Minor in Philosophy
Focusing on Philosophy of Science

Are you interested in science? Many foundational questions about how science works are addressed in philosophy. Such questions include: Do the entities posited by our best scientific theories really exist? Must they, in order for those theories to be good theories? What constitutes an explanation in science? How are the various sciences—say physics and chemistry or biology—related to each other? Are there genuine revolutions in science? What values do and should guide scientific inquiry? Where does physics end and metaphysics begin?

Many specific sciences also present particular conceptual issues that need to and can be addressed in courses on philosophy of biology, philosophy of cognitive science, and philosophy of physics.

A philosophy minor can broaden and deepen your own scientific study. The requirements are simple: at least 12 credit hours in philosophy courses numbered 2000 or above. At least 3 of those hours must be in philosophy courses numbered 3000 or above, and at least 3 of those hours must be in philosophy courses numbered 3300 or above. Philosophy 2367 does not count towards your minor Program, although it may be used for GE purposes.

Relevant courses include:

- Philosophy 2500: Symbolic Logic
- Philosophy 2660: Metaphysics, Religion, and Magic in the Scientific Revolution
- Philosophy 3650: Philosophy of Science
- Philosophy 3680: Sex and Death: Introduction to the Philosophy of Biology
- Philosophy 5830: Philosophy of Cognitive Science
- Philosophy 5650: Advanced Philosophy of Science

There are many combinations of courses possible, including courses not on this list, and a minor can be tailored to your specific interests.