Philosophy, BA

Strengthen your foundational skills, such as reading comprehension, reasoning skills and argument construction, and become a better thinker through a philosophy program. Studying philosophy prepares you to answer moral and ethical questions that relate to a variety of careers, including in law, politics, nonprofit organizations, and academia.

Program Description

The BA in philosophy teaches students how to think well which, in turn, lays the foundation for personal and professional success.

Philosophy students learn how to structure arguments, write precisely and clearly, and communicate their ideas in an orderly, persuasive and unambiguous way. Many philosophical texts are complicated, and philosophy courses teach students how to read, comprehend and summarize conceptually difficult material. In short, studying philosophy trains one to be a better, clearer thinker.

Coursework includes the major subfields of philosophy, such as metaphysics, epistemology and ethics, and electives that connect philosophy to other areas of inquiry, emphasizing the social relevance of philosophy.

Philosophy alumni are well-prepared for leadership roles in whatever path they take, whether it be in business, law, politics, medicine or education.

At a Glance

• College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Location: Tempe campus or online
• Additional Program Fee: Yes
• Second Language Requirement: Yes
• First Required Math Course: MAT 142 - College Mathematics
• Math Intensity: General
Required Courses (Major Map)

2019 - 2020 Major Map (On-campus)
2019 - 2020 Major Map (Online)
Major Map (Archives)

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements. 
Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request for information about how to change a major to this program.

Attend Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.
Global Opportunities

Global Experience

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. [https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/](https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/)

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the following study abroad programs for students majoring in philosophy: [http://links.asu.edu/SAO.philosophy](http://links.asu.edu/SAO.philosophy).

Career Opportunities

The analytical, rhetorical and writing skills developed through the study of philosophy provide ideal preparation for careers in a wide range of fields, including:

- business
- education
- journalism
- law
- medicine
- public service

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Intelligence Analyst</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>$88,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Investigator</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>$79,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor</td>
<td></td>
<td>$58,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intelligence Officer</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>$79,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>$133,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>$119,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Growth Rate</td>
<td>Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediator</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>$60,670</td>
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<tr>
<td>Military Officer</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>$25,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software Engineer</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>$101,790</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

🌞 Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

### Contact Information

Schedule an advisor appointment  
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