field of genomics and applications of DNA sequencing.

### **Background**

Simon Fraser University has teaching strengths in applied ethics and the history and philosophy of science, but course offerings in these areas are divided between the Department of Philosophy and Faculty of Health Sciences. This joint major will offer students interested in these areas the opportunity to pursue an integrated major that combines a strong background in philosophy with applications in the health sciences. This interdisciplinary major will prepare students for continued study and careers in bioethics, genomics/genetic testing, the philosophy of science, three highly desirable and growing fields of study.

**Credential to be awarded:**

Joint Major, Philosophy and Health Sciences, B.A.

**Location:**

SFU, Burnaby Campus

**Faculty/Department/School offering the new program:**

Department of Philosophy

Faculty of Health Sciences

**Anticipated program start date:**

Fall 2013

**Description of proposed program:**

**A) Aims, goals, and/or objectives**

The B.A. in Philosophy and Health Sciences aims to give students broad training in both Philosophy and Health Sciences. Students will gain expertise in philosophical theories in areas including ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology. These theories will be applied in the health sciences, including the areas of epidemiology and applied ethics. Students will gain critical thinking skills relevant to a large range of career options.

**B) Anticipated contribution to mandate and strategic plan of the institution**

The proposed joint major enhances the offerings of one of the University's newest faculties, while strengthening linkages between that unit and previously existing programs. The proposed program meshes well with one of the important dimensions in which our academic programmes should be improved as stated in the President's Agenda 2005-2009 (Michael Stevenson, June 2005)

- o "we must continue to increase the diversification of our programmes, increasing the number of professional and quasi-professional programmes, as well as creating new interdisciplinary specializations."

**C) Target audience**

The Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences is intended for students who are interested in applied ethics and the philosophy and history of health sciences.

## **D) Content**

**Requirements for the Proposed Joint Major:**

**Courses used toward the upper division Philosophy requirements may not be used as part of Health Sciences credit requirements, and vice versa. Any lower division course that counts toward the separate requirements for Philosophy and Health Sciences may be counted toward both.**

**Students are required to satisfy the prerequisites of all courses (upper and lower division) that are taken within this joint major and should consult regularly with the program advisors regarding course selection.**

### **Philosophy**

#### ***Lower Division Requirements:***

**Students must complete:**

**PHIL 120W-3 Introduction to Moral Philosophy**

**And at least one of:**

**PHIL 100W-3 Knowledge and Reality**

**PHIL 144-3 Introduction to the Philosophy of Natural and Social Science**

**PHIL 150-3 History of Philosophy I**

**PHIL 151-3 History of Philosophy II**

**And one of:**

**PHIL 110-3 Introduction to Logic and Reasoning**

**PHIL 210-3 Natural Deductive Logic**

**And both of:**

**PHIL 201-3 Epistemology**

**PHIL 203-3 Metaphysics**

#### ***Upper Division Requirements***

**Students must complete a total of 19 upper division philosophy units, including:**

**At least one of:**

**PHIL 320-3 Social and Political Philosophy**

**PHIL 321-3 Topics in Moral Philosophy**

**PHIL 322-3 History of Ethics**

**At least one of:**

**PHIL 302-3 Topics in Epistemology and Metaphysics**

**PHIL 341-3 Philosophy of Science**

**PHIL 343-3 Philosophy of Mind**

**PHIL 344-3 Philosophy of Language**

**At least one of:**

**PHIL 322-3 History of Ethics<sup>1</sup>**

**PHIL 350-3 Ancient Philosophy**

**PHIL 352-3 17<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy**

**PHIL 356-3 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy**

**PHIL 357-3 Topics in the History of Philosophy**

**And at least one 400-level course in Philosophy.**

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<sup>1</sup> If not taken in satisfaction of breadth requirement in value stream (i.e. PHIL 320, PHIL 321, or PHIL 322).

## **Health Sciences**

### ***Lower Division Requirements***

All of:

HSCI 100-3 Human Biology OR BISC 101-4 General Biology  
HSCI 130-3 Foundations of Health Sciences

And one of:

STAT 201-3 Statistics for the Life Sciences  
STAT 203-3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences

And at least two of:

HSCI 211-3 Perspectives on Cancer, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases  
HSCI 212-3 Perspectives on Infectious and Immunological Diseases  
HSCI 214-3 Perspectives on Mental Health and Illness  
HSCI 215-3 Perspectives on Disability and Injury  
HSCI 216-3 Ecological Determinants of Human Growth, Development and Health

### ***Upper Division Requirements***

Students must complete a minimum of 18 upper division units in the Faculty of Health Sciences courses including:

All of:

HSCI 305-3 The Canadian Health System  
HSCI 319W-3 Applied Health Ethics  
HSCI 327-3 (PHIL 327-3) Global Health Ethics  
HSCI 330-3 Exploratory Strategies in Epidemiology  
HSCI 340-3 Social Determinants of Health

One 300-level or 400-level HSCI elective – 3 units

### **E) Delivery Methods**

The program will be taught through existing courses at the SFU Burnaby and SFU Vancouver campus. Lower division courses typically will be offered as lectures while upper division courses will be offered as seminars.

### **F) Linkages between learning outcomes and curriculum design**

Students pursuing the joint major will develop a capacity for analyzing philosophical and health-related problems in an interdisciplinary framework.

### **G) Distinctive characteristics**

The program is distinguished by its thematic foci, and by its cross-disciplinary approach within philosophy and health sciences. The proposed new joint major will benefit students who have otherwise been unable to explore interests in applied ethics and the history and philosophy of science in a dedicated major. These interests are better accommodated by an interdisciplinary program.

### **H) Anticipated completion time**

Four years.

**I) Enrolment plan for the length of the program**

Students will be admitted to the Joint major program from other programs at SFU or via transfer from other post-secondary institutions. Students will be primarily those who were enrolled into the philosophy and health sciences programs and wish to broaden their area of study through the programming in this joint major. No maximum number of admissions per year has been set. Initially, we expect only about 10 new students per year.

In the event of large student demand, a certain percentage of the required FHS and PHIL courses will be reserved for students who have declared into the joint major.

**J) Policies on student evaluation (degree requirements)**

Evaluation will be achieved following the general regulations for the University and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Health Sciences. Students will be evaluated on their performance in a range of activities including but not limited to research papers, participation in seminars, and in teamwork exercises.

**K) Policies on faculty appointment (minimum qualifications)**

Continuing faculty will hold a PhD or equivalent.

**L) Policies on program assessment**

In common with all other academic units at SFU, the Joint Major in PHI-HS is subject to external review every six years.

**M) Level of support and recognition from other post-secondary institutions (including plans for admission and transfer within BC) and relevant regulatory or professional bodies**

As per SFU's transfer credit procedures, students may transfer from BC colleges or universities to enrol into this program. There is no applicable regulatory or professional body in this field in BC.

**N) Evidence of student interest and labour market demand**

We are monitoring an increase of interest in the Joint Major within the current student body. Student enrolment in applied ethics offerings with FHS has been robust, drawing students from other disciplines including philosophy. Students have regularly expressed an interest in increased course offerings in applied ethics and the philosophy of science. There is significant student interest among non-philosophy students in philosophy courses. Enrolment in upper division philosophy courses in philosophy is near capacity, and approximately 45-60% of students are not philosophy majors. Many philosophy majors enter Law School or take up managerial positions. Many of these practically-minded students will find a joint degree with FHS very attractive.

Excerpted results from the Fall 2011 Undergraduate Student Survey in response to questions about interest in potential new programs. Results are shown for percentage replying Very/Somewhat interested in Joint Major in Health Ethics.

APSC	ARTS	BUS	CAT	EDUC	ENV	HSCI	SCI	ALL
15%	22%	14%	18%	20%	14%	66%	32%	23.4%



**O) Related programs at SFU and other British Columbia post-secondary institutions**

The combination of the two programs is unique in the context of SFU and British Columbia.

**Additional Information Required by SFU:**

- **Contact information for the faculty member responsible for program development**

Mark Lechner, Faculty of Health Sciences, 778-782-8733  
Jeremy Snyder, Faculty of Health Sciences, 778-782-3258  
Lisa Shapiro, Department of Philosophy, 778.782.3343  
Evan Tiffany, Department of Philosophy, 778.782.4482  
Sam Black, Department of Philosophy, 778-782-3343

- **Summary of requirements for graduation (courses, project/thesis, etc.)**

A minimum of 120 units, including: at the 100-200 level, 27 units including 12 units of Philosophy and 15 units of Health Sciences; at the 300-400 level, 37 units including at least 19 units of upper division Philosophy and 18 credits of upper division Health Sciences. Elective and breadth courses make up the balance of the University's degree requirements.

- **Summary of resources (faculty members, space, and equipment) required to implement the program**

Minimal additional resources are required. The program can be accommodated with present courses and faculty. No new courses are required.

- **Brief description of any program and associated resources that will be reduced or eliminated when the new program is introduced**

None.

## **NOTICE OF INTENT**

### **Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences**

**FHS Undergraduate Studies Committee  
Philosophy Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

**Simon Fraser University**

**December 9, 2010**

#### **Executive Summary**

- A BA Joint Major in Bioethics and Health Sciences is proposed by the Department of Philosophy and Faculty of Health Sciences to be jointly administered by the Philosophy Department and Faculty of Health Sciences.
- The B.A. in Philosophy and Health Sciences is designed for students who are interested in focusing on and expanding their expertise in areas where these two fields of study intersect. Students who complete the joint major gain broad training in both Philosophy and Health Sciences. Students develop solid foundations in ethical theory, epistemology, metaphysics and the history of philosophy and a grounding in health-related knowledge with an emphasis on applied ethics in health and the philosophy and history of health science.
- The proposed program addresses the following university goal as stated in the President's Agenda 2005-2009 (Michael Stevenson, June 2005)  
    "we must continue to increase the diversification of our programmes, increasing the number of professional and quasi-professional programmes, as well as creating new interdisciplinary specializations."
- Based upon existing courses, this program can be mounted immediately with minimum requirement for new resources.
- The program will be directed by an undergraduate Coordinating Committee, comprised of two representatives from each of the Department of Philosophy and the Faculty of Health Sciences.
- Students will be enrolled from existing students in the Philosophy and Health Sciences programs. We are confident the program has a potential to attract new students to SFU.
- The Joint Major will be re-evaluated in the future and, depending on its success in attracting existing students to this stream, we will consider including other departments such as the Faculties of Business and the Environment to expand course offerings in applied ethics.
- Graduates of this degree will be well-prepared to move on to:
  - Professional schools
  - Graduate degrees in a number of areas including bioethics, philosophy, and public health.
  - Employment in careers that intersect with health ethics and the philosophy of science.

**Approval History: Philosophy Department: March 4, 2011**

**FHS Undergraduate Studies Committee: 25 November 2010**

**FHS Faculty Council: January 27, 2011**



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Department of Philosophy

Dept. of Philosophy, W/MX 4604      Tel. 778.782.3343  
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Canada V5A 1S6

SCUS 12-14f

12 December 2011

To: Paul Budra

At its meeting of March 4, 2011 the Department of Philosophy approved the attached NOI for a joint major in Philosophy and Health Sciences. At its meeting of December 2, 2011 the Department of Philosophy approved the attached prerequisite changes to: PHIL 201, 203, 320, 321, 328, 421W, and 451W; at its meeting of December 8, 2011, the Department of Philosophy approved the attached prerequisite change to PHIL 357. Please place these items on the agenda for the next FASSCC meeting.

Sincerely,

Evan Tiffany

## **Background**

Simon Fraser University has teaching strengths in applied ethics and the history and philosophy of science, but course offerings in these areas are divided between the Department of Philosophy and Faculty of Health Sciences. This joint major will offer students interested in these areas the opportunity to pursue an integrated major that combines a strong background in philosophy with applications in the health sciences. This interdisciplinary major will prepare students for continued study and careers in bioethics and the philosophy of science, two highly desirable and growing fields of study.

## **Credential to be awarded:**

Joint Major, Bioethics and Health Sciences, B.A.

## **Location:**

SFU, Burnaby Campus

## **Faculty/Department/School offering the new program:**

Department of Philosophy

Faculty of Health Sciences

## **Anticipated program start date:**

~~September 2011~~

## **Description of proposed program:**

### **A) Aims, goals, and/or objectives**

The B.A. in Philosophy and Health Sciences is aims to give students broad training in both Philosophy and Health Sciences. Students will gain expertise in philosophical theories in areas including ethics, metaphysics, and epistemology. These theories will be applied in the health sciences, including the areas of epidemiology and applied ethics. Students will gain critical thinking skills relevant to a large range of career options.

### **B) Anticipated contribution to mandate and strategic plan of the institution**

The proposed joint major enhances the offerings of one of the University's newest faculties, while strengthening linkages between that unit and previously existing programs. The proposed program meshes well with one of the important dimensions in which our academic programmes should be improved as stated in the President's Agenda 2005-2009 (Michael Stevenson, June 2005)

- o "we must continue to increase the diversification of our programmes, increasing the number of professional and quasi-professional programmes, as well as creating new interdisciplinary specializations."

### **C) Target audience**

The Joint Major in Philosophy and Health Sciences is intended for students who are interested in applied ethics and the philosophy and history of health sciences.

#### **D) Content**

**Requirements for the Proposed Joint Major:**

Courses used toward the upper division Philosophy requirements may not be used as part of Health Sciences credit requirements, and vice versa. Any lower division course that counts toward the separate requirements for Philosophy and Health Sciences may be counted toward both.

Students are required to satisfy the prerequisites of all courses (upper and lower division) that are taken within this joint major and should consult regularly with the program advisors regarding course selection.

#### **Philosophy**

##### ***Lower Division Requirements***

At least one of<sup>1</sup>:

PHIL 100W-3 Knowledge and Reality

PHIL 120W-3 Introduction to Moral Philosophy

PHIL 144-3 Introduction to the Philosophy of Natural and Social Science

PHIL 150-3 History of Philosophy I

PHIL 151-3 History of Philosophy II

And one of:

PHIL 110-3 Introduction to Logic and Reasoning

PHIL 210-3 Natural Deductive Logic

And both of:

PHIL 201-3 Epistemology

PHIL 203-3 Metaphysics

##### ***Upper Division Requirements***

Students must complete a total of 19 upper division philosophy units, including:

At least one of:

PHIL 320-3 Social and Political Philosophy

PHIL 321-3 Topics in Moral Philosophy

PHIL 322-3 History of Ethics

PHIL 327-3 Global Health Ethics<sup>2</sup>

At least one of:

PHIL 302-3 Topics in Epistemology and Metaphysics

PHIL 341-3 Philosophy of Science

PHIL 343-3 Philosophy of Mind

PHIL 344-3 Philosophy of Language

At least one of:

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<sup>1</sup> In selecting lower-level courses, students are advised to consider the pre-requisite structure for upper-level courses in Philosophy.

<sup>2</sup> PHIL 327 is identical for HSCI 327 and students cannot receive credit for both. In order for the course to count toward the distribution requirements for Philosophy or Health Sciences, the course must be taken as PHIL or HSCI respectively.

PHIL 322-3 History of Ethics<sup>3</sup>  
PHIL 350-3 Ancient Philosophy  
PHIL 352-3 17<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy  
PHIL 356-3 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy  
PHIL 357-3 Topics in the History of Philosophy

And at least one 400-level course in Philosophy.

### **Health Sciences**

#### ***Lower Division Requirements***

All of:

HSCI 100-3 Human Biology  
HSCI 130-3 Foundations of Health Sciences

And one of:

STAT 201-3 Statistics for the Life Sciences  
STAT 203-3 Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences

And at least two of:

HSCI 211-3 Perspectives on Cancer, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases  
HSCI 212-3 Perspectives on Infectious and Immunological Diseases  
HSCI 214-3 Perspectives on Mental Health and Illness  
HSCI 215-3 Perspectives on Disability and Injury  
HSCI 216-3 Ecological Determinants of Human Growth, Development and Health

#### ***Upper Division Requirements***

Students must complete a minimum of 15 upper division units in the Faculty of Health Sciences courses including:

All of:

HSCI 305-3 The Canadian Health System  
HSCI 319W-3 Applied Health Ethics  
HSCI 327-3 Global Health Ethics<sup>2</sup>  
HSCI 330-3 Exploratory Strategies in Epidemiology  
HSCI 340-3 Social Determinants of Health

One 300-level or 400-level elective – 3 units

Capstone Project: 3 units either PHIL or HSCI

One 400-level Directed Studies to produce a Capstone Project (as a Directed Studies in either HSCI or PHIL): Should be taken in the last or next-to-last semester and integrates ethical concerns in health sciences or the philosophy of health sciences with the production of a 6000 – 8000 word (25 pages) paper. Students will work with a Health Sciences or Philosophy faculty member who is close to the student's research interests. The course design will be done in mutual agreement between the student and the faculty supervisor and the agreement will be provided to the Philosophy or Health Sciences advisor to be placed in the student's record.

### **E) Delivery Methods**

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<sup>3</sup> If not taken in satisfaction of breadth requirement in value stream.

The program will be taught through existing courses at the SFU Burnaby and SFU Vancouver campus. Lower division courses typically will be offered as lectures while upper division courses will be offered as seminars.

**F) Linkages between learning outcomes and curriculum design**

Students pursuing the joint major will develop a capacity for analyzing philosophical and health-related problems in an interdisciplinary framework.

**G) Distinctive characteristics**

The program is distinguished by its thematic foci, and by its cross-disciplinary approach within philosophy and health sciences. The proposed new joint major will benefit students who have otherwise been unable to explore interests in applied ethics and the history and philosophy of science in a dedicated major. These interests are better accommodated by an interdisciplinary program.

**H) Anticipated completion time**

Four years.

**I) Enrollment plan for the length of the program**

Students will be admitted to the joint major program from other programs at SFU or via transfer from other post-secondary institutions. Students will be primarily those who were enrolled into the philosophy and health sciences programs and wish to broaden their area of study through the program in this joint major. No maximum number of admissions per year has been set. Initially, we expect only about 10 new students per year.

**J) Policies on student evaluation (degree requirements)**

Evaluation will be achieved following the general regulations for the University and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Health Sciences. Students will be evaluated on their performance in a range of activities including but not limited to research papers, participation in seminars, and in teamwork exercises.

**K) Policies on faculty appointment (minimum qualifications)**

Continuing faculty will hold a PhD or equivalent.

**L) Policies on program assessment**

In common with all other academic units at SFU, the Joint Major in PHI-HS is subject to external review every six years.

**M) Level of support and recognition from other post-secondary institutions (including plans for admission and transfer within BC) and relevant regulatory or professional bodies**

As per SFU's transfer credit procedures, students may transfer from BC colleges or universities to enrol into this program. There is no applicable regulatory or professional body in this field in BC.

**N) Evidence of student interest and labour market demand**

We are monitoring an increase of interest in the Joint Major within the current student body. Student enrolment in applied ethics offerings with FHS has been robust, drawing students from other disciplines including philosophy. Students have regularly expressed an interest in increased course

offerings in applied ethics and the philosophy of science. There is significant student interest among non-philosophy students in philosophy courses. Enrollment in upper division philosophy courses in philosophy is near capacity, and approximately 45-60% of students are not philosophy majors. Many philosophy majors enter Law School or take up managerial positions. Many of these practically-minded students will find a joint degree with FHS very attractive.

**O) Related programs at SFU and other British Columbia post-secondary institutions**

The combination of the two programs is unique in the context of SFU and British Columbia.

**Additional Information Required by SFU:**

- Contact information for the faculty member responsible for program development

Kitty Corbett, Faculty of Health Sciences, 778-782-7190  
 Jeremy Snyder, Faculty of Health Sciences, 778-782-3258  
 Lea Shapiro, Department of Philosophy, 778.782.3343  
 Evan Tiffany, Department of Philosophy, 778.782.4482  
 Sam Black, Department of Philosophy, 778-782-3343

- Summary of requirements for graduation (courses, projects, etc.)

A minimum of 120 units, including: at the 100-200 level, 27 units including 12 units of Philosophy and 15 units of Health Sciences; at the 300-400 level, 37 units including at least 19 units of upper division Philosophy and 15 credits of upper division Health Sciences. Elective and breadth courses make up the balance of the University's degree requirements.

- Summary of resources (faculty members, space, and equipment) required to implement the program

Minimal additional resources are required. The program can be accommodated with present courses and faculty. No new courses are required.

- Brief description of any program and associated resources that will be reduced or eliminated when the new program is introduced

None.