

# Philosophy

## Introduction

Philosophy seeks wisdom through persistent and relentless examination of life in all its aspects. It prods the individual to become more articulate and reflective about the fundamental principles underlying the understanding of nature, ourselves, and others, thereby enabling the construction of a more refined grasp of the world. Philosophy requires the mastering of the skills of reasoning, interpretation, and expression. Consequently, the rewards of philosophical training can be found where one might least expect them—in the worlds of business and the professions.

Students who continue the study of philosophy are usually interested in pursuing one of several options: graduate study in philosophy for a career in teaching, interdisciplinary programs related to philosophy or a general background of humanistic education. Careers in law, the ministry or mathematics can be approached through the social, moral or theoretical foundations that philosophy courses investigate. Students interested in a broad understanding of their own culture and its problems are free to explore relevant issues in a variety of courses focusing on the philosophical aspects of moral problems, literature, art, technology, human values, and religious and personal growth. Basically, any career that demands training in critical and abstract thinking could be enriched by a background in philosophy.

[Guilford Catalog Information](#)

## Career Titles for Philosophy Majors

Administrative Assistant  
Announcer  
Arts Consultant  
Assistant Buyer  
Associate Pastor  
Author  
Business Administrator  
Claims Adjuster  
Clergy Member  
Columnist  
Consultant  
Counselor  
Credit Analyst  
Critic  
Customer Service Representative  
Diplomat  
Editorial Assistant  
Employment Interviewer  
Financial Consultant  
Fundraiser  
Guidance Counselor  
Hospital Administrator  
Insurance Underwriter  
Journalist  
Lawyer

Lobbyist  
Management Trainee  
Marketing Research Analyst  
News writer  
Minister  
Paralegal  
Producer/Director  
Professor  
Public Policy Manager  
Public Relations Representative  
Public Service Official  
Rabbi  
Sales Representative  
Social Worker  
Systems Analyst  
Technical Writer  
Publisher  
Archivist  
Artificial Intelligence Developer  
Educator  
Insurance Broker  
Research Assistant  
VISTA Volunteer  
Peace Corps Volunteer

## Related Major Skills

- Problem solving
- Communicating in a logical manner
- Debating skills
- Theory development
- Open-mindedness
- Objectivity
- Oratory skills
- Deductive reasoning

- Interest in pursuing, exploring, and explaining intangible ideas
- Self-discipline
- Curiosity
- Formulate and defend positions
- Conduct and explain research
- Broad background of knowledge
- Speak articulately and listen objectively
- Proficiency in analytical and synthetic reasoning
- Logical thinking and self-expression
- Persuasiveness
- Analyzing relationships between factors
- Supports beliefs with facts and valid reasoning
- Ability to identify and answer key questions

## Related Web Sites

### Job Listings/Job Search

Philosophy Jobs <http://www.epistemelinks.com/Main/MainJob.asp>  
 Philosophical Services <http://philosophical-services.com/>  
 Action without Borders (Nonprofit Jobs) <http://www.idealists.org/>  
 MonsterTrak <http://www.monstertrak.com/>

### Career Planning and Information

Career Handbook for Philosophy Majors <http://www.phil.ufl.edu/ugrad/ugcrhbk.html>  
 Working Your Degree: Philosophy [http://money.cnn.com/2000/10/13/career/q\\_degreephilosophy/](http://money.cnn.com/2000/10/13/career/q_degreephilosophy/)  
 Philosophy: A Brief Guide for Undergraduates <http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/publications/texts/briefgd.html>  
 What Do Philosophy Majors Do After They Graduate? <http://www.d.umn.edu/~phil/philgrad.html>  
 Philosophy Careers <http://www.philosophy.ilstu.edu/main/students/careers.html>  
 Careers and Philosophy <http://www.fordham.edu/philosophy/undergraduate/careers.htm>  
 Majors and Careers—Philosophy <http://web.grinnell.edu/careerdevelopment/makingchoices/philosophy.html>  
 Career Opportunities for Majors in Philosophy <http://careerservices.rutgers.edu/Mphilosophy.html>  
 University of Richmond Pre-Law Handbook <http://www.richmond.edu/academics/a&s/polisci/prelaw/>  
 Careers in Philosophy  
[http://www.oswego.edu/other\\_campus/student.svcs/career\\_svcs/resources/career\\_booklets/bookletphilosophy.html](http://www.oswego.edu/other_campus/student.svcs/career_svcs/resources/career_booklets/bookletphilosophy.html)

### Associations and Organizations

American Philosophy Association <http://www.udel.edu/apa>  
 Society for Women in Philosophy <http://www.uh.edu/~cfreelan/SWIP/>  
 American Academy of Religion <http://www.aar-site.org/>

### Miscellaneous Resources

Philosophy Resources on the World Wide Web <http://library.austin.cc.tx.us/research/w3/humanities/PHL/phl.htm>  
 The Window—Philosophy on the Web [http://caribou.cc.trincoll.edu/depts\\_phil/philo/](http://caribou.cc.trincoll.edu/depts_phil/philo/)  
 Wadsworth Philosophy Shoppe [http://www.wadsworth.com/philosophy\\_d/](http://www.wadsworth.com/philosophy_d/)  
 Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy <http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/>