

# Philosophy

Through Philosophy one may think about and develop perspectives on topics as diverse as god, science, language, logic, truth, ethics, politics and law. Thus philosophy's range of application is particularly broad. Typically, philosophy leaves aside the doing of religion, science and so forth, and asks fundamental questions about the nature and justification for the various perspectives.

Questions you might encounter in a philosophy class: What is the nature of the mind? Is it identical with the brain? Does God exist? If so, what is God like? Can we prove such a being exists? What makes an action right or wrong? What makes a society a just one? What distinguishes science from non-science? What is a scientific theory? Are numerals (like '4') names for objects? If so, what are these objects (presumably numbers) like? What is knowledge? Under what conditions do you have it?

## CAREER OPTIONS

Philosophy focuses on clear thinking, analytical writing, and critical evaluation of complex ideas. Thus it is excellent training for anyone whose job requires broad perspectives and new and creative ideas. Philosophy is excellent preparation for a career in law, business, government, journalism and a wide variety of professional areas; and it is excellent preparation for different sorts of graduate and professional study. Philosophy does not provide training in specific job tasks, rather it focuses on basic skills that prepare you for the more challenging tasks they will encounter as your career advances.

## EMPLOYMENT AND SALARY OUTLOOK

As indicated on the reverse, earnings for philosophy majors compare favorably to earnings from other disciplines. Philosophy is excellent preparation for graduate school, and philosophy majors do especially well on standardized tests required for graduate admission. This includes medical school, business school (with the GMAT exam), law school (with the LSAT exam) and other forms of graduate study (with the GRE exam). For further information, follow links at <http://philosophy.csusb.edu/>.

## PHILOSOPHY COURSES OFFERED

Moral Choices in Life  
Critical Thinking Through Argument Analysis  
Introduction to Philosophical Issues  
Introduction to Ethics  
Introductory Philosophy of Religion  
Introduction to Eastern Philosophy  
Introduction to Knowledge & Reality  
Critical Thinking Through Symbolic Logic  
Predicate Logic  
Inductive Logic  
Alternative Logics  
Ancient Philosophy  
History of Modern Philosophy: Knowledge and Reality  
History of Modern Philosophy: Ethics and Politics  
Ethics  
Topics in Moral and Political Philosophy  
Metaethics  
Topics in Applied Ethics  
Contemporary Ethical Issues  
Philosophy and Economics

## SPECIAL FEATURES

- \* Small class size ensures personalized attention
- \* Outstanding faculty
- \* Published scholars
- \* Active researchers
- \* Experienced educators
- \* Independent research projects

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy requires only 57 units of courses in the philosophy major. Thus philosophy is **small major**, and may be combined with other majors and minors. To obtain the BA in philosophy you need a minimum of 180 units as follows:

- \* 57 units in philosophy major courses
- \* 78-82 units in general education courses
- \* 42 units of free electives

## MINORS

- \* Philosophical Logic
- \* Law and Philosophy
- \* Philosophy
- \* Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Social & Political Philosophy  
Philosophy of Law  
Jurisprudence  
Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity  
Gender and Philosophy  
Philosophy of Religion  
Non-Western Philosophy  
Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Logic  
Philosophy of Mathematics  
Philosophy of Mind  
Theory of Knowledge  
Philosophy of Science  
Philosophy of Language  
Topics in Philosophy  
Advanced Issues in Logic  
Advanced Issues in History of Philosophy  
Advanced Issues in Value Theory  
Advanced Issues in Philosophy of Religion  
Advanced Issues in Metaphysics and Knowledge  
Philosophical Topics

# Additional Considerations

## 1. Philosophy is remunerative!

Major	Median Mid-Career Salary
Economics	\$98,600
Computer Science	\$95,500
Finance	\$88,300
Information Systems	\$82,300
<b>Philosophy</b>	<b>\$81,200</b>
Political Science	\$78,200
Business Management	\$72,100
Communications	\$70,000
Nursing	\$67,000
Biology	\$64,800
Psychology	\$60,400
Criminal Justice	\$56,300
Nutrition	\$55,300
Music	\$55,000
Education	\$52,000

## 2. Philosophy majors do well on the LSAT (law school admissions test).

Major	Score
Physics/Math	160.0
<b>Philosophy/Theology</b>	<b>157.4</b>
Economics	157.4
International Relations	156.5
Engineering	156.2

## 3. Philosophy majors do well on the GRE (graduate school admissions exam).

### THE POWER OF PHILOSOPHY GRE SCORES BY INTENDED GRADUATE MAJOR, 2011-12



Source: Educational Testing Service; data available at [http://www.ets.org/gre/scoring\\_guide\\_table.pdf](http://www.ets.org/gre/scoring_guide_table.pdf)

For more information see <http://philosophy.csusb.edu> and/or contact the department directly, University Hall 235; (909) 537-5869; and [philosophy@csusb.edu](mailto:philosophy@csusb.edu).