# PHILOSOPHY

## What can I do with this major?

### AREAS

#### SOCIAL/COMMUNITY SERVICES
- Research
- Fund Raising
- Counseling
- Volunteer Coordination
- Grant Writing
- Administration

#### RELIGION/MINISTRY
- Clergy
- Administration
- Missions

#### EDUCATION
- Teaching
- Research
- Administration
- Student Affairs

### EMPLOYERS

**SOCIAL/COMMUNITY SERVICES**
- Nonprofit organizations
- Social service organizations
- Public interest research groups
- Museums
- Mental health agencies

**RELIGION/MINISTRY**
- Local churches or synagogues
- District, regional, national, and world denominational headquarters
- Religiously affiliated schools, colleges, and universities
- Local, national, and international mission fields
- Religious organizations

**EDUCATION**
- Colleges and universities
- Adult education programs
- Vocational-technical educational programs
- Professional or graduate schools including medical

### STRATEGIES

**SOCIAL/COMMUNITY SERVICES**
- Develop excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Gain related work experience.
- Volunteer in relevant organizations.
- Obtain master's degree in social work or counseling as well as applicable state licensure for therapy positions.
- Become familiar with grant writing techniques.

**RELIGION/MINISTRY**
- Obtain appropriate seminary training for clergy positions.
- Become certified through a denomination for specialized staff positions.
- Gain related experience through volunteering with local churches or religious organizations.
- Develop applicable foreign language skills for international mission work.
- Seek leadership positions in campus religious organizations.
- Complete an internship or summer position with a religious camp or missionary organization.

**EDUCATION**
- Obtain a doctorate degree for opportunities in teaching and/or research.
- Develop one or more concentrations, such as mathematics, medical or business ethics, science, or religion.
- Gain related experience through internships, volunteering, or part-time employment.
- Earn a master's degree in a specialized area (e.g., Library and Information Sciences, College Student Personnel, or Counseling).
- Seek campus leadership positions such as peer mentor or resident assistant.
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<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOVERNMENT</strong></td>
<td>Federal, state, and local government</td>
<td>Become familiar with federal, state, and local job application processes.</td>
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<td>Public Policy</td>
<td>Commission on Civil Rights</td>
<td>Supplement curriculum with courses in political science, public administration, or business.</td>
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<td>Research</td>
<td>Consumer Product Safety Commission</td>
<td>Complete an internship in government or related area.</td>
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<td>City Management</td>
<td>Federal Communications Commission</td>
<td>Become involved in student government.</td>
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<td>Intelligence</td>
<td>Foreign Service</td>
<td>Participate in cultural groups and organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Service</td>
<td>Federal Municipal Archives</td>
<td>Write for campus publications focused on national and international affairs.</td>
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<td>Law Enforcement</td>
<td>National and State Endowments for the Humanities</td>
<td>Develop skills in computers, statistics, and data analysis.</td>
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<td>Legislative, Executive, or Judicial Services</td>
<td>Legislative, executive, or judicial officials</td>
<td>Acquire foreign language competency and travel experience for international positions.</td>
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<td>Program Administration</td>
<td>Political action committees</td>
<td>Earn a graduate degree in political science or public administration for advancement.</td>
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<td>Elected or Appointed Leadership</td>
<td>Special interest groups</td>
<td>Volunteer with the staff of a government official.</td>
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<td>Campaign Management</td>
<td>Political parties</td>
<td>Participate in local or national campaigns.</td>
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<td>Staff Administration</td>
<td>Campaigns (national, state, or local)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Interest Advocacy</td>
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| **ETHICS** | Hospitals | Obtain Ph.D. for most positions. |
| Medical | Medical and professional schools | Participate in related professional organizations. |
| Environmental Research | Colleges and universities | Join debate groups. |
| Consulting services | Research organizations | Develop excellent research skills. |
| Colleges and universities | Health science funding agencies | Hone verbal and written communication skills. |
| Universities | |

| **LAW** | Law firms | Obtain law degree. |
| Corps | Corporations | Develop excellent research and writing skills. |
| Federal, state, and local government | | Participate in debate or mock trial. |
| Private practice | | Maintain a high grade point average. |
| Special interest groups | | Gain experience through part-time employment or internships in legal settings. |
| Universities | | |
### Areas

**Writing**
- Editing
- Technical Writing
- Journalism
- Advertising
- Public Relations

**Employers**
- Publishing companies
- Magazine and newspaper companies
- Professional and trade associations
- Advertising agencies and departments
- Electronic media organizations

**Strategies**
- Serve on college newspaper staff.
- Develop excellent writing and desktop publishing skills.
- Take courses in journalism, advertising, public relations, or English.
- Gain related experience.
- Become a student member of a related professional group.

**Business**
- Management
- Sales
- Human Resources
- Market Research
- Finance
- Insurance

**Employers**
- Business firms
- Insurance companies
- Banks
- Retail stores
- Marketing research departments or organizations
- Real estate companies

**Strategies**
- Minor in business.
- Gain related experience through internships or part-time jobs.
- Obtain leadership role(s) in campus organization(s).
- Develop computer skills in word processing, database management, and spreadsheet programs.

### General Information

- Philosophy students develop many transferable skills that can be utilized in a variety of careers and jobs, demonstrating the flexibility and capacity for growth that employers find valuable. These skills include analytical, organizational, research, as well as oral and written communication skills.
- Other related skills that are attractive to employers are idea generation, problem formulation and problem solving, diverse data integration, adaptation to change, the ability to elicit hidden assumptions, persuasion, and summarization of complicated material.
- An undergraduate degree qualifies one for entry-level positions in business, nonprofit organizations, and government.
- Graduate and/or professional studies usually lead to careers in law, medicine, ministry, finance, psychology, counseling, diplomacy, ethics, and related areas.
- Ph.D. is required for college/university teaching and research.
- Concentrations with other areas can include mathematics, religion, science, history, women's studies, Eastern philosophy, and medical or business ethics.
- Develop aptitudes for analytical thinking, logic, and statistics in order to apply philosophy to a broad range of professions such as law, government, finance, management, consulting, and related areas.
- Join related student or professional organizations.
- Seek related summer or part-time work experience or internships in area(s) of interest.
- Take computer courses to increase employment opportunities.
**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**
- American Philosophical Association
- American Society for Bioethics and Humanities
- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics
- Society for Business Ethics
- American Philosophical Practitioners Association
- Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory
- American Bar Association

**OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK INFORMATION**
- Lawyers
- Teachers-Postsecondary

**MISCELLANEOUS CAREER INFORMATION**
- Philosophy and Religion Teachers, Postsecondary from ONET
- The Philosophical Gourmet Report
- Guide to College Majors in Philosophy
- *Law School Admission Council
- *Preparing for Law School
- *Law Students Center

**JOB POSTINGS**
- Idealist
* Recommended Sites