

MEMORANDUM

To: Provost Stuart Suss

From: History, Philosophy, and Political Science

CC:

Re: AA Liberal Arts—Concentration in Philosophy

Philosophy has always been considered an important, even necessary, component of a liberal arts education. Combining critical thinking with a broad range of questions probing the range of human thought whether scientific, humanistic, or artistic, and sporting some of the finest literature ever written, it provides students with an irreplaceable and essential window on the full range of what we term the “liberal arts.” The Department of History, Philosophy, and Political Science now offers a broad range of philosophy courses covering all sorts of issues from religion to bioethics and from a broad range of perspectives including Asian and contemporary analytic as well as the traditional ancient Greek and modern European. As such, immersion in philosophy is integral to a Kingsborough AA.

Students have also shown a sustained and growing interest in the range of courses provided by the philosophy unit within the History, Philosophy, and Political Science Department. Many students in any given semester have taken at least three courses in Philosophy. Figures obtained from Kingsborough’s Office of Institutional Research show that upwards of 100-200 students have taken three courses in any given semester and that over 500-1,000 have taken two [see attachment]. Since the concentration requires nine credits, a significant number would already qualify with probably more who might be enticed by the promise of academic recognition for their effort.

Beyond that, anecdotally, every philosophy instructor has received requests for information on other courses that may be available in the discipline, usually from their most talented students. Some of these students go on to major in philosophy in the senior colleges to which they transfer and many seek a firm grounding in the intellectual fundamentals necessary to their education so that they may improve their chances for academic success as they move on.

CUNY-wide experience, including at a community college level, has demonstrated the enduring importance and popularity of philosophy as a major or concentration. For example, LaGuardia Community College instituted a major in the subject in the last few years and has seen strong and growing enrollment (currently at 57 majors). In the continuing effort to recruit and retain talented students, it is important that Kingsborough

provide an attractive and challenging range of academic courses that match the best of what the other CUNY colleges offer.

No new courses are needed to create this concentration in liberal arts. The exact proposal appears below.

We strongly encourage the approval of this proposal and placement on the agenda of the Curriculum Committee in time for its fall 2012 meeting.

Proposed

Concentration in Philosophy

As part of the above College and Liberal Arts requirements, students completing this concentration must take at least 9 credits of courses within Group A representing any combination of philosophy courses (PHI 70-79).

A.A. LIBERAL ARTS
Requirements for Matriculants

TOTAL CREDITS: 60

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

- Successful completion of CUNY/Tests in Reading and Writing and the COMPASS Math Skills Test with passing scores or developmental courses may be required.
- One (1) Writing Intensive course in any discipline from any category below is required. Participation in a Learning Community that includes ENG 1200 also satisfies this requirement.
- Two (2) Civic Engagement interactions-satisfied by CE-Certified or CE-Component courses or approved outside activity. See the KCC catalog General Education: Civic Engagement section.
- HE 01400 Critical Issues in Personal Health 1 credit

CUNY CORE: Where applicable, it is recommended that a maximum of four (4) courses required for the Liberal Arts major also satisfy Required or Flexible Core requirements.

REQUIRED CORE

ENG 1200	3	credits
ENG 2400	3	
❖ Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning	3	
❖ Life and Physical Sciences	3	

FLEXIBLE CORE

No more than two courses in the same discipline. Courses that satisfy each Group A through E are listed in the *Programs and Course Requirements* Section of this catalog. Look at this list for courses that also satisfy the requirements for the Liberal Arts major.

- A. World Cultures and Global Issues
- B. U.S. Experience in its Diversity
- C. Creative Expression
- D. Individual and Society
- ❖ E. Scientific World
- ❖ Plus another course selected from any Group A - E

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

Where applicable, no more than four of the following nine courses may also satisfy a CUNY CORE requirement:

Art, Media and Film Studies, Music or Theatre	3	credits
Speech	3	
Literature	3	
Philosophy	3	
American Politics	3	
American History	3	
World History or Anthropology	3	
Psychology	3	
Sociology	3	

ELECTIVES: From 2 – 14 credits sufficient to total 60 credits for the degree.

- ❖ You may take a math or science course that is 4-credits or more. See STEM variant courses in the *Programs and Course Requirements* section of the KCC catalog.

If pursuing one of the following concentrations, students must consult with the respective program advisor while following the course of study for that concentration.

ENGLISH CONCENTRATION

Majors electing this concentration must take three courses from the following literature and creative writing courses: ENG 3000 – 7800 excluding ENG 05500.

ADD: PHILOSOPHY CONCENTRATION

Majors electing this concentration must take three courses in Philosophy, PHI 7000 – 7900.

WOMEN'S STUDIES CONCENTRATION

As part of the general requirements for the A.A. in Liberal Arts, students completing this concentration take HIS 6600 and at least 9 credits of courses designated as Women's Studies ("F") such as the following: ANT 3900, ART 3900, BIO 2800, ENG 6700, HIS 6800, PSY 3700, SOC 3800, THA 4800 or Women's Studies Sections of MCF 4400, MCM 3000, MUS 3100, PSY 1100 or SOC 3100.

CHILDREN'S STUDIES CONCENTRATION

This Concentration articulates with the B.A. in Children and Youth Studies at Brooklyn College.

Any or all courses completed for this concentration may be applied to satisfy a CUNY Flexible Core requirement:

- One course selected from each;
 - Speech
 - English Literature
 - Philosophy
 - Art, Media and Film Studies, Music or Theatre;
- Two courses selected from the following:
 - Art, Foreign Language, Literature, Media and Film Studies, Music, Speech or Theatre,
- Two courses from History
- SOC 3100
- SOC 3500
- PSY 1100
- PSY 3200 or 2400.
- In addition to CUNY Required Core math and science, select an elective from the following:
 - Mathematics, Computer Science, Biology or Physical Science

GLOBAL & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES OPTION

Students completing this option must fulfill all College, CUNY Required Core, CUNY Flexible Core, and Major requirements.

- a. Global Ethics - PHI 7900
- b. Intercultural Communication - SPE 2600
- c. Modern Architecture and the Environment - ART 9500
- d. American Environmental Literature – ENG 4800
- e. Plus two courses selected from the following:
 - Survey of Art Hist.: From Ancient to Renaissance - ART 3300
 - Survey of Art Hist.: From Renaissance to 19th Century - ART 3400
 - African, Oceanic and Native American Art - ART 3700
 - Renaissance Art - ART 3800
 - Effective Public Speaking - SPE 2100
 - Music of the World's People - MUS 2700
 - World Literature - ENG 3200
 - Philosophy of Religion - PHI 7700
 - Foreign Language Level I (100) *
 - Foreign Language Level II 200) *
- f. Intro to Anthropology (ANT 3700) or Intro to Sociology (SOC 3100)
- g. International Organization (POL 7100)
- h. US History in a Global Perspective II (HIS 1800)
- i. Plus one of the following courses:
 - US History in a Global Perspective - HIS 1700
 - Modern China - HIS 3200
 - Africa: Past and Present - HIS 3300
 - The Middle East: World War I to the Present - HIS 3700
 - The Caribbean: 1942 to the Present - HIS 4200
 - Russian History: 1860 to the Present - HIS 5300
 - Latin American History - HIS 5700
 - Historical Geography - HIS 7000
- j. Plus one of the following courses:
 - Macroeconomics - ECO 1200
 - International Trade: Trading Beyond Borders - ECO 2000
 - Introduction to Anthropology - ANT 3700 (if not taken above)
 - Introduction to Sociology - SOC 3100 (if not taken above)
 - Comparative Government - POL 5200
 - The Politics of Economics: Intro to Political Economy - POL 5700
 - Environmental Politics - POL 5800
- k. Developments in the Physical Sciences & the Environment - SCI 3700
- l. Elements of Statistics - MAT 2000
- m. Plus two of the following courses:
 - People and Environment - BIO 4900
 - Chemistry and Environment - SCI 5100
 - Introduction to Earth Science - EPS 3800 *

- Introduction to Marine Biology - BIO 2500
- Introduction to Modern Concepts of Biology - BIO 3300 *

n. Capstone Course: Global Politics (POL 9300)

* For the Global and Environmental Studies Option, students should take no more than three (3) of the following courses:
 Foreign Language Level I (100); Foreign Language Level II (200);
 Introduction to Earth Science (EPS 3800); Introduction to Modern Concepts of Biology (BIO 3300)

Electives (0-3 credits) sufficient to meet total requirement.....60 credits

BARUCH ZICKLIN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS TRANSFER OPTION

Accounting I (ACC 01100)

Business Law (BA 01200)

Introduction to Information Systems & Technologies (BA 06200)

The following courses for this option also satisfy CUNY Core requirements:

Speech 01100 or 01200 or 02100

Macroeconomics (ECO 01200)

Microeconomics (ECO 01300)

Calculus (MAT 01500)

Statistics (MAT 02200)

Electives (0-3 credits) sufficient to meet total requirement.....60 credits