



THE CAREER
CENTER

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"Helping Pirates Achieve Success"

Philosophy

What if I major in...

General Information

Philosophy is the "investigation of nature, causes, or principles of reality, knowledge, or values, based on logical reasoning rather than empirical methods." (American Heritage Dictionary) Students who major in philosophy will draw upon a rich history of philosophical theory to answer fundamental questions about ethics, right and wrong, and society. Philosophy enables students to develop analytical reasoning habits, self-expression, the fair exchange and debate of ideas, problem solving, and effective communication skills.



Skills Associated with this Major

- Ability to trace problems
- Analyzing community needs
- Analyzing manpower requirements
- Anticipating problems
- Clarifying problems
- Curiosity
- Decision making
- Deductive reasoning
- Generating ideas with commercial possibilities
- Good judgment
- Oratory skills
- Organizing/classifying
- Organizing principles
- Recognizing elements, relationships and structures
- Screening
- Problem solving
- Spatial memory
- Theory development

Typical Work Activities

- Analyzing data
- Collecting data
- Conducting research
- Developing theories
- Organizing data
- Presenting research
- Working independently

Sample Occupations

- Administrative Official
- Anthropological Linguist
- Archivist
- Author
- Biographer
- Cataloger
- Clergy
- Collaborator
- Columnist/Commentator
- Counselor
- Cryptanalyst
- Editor, Publications
- Essayist
- Foreign Correspondent
- Foreign Service Officer
- Institutional Researcher
- Intelligence Specialist
- Lawyer
- Marketing Research Analyst
- Poet
- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Public Relations Representative
- Teacher, College/University
- Teacher, Secondary School
- Technical Writer
- Training Instructor

Sample Occupational Settings

- Adult Education Programs
- Advertising Agencies/Departments
- Archives, Federal
- Archives, Municipal
- Archives, State
- Bookstores
- Business Corporations
- Churches
- Civil Rights Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Colleges/Universities
- Consulting Services
- Education Department
- Industries/Manufacturing
- Insurance Companies
- Learned Periodicals
- Libraries
- Library of Congress
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Non-profit Foundations
- Public Interest Research Groups
- Public Relations Firms
- Religious Organizations
- Social Services Agencies
- Political Organizations
- Professional/Trade Associations
- Publishing Agencies
- Travel Agencies

Web Sites

Career Planning Links

ECU Philosophy Department

<http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/departments/philosophy.cfm>

American Philosophical Association- The Uses of Philosophy in Non- Academic Careers

<http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/publications/texts/briefgd.html#NON-ACADEMIC>

American Philosophical Association– Philosophy as a Profession

<http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/profession/data.html>

The Window - Philosophy on the Internet

<http://www.trincoll.edu/depts/phil/philo>

Job / Internships

Idealist - The Non-Profit Career Center

<http://www.idealist.org/career.html>

Philosophy - Jobs in America

<http://www.sozialwiss.uni-hamburg.de/cgi-bin/jobspm.pl?sprache=english&category=Amerika>

Philosophy Now...Jobs in Philosophy

<http://www.epistemelinks.com/Main/MainJob.asp>

Professional Associations

American Philosophical Association

<http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/index.html>

SWIP: The Society for Women in Philosophy

<http://www.uh.edu/~cfreelan/SWIP>



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