# PHILOSOPHY

## What can I do with this major?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
<td>Obtain a doctorate degree to teach at colleges and universities. Maintain a high GPA and secure strong faculty recommendations to prepare for graduate school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Professional or graduate schools, including medical</td>
<td>Develop one or more concentration(s), such as mathematics, medical or business ethics, science, or religion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Adult education programs</td>
<td>Become an effective writer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Vocational-technical educational programs</td>
<td>Earn a master's degree in a specialized area e.g., College Student Personnel, Higher Education Administration, or Library and Information Sciences to work in other roles at post-secondary institutions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Affairs, e.g. Student Activities, Leadership Development, Admissions, Orientation, Career Services, Residence Life, Multi-cultural Affairs, Study Abroad, International Student Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seek campus leadership positions such as peer mentor, orientation leader, or resident assistant.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Affairs, e.g. Academic Support Services, Advising, Educational Advancement Programs, Honors Programs</td>
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<td>Build strong interpersonal skills.</td>
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<td>Library Sciences</td>
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## EDUIDCATON

### Teaching
- Hospitals
- Medical and professional schools
- Colleges and universities
- Bioethic centers
- Research institutes
- Medical organizations, e.g. American Medical Association
- Health science funding agencies
- Environmental agencies
- Law firms specializing in health or bioethics
- Consulting services

### Research
- Plan to obtain a doctorate in philosophy for academic research and teaching positions. Some hospitals and healthcare organizations prefer to hire individuals who also have a clinical background in nursing or medicine. Another potential educational path is to earn a law degree.
- Complete an internship in a relevant setting while in graduate school to gain experience.
- Participate in professional organizations in ethics.
- Develop excellent research skills as well as verbal and written communication skills.
- Demonstrate a passion for ethical issues.
- Investigate interdisciplinary degrees in bioethics offered at some universities.

### Medical/Clinical
- Hospitols
- Medical and professional schools
- Colleges and universities
- Bioethic centers
- Research institutes
- Medical organizations, e.g. American Medical Association
- Health science funding agencies
- Environmental agencies
- Law firms specializing in health or bioethics
- Consulting services

### Bioethics
- Hospitols
- Medical and professional schools
- Colleges and universities
- Bioethic centers
- Research institutes
- Medical organizations, e.g. American Medical Association
- Health science funding agencies
- Environmental agencies
- Law firms specializing in health or bioethics
- Consulting services

### Environmental
- Hospitols
- Medical and professional schools
- Colleges and universities
- Bioethic centers
- Research institutes
- Medical organizations, e.g. American Medical Association
- Health science funding agencies
- Environmental agencies
- Law firms specializing in health or bioethics
- Consulting services

### Law-Related
- Hospitols
- Medical and professional schools
- Colleges and universities
- Bioethic centers
- Research institutes
- Medical organizations, e.g. American Medical Association
- Health science funding agencies
- Environmental agencies
- Law firms specializing in health or bioethics
- Consulting services
### Law

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See also What Can I Do With This Major in Law?</td>
<td>Law firms</td>
<td>Plan on attending law school or a paralegal training school/program depending on area of interest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prosecution</td>
<td>Federal, state, and local government</td>
<td>Develop strong research skills and attention to detail.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>Private practice</td>
<td>Participate in debate or forensic team to hone communication skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contractual</td>
<td>Corporations</td>
<td>Choose courses or a minor to specialize in a particular area of law, e.g. a minor in business for a career in corporate law.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>Special interest groups</td>
<td>Gain experience and build skills through part-time or summer work in a law firm or an organization related to your particular interests.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofit or Public Interest</td>
<td>Universities and colleges</td>
<td>Shadow an attorney to learn more about the field and various specialties.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Legal aid societies</td>
<td>Get involved in pre-law and mock trial organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mediation</td>
<td>Nonprofit and public interest organizations, e.g. ACLU, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Legal Services Corporation</td>
<td>Volunteer with a public advocacy group.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Specialties</td>
<td>Legal clinics</td>
<td>Seek experience with mediation and conflict resolution.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Assistance</td>
<td>Other private legal services</td>
<td>Maintain a high GPA and secure strong faculty recommendations. Prepare for the LSAT (Law School Admission Test).</td>
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### Business

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<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Product and service organizations</td>
<td>Earn a minor in business.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Retail stores</td>
<td>Develop excellent communication skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Administration</td>
<td>Hotels</td>
<td>Gain experience in an area of interest through internships or other employment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>Restaurants</td>
<td>Obtain leadership roles in campus or community organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training and Development</td>
<td>Wholesalers</td>
<td>Demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills and a high energy level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing/Editing</td>
<td>Manufacturers</td>
<td>Learn to use various technologies and software packages such as databases, spreadsheets and presentations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Underwriting and Claims Management</td>
<td>Banks and financial institutions</td>
<td>Be prepared to start in entry level positions, such as management trainee programs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Insurance companies</td>
<td>Consider earning an MBA to advance into higher levels of business management.</td>
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<td>Real estate agencies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Consulting firms</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other business corporations</td>
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| **RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED AREAS**<br>Clergy and Other Religious Leaders Including:<br>   Buddhist, Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, Islamic, Hindu, Greek Orthodox<br>Vocation as Monk or Nun<br>Chaplaincy:<br>   Military<br>   Institutional<br>Mission Work:<br>   Church Development<br>   Community or Agricultural Development<br>   Educational<br>   Medical<br>   Metropolitan<br>   Evangelism<br>Local Ministries Including:<br>   Youth Ministries<br>   Adult Ministries<br>   Leisure Ministries<br>   Counseling/Recovery<br>   Religious Education<br>   Day Care, Children and Adult<br>   Food Bank/Emergency Ministries<br>   Family Life Center Management<br>   Music-Oriented Ministries<br>   Religious Camp Administration<br>Local churches, synagogues, mosques<br>Religious organizations<br>Religious communities, e.g. convents and monasteries<br>Religious retreat centers, Christian and Buddhist<br>Denominational boards and agencies<br>Monasteries<br>All branches of military service<br>Hospitals, hospices<br>Homes for children, youth, senior citizens<br>Correctional institutions<br>Police and fire departments<br>Missions boards<br>Local churches<br>Evangelical organizations e.g. Billy Graham Evangelistic Association<br>Religious-based camps and youth programs<br>Obtain general knowledge of practices, procedures, guidelines and doctrine of one’s faith.<br>Possess understanding of human spiritual and social needs.<br>Research requirements to enter leadership in the faith you want to pursue. Master of Divinity and denominational ordination are required for most clergy positions, for example.<br>Possess high moral and ethical standards.<br>Develop leadership ability and self discipline.<br>Obtain excellent written and verbal communication skills.<br>To become a chaplain, obtain ordination and two years’ service in local church or after acceptance into branch of military service, attend chaplaincy school.<br>Obtain any needed advanced degrees, certification or licensing in area of interest for missions.<br>Seek related experience by participating with missions groups.<br>Obtain travel and cultural experience with group of interest. Foreign language skills are a plus.<br>Develop fund raising skills and contacts.<br>People interested in religious vs. secular work possess deep faith, want more than filling one’s own personal needs and desire to make a difference.<br>May be more opportunities for specific ministries in urban areas and large religious institutions.<br>Obtain experience and contacts through extensive involvement in campus organizations or local religious institutions. Leadership on the local, state and regional level is crucial.<br>Seek camp experience to improve organization and counseling skills as well as network within the denominational/organizational structure.<br>Learn to work well with people of all different backgrounds and socioeconomic status.<br>Earn dual degrees where appropriate, e.g. music.
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<td>SOCIAL/COMMUNITY SERVICES</td>
<td>Administration/Management, Fund Raising/Development, Public Relations, Policy Analysis, Research, Grant Writing, Direct Service</td>
<td>Local and national nonprofit agencies, Foundations, Charitable organizations, Trade or professional associations, Special interest groups, Labor unions, Research organizations and think tanks.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gain experience through volunteering or completing an internship. Supplement curriculum with courses in business, psychology, sociology, or social work. Obtain leadership roles in relevant campus and community organizations. Develop strong communication and research skills. Learn how to write grants. Demonstrate knowledge and experience in a specialty area, e.g. public health, environment, urban issues. Research organizations’ values to find a good fit with yours. It is critical that you are knowledgeable about and committed to the work you plan to do. Investigate term of service or service corps positions as a way to gain entry into the field. Consider earning a graduate degree for more job opportunities and advancement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVERNMENT/POLITICS</td>
<td>State and local government, Federal departments and agencies, Foreign Service, Federal Municipal Archives, National and State Endowments for the Humanities, Legislative, executive, or judicial officials, Political action committees, Special interest groups, Political parties, Campaigns (national, state, or local)</td>
<td>Take courses or minor in applicable interest area(s). Seek leadership roles in relevant campus organizations such as model United Nations, student government, and cross-cultural organizations. Write for campus publications focused on national and international affairs. Participate in national campaigns. Develop skills in computers, statistics, and data analysis. Acquire foreign language competency and travel experience for international positions. Complete an internship with the federal government. There are a large number of specialized agencies within the federal government. Do extensive research to find the area that best fits your interests. Earn a graduate degree in political science or public administration for advancement. Become familiar with the government application process. Utilize applicable websites and seek assistance from your college career center.</td>
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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.

Other skills emphasized in philosophy 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.

It is important for philosophy students to identify potential career goals and seek out the experiences and education required to enter those fields.

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.

Consider earning a minor or concentration in another discipline such as: mathematics, religion, science, business, political science, women’s studies, or Eastern philosophy.

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.

Seek related summer or part-time work experience or internships in area(s) of interest.

Join related student or professional organizations. Work toward leadership roles.

Conduct informational interviews or shadow professionals in fields of interest.

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**AREAS**

**COMMUNICATIONS**
- Writing
- Editing
- Technical Writing
- Journalism

**EMPLOYERS**
- Publishing companies
- Magazine and newspaper publishers
- Professional and trade associations
- Electronic media organizations
- Websites

**STRATEGIES**
- Take courses or minor in journalism, advertising, public relations, or English.
- Develop excellent writing, editing, and desktop publishing skills. Learn how to design websites.
- Gain related experience through internships.
- Volunteer to help campus or local organizations with their communications.
- Serve on college newspaper or other campus publication staffs.
- Join relevant professional associations.