

**CREDIT-BEARING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM PROPOSAL  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**I. Background Information**

- A. Title of Program: Analytical Reasoning Certificate
- B. Department(s)/Program(s): Philosophy and Religious Studies; Mathematics
- C. Administrative Home: Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
- D. Division:  Undergraduate (Requires approval by APC\*)       Graduate (Requires approval by GC\*\*)
- E. Effective Year and Term for Implementation of Action: Fall 2020

**II. Unit Approvals**

	Signatures	Date
A. Department Chair(s)/Program Director(s)	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"><i>Sean McAlister</i></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"><i>Alex Smith</i></div>	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"><u>Feb 14, 2020</u></div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"><u>FEB 14, 2020</u></div>
B. Dean of College	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"><i>Paul Freely</i></div>	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"><u>2-24-2020</u></div>
C. Chair, Academic Policies Committee	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>
D. Chair, Graduate Council	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div>

**III. Certificate program proposals should originate at the department/program level; all affected departments/programs must endorse proposals. Each proposal will include the following:**

**A. Context for the certificate program (any predecessor programs, relationship to existing programs, alignment with university mission);**

The Philosophy department currently has three programs: a major, a minor, and a certificate focusing on Ethics. We are proposing a second certificate program in analytical reasoning. The program would fill a gap for students who want to participate in philosophy for the sake of honing their analytic reasoning skills, while at the same time not focusing on ethics, or committing the number of classes required of a major or minor. Furthermore, the goal of improving analytic reasoning skills is one that is stated in the Philosophy program outcomes. It also promotes the University's mission to promote "critical insight" and the Liberal Education learning outcome of S2 for statistical and formal reasoning. Logical and analytical reasoning is also a skill sought by most employers.

**B. Rationale explaining need for the program (e.g., target audience(s), evidence of long-term need, anticipated enrollment);**

This certificate is for students who do not wish to minor in Philosophy but want to build analytical skills they may need for graduate school, law school, or in their career. For example, a student with a Pre-Law emphasis may want to bolster their reasoning skills prior to taking the LSAT. This certificate will require students to take a logic component and be able to learn additional less formal reasoning skills in other philosophy and approved courses.

**C. Statement of benefits to students, the department(s)/program(s), college(s), and university;**

As students turn to certificates as a possible second program to their major, this certificate will help promote skills that could be useful in addition to that major, without the need to commit to a minor.

**D. Description of the academic component including:**

**i. Learning goals and outcomes for students;**

In focusing on analytical reasoning, students will engage in the learning of logic and/or quantitative analysis; be able analyze difficult problems encountered in the history of philosophy; be able to analyze ethical, social, and cultural problems today in a variety of areas such as the environment, feminist ideas, problems of knowledge and freedom, foundations of science, art and creative analysis, friendship, or forgiveness; and be able to approach a variety of issues with objectivity and open-mindedness.

**ii. Specification of any program admission requirements, minimum GPA requirements for courses, GPA requirements for certificate completion above the university minimum, applicability of the S/U option;**

No additional requirements.

- iii. Course array, including specification of new, required and elective courses. If electives are allowed within the certificate program, an explanation of the proposed electives in light of the need for program cohesion should be included.**

A minimum of 15 credits is required.

At least one of the following is required, though two may be taken (no more than 6 credits from this category): Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking (PHIL 150); Symbolic Logic (PHIL 250); or Elementary Statistics (MATH 246)

Remaining credits to be filled by PHIL courses, with at least six credits at the 300-level or above.

With advisor approval the following may be applied toward the completion of the certificate:

- up to 3 credits from Independent Study or Directed Studies courses
- additional relevant courses

NOTE: Courses applied to the certificate cannot be applied to the student's major. Students cannot pursue the Philosophy Major and Analytical Reasoning Certificate to meet graduation requirements for completing a first and second degree program.

**E. Description of the administration, staffing, and budgeting for the program, including:**

- i. Faculty/staff participating in the certificate program;**

As of the writing of the proposal, the relevant faculty include: M. Meyer (PHIL), S. McAleer (PHIL), K. Schaupp (PHIL), as well as Mathematics faculty and academic staff who teach MATH 246.

- ii. Proposed frequency of offering for courses included in the certificate program;**

A variety of courses that help in the completion of the certificate will be offered every semester. The core course(s), PHIL 150 or PHIL 250, will be offered at least once annually, and MATH 246 has multiple sections every semester.

- iii. Proposed arrangements for ongoing advising for students in the certificate program;**

Philosophy faculty will advise the certificate advisees.

- iv. Anticipated need for student support services for students enrolled in the certificate program;**

We do not anticipate the need for any new services.

**v. Identification of an administrative home for certificate programs involving more than one academic department/program;**

The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies will be the administrative home.

**vi. Funding needs to initiate and maintain the certificate program, including source(s) of funding and any needed resource reallocation;**

There is no need for new courses, and therefore there is no additional allocation needed.

**vii. Impact on existing courses and programs.**

There will be no impact on existing courses as the certificate should only strengthen and not lessen enrollment in existing courses. We may see more students drawn to Philosophy due to their interest in analytical reasoning and ability to complete the program with fewer credits than a minor.