

# What can I do with this major?

# Philosophy

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Philosophy is a field of inquiry that aims to advance our understanding of ourselves and of the nature of reality, mind, knowledge and morality. The study of Philosophy helps students to develop their capacity to understand, criticize and construct arguments, to analyze and solve problems, and to elaborate their ideas and present them in a clear, coherent and well-organized form.

## **Skills/Competencies Associated with Philosophy Majors:**

- Analytical and ethical reasoning
- Critical and analytical communication
- Ability to conduct research and explain results
- Ability to observe and organize
- Ability to conduct research, analyze and explain results
- Abstract thinking
- Creative problem solving
- Ability to analyze problems and make recommendations

## **Related Occupations:**

Teaching  
Research  
Student Affairs  
Academic Affairs  
Library Sciences  
Medical/Clinical  
Environmental  
Law-Related  
Nonprofit or Public Interest  
Government  
Mediation  
Sales  
Management  
Office Administration

Human Resources  
Training and Development  
Writing/Editing  
Underwriting and Claims  
Management  
Clergy and Other Religious  
Leaders Including:  
Fund Raising/Development  
Public Relations  
Policy Analysis  
Research  
Grant Writing  
Direct Service  
Public Policy

Regional Planning  
City Management  
Intelligence  
Foreign Service  
Law Enforcement  
Legislative, Executive, or  
Judicial Services  
Program Administration  
Elected or Appointed  
Leadership  
Campaign Management  
Staff Administration  
Special Interest Advocacy

\*This is only a partial list and not meant to limit you. Come to Career Services to explore your options further.

### **Strategies:**

- Look into experiential learning opportunities (internships, coop, mentoring, externships, volunteer, etc..)
- Join related student or professional organizations. Work toward leadership roles
- It is important for philosophy students to identify potential career goals and seek out the experiences and education required to enter those fields.
- Conduct informational interviews and shadow professionals in fields of your interest.

### **Resources:**

O\*NET OnLine  
<http://online.onetcenter.org>

Occupational Outlook Handbook  
[www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)

CityTownInfo  
[www.citytowninfo.com](http://www.citytowninfo.com)

American Philosophical Association  
[www.apaonline.org/](http://www.apaonline.org/)

American Philosophical Prac.Assoc.  
[www.appa.edu/index.htm](http://www.appa.edu/index.htm)

American Philosophical Society  
[www.amphilsoc.org/](http://www.amphilsoc.org/)

Society for Philosophy and Psychology  
[www.socphilpsych.org/](http://www.socphilpsych.org/)

American Association of Philosophy Teachers  
[www.philosophyteachers.org/](http://www.philosophyteachers.org/)

Society for Philosophical Inquiry  
[www.philosopher.org](http://www.philosopher.org)

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**Gwynedd-Mercy College**  
**Career Services**  
215-646-7300, ext: 230  
[careerservices@gmc.edu](mailto:careerservices@gmc.edu)  
[www.gmc.edu/careerservices](http://www.gmc.edu/careerservices)