

# Philosophy

## What can I do with this major?

OCCUPATIONS	EMPLOYERS	SKILLS TO DEVELOP
<b><u>SOCIAL/COMMUNITY SERVICES</u></b>		
Research Staff Positions   Counseling	Nonprofit organizations Organizations serving the arts Social service organizations Public interest research groups Museums  Mental health organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain experience through volunteering with organizations such as crisis hotlines, Big Brother or Sister, Special Olympics</li> <li>• Develop excellent verbal and written communication skills.</li> <li>• Complete an internship for academic credit.</li> <li>• Take counseling courses.</li> <li>• Obtain master's degree in social work or counseling for therapy positions.</li> <li>• Most states require licensure or certification for professional counseling-oriented positions.</li> <li>• Obtain essential practical experience through part-time or summer jobs such as camp counselor, tutor, or resident hall advisor.</li> </ul>
<b><u>RELIGION/MINISTRY</u></b>		
Clergy Staff positions	Local churches/synagogues District, jurisdictional, national, and world divisions of denominations Religiously affiliated schools, colleges, and universities Local, national, and international mission field Religious organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain appropriate seminary training for clergy.</li> <li>• Become certified through a denomination for specialized staff positions.</li> <li>• Gain related experience through local churches or religious organizations.</li> </ul>
<b><u>RESEARCH</u></b>		
	Colleges and universities Government agencies Insurance companies Publishers Museums Political organizations Public interest research groups Nonprofit organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain a Ph.D. for advancement in college and university positions.</li> <li>• Develop exceptional quantitative, statistical, and writing skills.</li> <li>• Learn to use statistics software packages as well as database, spreadsheet, and desktop publishing programs.</li> <li>• Volunteer to help a professor with a research project.</li> </ul>

**OCCUPATIONS****EMPLOYERS****SKILLS TO DEVELOP****EDUCATION**

Teaching  
Administration

Public schools  
Private schools  
Colleges and universities  
Private learning centers

- Obtain certification/licensure to teach grades K-12. Earn dual certification to increase job opportunities.
- Earn a graduate degree to teach in post-secondary institutions; master's degree required for two-year colleges and a doctoral degree for four-year institutions.
- Develop one or more concentrations, such as mathematics, medical or business ethics, science, religion, etc.
- Volunteer as a tutor.
- Secure strong personal recommendations, particularly from professors.
- Develop exceptional communication skills.
- Secure strong personal recommendations, particularly from professors.

Student Affairs

Colleges and universities

- Obtain a graduate degree in College Student Personnel, Higher Education
- Volunteer with student organizations, Work as an Orientation Assistants, University Programming, or Resident Assistant.

Librarian

Libraries

- Obtain a graduate degree in Library Science
- Obtain a part time/summer job in library

**ETHICS**

Medical  
Environmental  
Research

Medical and professional schools  
Colleges and universities  
Consulting services  
Research organizations  
Health science funding agencies  
Environmental agencies

- Obtain Ph.D. for most positions.
- Participate in related professional organizations.
- Join debate groups.
- Develop excellent research skills.
- Develop verbal and written communication skills.

**GOVERNMENT**

Staff Positions  
Congressional Staffs  
Lobbying

Federal, state, and local government  
Commission on Civil Rights  
Consumer Product Safety Commission  
Department of Energy  
Federal Communications Commission  
Foreign Service  
Federal Municipal Archives  
National and State Endowments for the Humanities

- Select elective coursework in a particular area of interest.
- Gain relevant experience in student government or other related organizations.
- Complete an internship with a government agency.
- Maintain a superior academic record.
- Plan on obtaining an advanced degree.
- Develop foreign language skills.
- Become familiar with specialized government hiring procedures.
- Consider a variety of entry-level positions in all branches of local, state, and federal government.

## OCCUPATIONS

## EMPLOYERS

## SKILLS TO DEVELOP

### **BUSINESS**

Management  
Sales/Marketing  
Human Resources  
Marketing Research  
Advertising  
Finance  
Insurance  
Lobbying

Business firms  
Insurance companies  
Bookstores  
Marketing research departments/organizations  
Museums  
Advertising agencies/departments  
Real estate companies

- Secure leadership roles in campus organizations.
- Gain experience as financial officer or treasurer of a campus organization.
- Join student professional associations.
- Take basic business classes such as accounting and finance.
- Gain business experience through part-time jobs, summer work, and internships.
- Develop excellent computer skills. Learn to use software applications such as spreadsheets, databases, and word processing.
- Join related professional associations.

### **LEGAL**

Civil  
Criminal

Corporations  
State and federal legal offices  
Independent, private firms

- Attend law school and earn a law degree to become an attorney.
- Obtain summer or part-time work in a law firm.
- Complete special training requirements for paralegal positions.
- Become skillful in debate and public speaking.
- Organize campus events, speakers, or political rallies.

### **WRITING**

Writing  
Editing  
Technical Writing  
Journalism  
Advertising

Newspapers  
Magazines  
Broadcast media companies including television  
band movie industry  
Trade, professional, or consumer publications  
Internet sites  
Advertising agencies  
Large corporations  
Government agencies  
Colleges and universities  
Technical industries

- Select elective coursework in a particular area of interest.
- Write for campus publications such as The Chimes, alumni magazine, or departmental/program newsletters
- Develop speaking and debate skills.
- Volunteer to assist or tutor students in the writing center.
- For technical writing positions take science and/or computer courses to gain knowledge about technical areas and trends.
- Become familiar with the proposal writing and submission process involved in freelance writing.

## **Strategies For Placement In Philosophy**

- Philosophy students develop many functional skills which can be transferred from one career/job to another and which can demonstrate the flexibility and capacity for growth that employers find valuable.
- These skills and abilities include analytical, organizational, research, and oral and written communication skills.
- The abilities to generate ideas, formulate and solve problems, integrate diverse data, construct useful analogies, adapt to change, elicit hidden assumptions, persuade people and summarize complicated material are also attractive to employers.
- Ph.D. is required for college/university teaching and research.
- Concentrations with other areas can include philosophy and mathematics, religion, science, history, women, 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.
- Seek related summer or part-time work experience or internships in area(s) of interest.
- Take computer courses to increase employment opportunities.

**Internet Resources:**

Vault: more information on the every day life of a writer, political aide and attorney. This site is accessible through the Career Services Website: [www.capital.edu/careers](http://www.capital.edu/careers)

Careers In Government a clearinghouse of information, resources and jobs available in public sector organizations in America and abroad. [www.careersingovernment.com](http://www.careersingovernment.com)

American Bar Association  
[w3.abanet.org/home.cfm](http://w3.abanet.org/home.cfm)

American Philosophy Association:  
[www.udel.edu/apa/](http://www.udel.edu/apa/)