



UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**

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## University Council

August 20, 2021

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the AP Council to award credit for PHIL 2010, Introduction to Philosophy, for an SL score of 6-7 or HL score of 5-7 on the International Baccalaureate (IB) exam in Philosophy will be an agenda item for the August 27, 2021, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu  
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav



# The University of Georgia

College of Arts and Sciences  
Philosophy Department

February 18, 2020

The Department of Philosophy requests that credit for Philosophy 2010 (Introduction to Philosophy) be awarded for IB SL Philosophy scores of 6-7 or HL scores of 5-7.

**Rationale:** Our proposal is in response to UGA SGA Resolution 31-5 which makes a convincing case that the University should look to award credit for a greater variety of IB courses. We have reviewed both the SL and HL Diploma Programme Subject Briefs and they correspond well to what we teach in PHIL 2010. This will put us in line with what peers (USG and non-USG) do. Our proposed standards (of 6 or better on SL and 5 or better on HL) are higher than those proposed in the SGA resolution but they correspond to those of many of our peers and aspirational peers (e.g., Penn State awards transfer credit for exams taken at the HL and graded 5 or above). As USG's flagship institution, we believe it is legitimate to have especially high standards.

**Content Comparison:** Phil 2010 is a traditional general introduction to philosophy which is described in the UGA Bulletin as 'A critical exploration of such topics as knowledge and belief, God and the problem of evil, freedom and determinism, the right and the good, language and meaning, mind and body, appearance and reality, and man and the world.' The IB Philosophy description of the core 'Being human' theme addresses relevant topics (e.g., identity, freedom, human nature, the possibility that animals and machines could count as persons) and the additional subject areas (e.g., epistemology, ethics, philosophy of religion) correspond closely to the PHIL 2010 description. (See <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/curriculum/individuals-and-societies/philosophy/>)

**Peer Comparison:** Within USG, GSU offers credit according to the following (see <https://advisement.gsu.edu/freshmen/freshmen-credits/ib-credits/>):

SL 5 = Phil 2010; SL 6-7 = Phil 2010, 2050; HL 4 = Phil 2010; HL 5 = Phil 2010, 2050;

HL 6-7 = Phil 2010, 2050, and a 3000-level course to be determined by the Department

UNG offers credit according to the following (see <https://ung.edu/academic-affairs/policies-and-guidelines/ib-test-credits.php>):

SL 6-7 or HL 5-7 = PHIL 2010

In addition, comparator peers (per OIR) such as Missouri, Ohio State NC State and Stony Brook as well as aspirational peer institutions (per OIR) including Michigan, Penn State,

UC-Berkley, UCLA, Virginia, and Wisconsin all award credit for the IB Philosophy. (See SGA Resolution 31-5.)

**Student Impact:** The change would affect approximately eight to ten students per year. (In AY 2018-19, 8 full-time matriculated freshmen received an HL score of 5 or better and 0 students received a SL score of 6 or better. For AY 2019, 3 received 5 or better on the HL and 5 received 6 or better on the SL.) The course is not required for the major in Philosophy, but it is one of four classes that meets a requirement in Area VI of the degree program.

**Student Progression and Graduation:** The proposal would have a positive impact on student progression and graduation. In particular, it would make it slightly easier for students to enroll in other minors, majors or dual degree programs.

**Resources Needed:** None

Please contact me if you need any more information.

Sincerely

*Aaron Meskin*

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## IB Scores Accepted by 2020 UGA Peer and Aspirational Schools

### Aspirational

Institution	HL	SL
Pennsylvania State University	5 or higher	No credit
The University of Texas at Austin	4 or higher	4 or higher
University of California - Berkeley	5 or higher	No credit
University of California - Los Angeles	5 or higher	No credit
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	6 or higher	7 or higher
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	5 or higher	No credit
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	N/A	N/A
University of Virginia - Main Campus	5 or higher	No credit
University of Wisconsin - Madison	4 or higher	No credit

### Peer

Indiana University - Bloomington	5 or higher	No credit
Iowa State University	5 or higher	5 or higher
Michigan State University	5 or higher	No credit
North Carolina State University at Raleigh	5 or higher	No credit
Ohio State University - Main Campus	4 or higher	No credit
Purdue University - Main Campus	5 or higher	5 or higher
Stony Brook University	5 or higher	No credit
University of Arizona	N/A	N/A
University of California - Davis	5 or higher	5 or higher
University of Florida	4 or higher	4 or higher
University of Iowa	5 or higher	5 or higher
University of Kentucky	5 or higher	5 or higher
University of Maryland -College Park	6 or higher	No credit
University of Missouri - Columbia	6 or higher	5 or higher
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	4 or higher	No credit

### USG schools

Georgia Tech	N/A	N/A
Kennesaw State University	4 or higher	4 or higher
Georgia State University	4 or higher	5 or higher