

What can I do with a degree in... Philosophy?

The Department of **Philosophy** offers a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy. Philosophy majors may pursue one of three tracks for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy: a General Track, a Graduate Preparation Track, and a Career/Professional Track. The critical aspect of philosophy involves posing difficult and probing questions about various truth claims. The constructive aspect of philosophy involves developing an accurate and productive picture of reality. In the end, the hope of philosophy is to understand ourselves, our world, our values, and the entirety of existence around us. The Department of Philosophy Website: <http://philosophy.okstate.edu/>

Philosophy majors develop the following skills:

While a degree in philosophy is not generally thought of as a vocational qualification, it provides excellent training for a wide variety of careers. Philosophy majors can generate ideas on many different sorts of problems and solve them. They can elicit hidden assumptions and articulate overlooked alternatives. They can persuade people to take unfamiliar views or novel options seriously. They can summarize complicated materials without undue simplification. They can formulate and defend policies on a wide range of important issues in business, education, social legislation, and other areas. They can integrate diverse data and construct useful analogies. They can distinguish subtle differences without overlooking similarities.

Analytical Thinking: Analyzing and critically evaluating argumentative discourse.

Clarity of Expression: The ability to express thoughts clearly. Ensure sentences are clear, understandable, and grammatically correct.

Depending on your desired career path, additional skills may need to be developed to be competitive in the marketplace upon graduation. Make an appointment with a career consultant to design your individual career development plan.

College of Arts & Sciences Career Success E-Guide

Provided to all new, incoming students as an introduction to career planning process
If you don't have an E-Guide...Get one!!!
Visit the A&S Career Services Office

Questions?

College of Arts & Sciences Career Services
Student Success Center, LSE 2nd Floor
Stillwater, OK 74078-3016
Visit the A&S website to make an appointment to see a Career Consultant @
<http://ascareers.okstate.edu>

Build Skills Beyond the Classroom:

- Join related clubs, professional associations, & organizations
- Athletics/Sports
- Military
- Part-time Employment (Summer/Work Study)
- Internships/Job Shadowing
- Travel/Work Abroad
- Volunteer/Community Service

Job & Internship Web Sites

- **Jobs in Philosophy**
<http://www.sozialwiss.uni-hamburg.de/phil/ag/jobs/>
- **Society for Women in Philosophy**
<http://www.uh.edu/~cfreelan/SWIP/>
- **Federal Jobs**
www.usajobs.opm.gov
- **America's Job Bank**
www.ajb.org
- **Chronicle of Higher Education**
<http://chronicle.com/jobs/>
- **Jobweb**
www.jobweb.com
- **Oklahoma Employment Security Commission**
https://servicelink.oesc.state.ok.us/ada/mn_quicksearch_dsp.cfm
- **American Philosophical Association**
<http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/index.html>
- **Academic Position Network**
<http://www.apnjobs.com/>
- **Carl Albert Public Internship Program**
http://www.ok.gov/opm/State_Jobs/Carl_Albert_Public_Internship_Program.html
- **Northwestern Mutual Financial Network**
<http://www.nmfn.com/tn/careers--intern0--int>
- **Washington Internship Institute**
<http://ielnet.org/index.shtml>
- **Guide to Philosophy on the Internet**
<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/philinks.htm#jobs>
- **Cato Institute**
<http://www.cato.org/jobs/jobops.html>
- **Ephilosopher**
<http://www.ephilosopher.com/index.php>
- **Idealist - The Non-Profit Career Center**
<http://www.idealist.org/career.html>
- **Non-Profit Employers**
<http://www.salisbury.edu/careerservices/Students/NonProfitEmployers.html>

Sample Careers for Philosophy Majors

Business

There are many capacities very important in business (i.e. the ability to communication, to find and organize information, and to solve problems) which a good philosophical education develops.

Career Options

Management	Sales
Consulting	Public Relations
Fundraising	Accounting
Systems Analysis	Advertising
Labor Relations	Actuary Work
Lobbying Organization	

Potential Employers

Non-Profit	Government
Business	Law

Education

Many philosophy majors pursue advanced degrees and find that their philosophy skills serve them well in the educational field.

Career Options

Secondary Teacher	Financial Aid Staff
Art Educator/Historian	Research Assistant
Administrative Staff	Teaching Assistant
College Professor	Library Scientist
Alumni Affairs Coordinator	Computer Scientist

Potential Employers

College/Universities
K-12 Schools
Public/Private Schools

Radio/Television/Film/Journalism

Philosophy majors are particularly able to clarify content without changing meanings and to distinguish what is central from what is not.

Career Options

Freelance Writer	Publisher
Publications Researcher	Editor
Radio/Television Researcher	
Film Researcher/Copywriter	

Potential Employers

University/Commercial Presses
Book/Magazine Publishers
Radio/Film/Television Industry

Non-Profit

Philosophy majors find jobs serving causes they cherish.

Career Options

Religious Groups
Civic Groups
Private Interest Groups

Potential Employers

Non-Profit Organizations
Lobbyists
Government

Government

There are now philosophy majors in all areas of government

Career Options

Foreign Service	Affirmative Action
Legislative Aide	Federal Agencies
United Nations	Congressional Positions
Policy Analysis	State/Local Government
Intelligence Work	

Potential Employers

Government Agencies

Law

The law is not only a career that interests many philosophy majors; it is also a field for which philosophical training is generally excellent preparation.

Career Options

Lawyer	Police Officer
Legal Researcher	Paralegal
Prison Administrator	Human Rights Advocate

Potential Employers

Law Firm	Non-Profit Organizations
Government	Corporations

Medicine

Philosophy majors are now doing a wide range of jobs related to medicine where they both help to formulate policy and to counsel patients and families

Career Options

Doctors
Bioethics Specialist
Hospital Administrators
Hospice Workers
Neonatal Nursery Workers
Intensive Care Unit Staff

Potential Employers

Hospitals
Nursing Care Centers
Adult Care Centers
Hospice Centers
Senior Living Facilities

For further research on career & employment options, utilize your preferred internet search engine. The following websites are a great place to begin your research:

www.monstertrak.com www.mymajor.com
www.quintcareers.com www.monster.com
www.careerbuilder.com www.bls.gov/oco