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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF ARTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy is the critical study of ideas, experiences, and meaning. Philosophy is for people who like to ask and think about the 'big' questions: What is truth? Are human beings free? What does it mean to be human? How should we treat others? What does a just society look like? Can computers think? Philosophy is devoted to rational inquiry itself, rather than memorizing facts and received theories.

OFFERS COURSES IN...

- Ethics
- Philosophy of art
- Philosophy of mind
- History of philosophy
- Symbolic reasoning and logic
- Philosophy of science
- Indian philosophy

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PHILOSOPHY DEGREE?

I COULD BE A... journalist, writer, editor, filmmaker, politician, activist, policy analyst, communications co-ordinator, youth advocate, lobbyist, business account manager, consultant, human resources professional, publisher, politician, NGO program co-ordinator, lawyer, doctor.

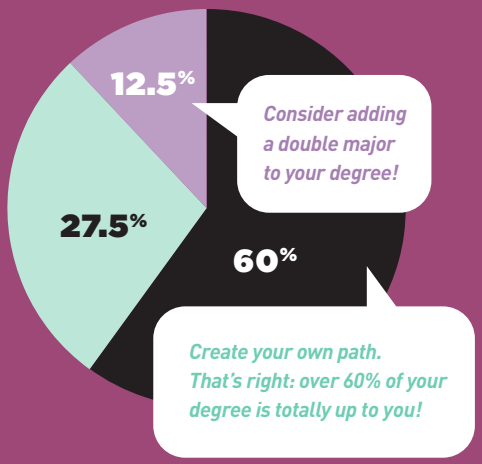
OR WORK IN... public sector, private sector, non-profit, research, marketing, advertising, or law.

TOP 5 REASONS TO STUDY PHILOSOPHY

1. Develop a distinct advantage in any profession that demands effective speaking and writing skills, incisive analysis of ideas and project proposals, and complex problem-solving.
2. Become equipped to respond to complex ethical, social, and political issues in the real world through careful reflection and deliberation.
3. Enhance your intercultural communication and global perspective by attending Philosophy Summer School at Beijing Normal University.
4. Challenge yourself to engage with learning in fresh new ways and explore relationships between theory and practice by applying your knowledge to community organizations in Community Service-Learning courses.
5. Gain professional experience, make connections, and explore work options in a full-time, paid Arts Work Experience.

BA PHILOSOPHY

- Required Philosophy Courses (Major)
- BA Basic Requirements
- Second Major, Minor(s), Certificates, Electives



ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

ADD A CERTIFICATE IN:

Ethics, Community Engagement and Service-Learning, International Learning, Peace and Post-Conflict Studies, Applied Social Science Research.

PARTICIPATE IN EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:

Arts Work Experience, Community Service-Learning, Study Abroad, Research.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MAJOR

Complete your major requirements and test out different classes. *Design your academic plan — you're in control!*

PHILOSOPHY MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Philosophy as a major requires a minimum of 10 courses to a maximum of 16 courses at the senior level in PHIL.

- One of PHIL 120, 220, or 325 (Formal Reasoning);
- Two of PHIL 230, 233, 240, 333, 336, or 343 (History of Philosophy);
- One of PHIL 200, 205, or 215 (Metaphysics/ Mind/Epistemology)
- One of PHIL 250, 270, 280, or 350 (Ethics/ Political Philosophy/Aesthetics)
- Two courses at the 400-level.

To verify your Major and BA Common Requirements, check the University Calendar and speak to an advisor.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

These are services that enable you to pursue academic and personal success.

- Academic advising
- Student Ombuds
- Indigenous Student supports
- Academic support
- Health & Wellness
- Campus Food Bank
- Libraries
- International Student supports
- Accessibility Resources
- Financial Aid & Awards
- Professional & Career Development
- Mental Health Supports

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFO:

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FACEBOOK: UAlberta Philosophy

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FACEBOOK: UofAArts
TWITTER: UofA_Arts

BA PHILOSOPHY

DEGREE GUIDE

Your University experience is about what happens inside and outside of the classroom. This map is a tool to help you complement your academics with hands-on learning outside of the classroom and take advantage of student activities. Each new step will help you explore your options, take measured risks, and inform your next step. Being informed and engaged leads to a richer journey throughout your degree and beyond!

LEGEND

- GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
- GAIN EXPERIENCE
- SEEK OUT CONNECTIONS
- NAVIGATE COURSES

EARLY DEGREE

Expand your career options, be proactive, and test possibilities. Join a student group.

Join the Undergraduate Philosophy Association, or Minorities and Philosophy UAlberta.

Take your two required Language Other than English courses.

Test your career options: volunteer on or off campus, or get a summer or part-time job. Reflect on what you're learning and practise self-care.

Use your academic resources, such as the Centre for Writers, Financial Aid, tutors, Academic Success Centre, and Accessibility Resources.

MID-DEGREE

Take risks, try new things, ask for and offer help to people you know and people you meet.

Learn more about Indigenous peoples, perspectives, and worldviews.

Add research to your degree with the Undergraduate Research Initiative, or apply into BA Honors.

Participate in the Philosophy Summer School at Beijing Normal University.

LATE DEGREE

Develop and revise your career story based on your values, interests, and what you learn.

Apply to Arts Work Experience to strengthen your technical and transferable skills and gain paid, professional experience before you graduate.

Ready to toss your cap in the air? Apply to graduate!

Submit an essay to the Kornelsen Essay Prize!

Ask professors to be academic references.

Have inspired conversations and animated debates on global topics during International Week on campus.

Let the Career Centre support you in communicating your skills to prepare for your next step — graduate studies, professional programs, or employment.