

What can I do with a major in **PHILOSOPHY** from Valparaiso University?

Description of major:

Philosophy involves the study of the truths and principles underlying all knowledge. Philosophical study involves a continuous attempt to analyze, interpret and logically explain what humans believe, value, and do. The study of philosophy tends to develop and sharpen analytical and critical thinking generally, not only about philosophical topics, but also about other disciplines as well. A major in philosophy may lead to careers such as law, the ministry, and teaching, and enhances careers in medicine, business, education, writing, and public service.

Relevant skills for a PHILOSOPHY major:

- ◆ Apply theory
- ◆ Be creative
- ◆ Clarify problems
- ◆ Collect and organize data
- ◆ Communicate, both orally and in writing
- ◆ Concentrate for long periods of time
- ◆ Conduct research and analysis
- ◆ Continually conceive, develop, & generate ideas
- ◆ Critique
- ◆ Diagnose
- ◆ Exercise good judgment
- ◆ Experiment with ideas
- ◆ Forecast
- ◆ Formulate and defend positions
- ◆ Have conceptual ability
- ◆ Have spatial memory
- ◆ Have trouble-shooting skills
- ◆ Imagine
- ◆ Innovate
- ◆ Interview
- ◆ Make critical observations, evaluations and appropriate decisions
- ◆ Notice things quickly
- ◆ Organize, conduct, and clearly explain research
- ◆ Organize/classify data
- ◆ Recognize elements, relationships, and structures
- ◆ Organize principles
- ◆ Relate to abstract ideas
- ◆ Review/evaluate
- ◆ Screen
- ◆ Solve problems
- ◆ Speak articulately and listen objectively
- ◆ Summarize complicated materials
- ◆ Survey
- ◆ Synthesize perceptions
- ◆ Trace problems
- ◆ Use analytical and synthetic reasoning
- ◆ Work independently and others!

Sample work activities for Graduates in PHILOSOPHY (some may require an advanced degree)

- Administrative Official
- Anthropological Linguist
- Archivist
- Book Critic
- Cataloger
- Clergy
- Collaborator
- College/University Official
- Columnist/Commentator
- Counselor
- Cryptanalyst
- Department Head, College
- Director of Institutional Research
- Editor/Publications
- Essayist
- Foreign Correspondent
- Foreign Service Officer
- Genealogist
- Immigration Inspector
- Intelligence Specialist
- International Relations Specialist
- Lawyer
- Marketing Research Analyst
- Physician
- Poet
- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Public Relations Representative
- Social Worker
- Technical Writer
- Training instructor
- Writer
- and others!

Potential hiring institutions for PHILOSOPHY majors:

- ◆ Adult Education Programs
- ◆ Advertising agencies/ departments
- ◆ Archives - federal, municipal
- ◆ Bookstores
- ◆ Business corporations
- ◆ Churches & religious organizations
- ◆ Civil rights commission
- ◆ Civil service commission
- ◆ Colleges and Universities
- ◆ Consulting services
- ◆ Consumer affairs office
- ◆ Education department
- ◆ Foreign service
- ◆ Foundations, non-profit
- ◆ Groups
- ◆ Industries/manufacturing
- ◆ Institutions
- ◆ Insurance companies
- ◆ Learned Periodicals
- ◆ Libraries
- ◆ Library of congress
- ◆ Magazines & newspapers
- ◆ Museums
- ◆ National archives
- ◆ Political organizations
- ◆ Professional/Trade associations
- ◆ Public Interest Research
- ◆ Public relations firms
- ◆ Publishing agencies
- ◆ Research
- ◆ Social services agencies
- ◆ Travel agencies
- ◆ and others!

Area of further education for PHILOSOPHY majors:

- Business Administration
- City/Regional Planning
- Communication
- Conflict Resolution & Mediation/Peace Studies
- Cultural Studies (any)
- Education
- Ethics
- History
- Humanities
- International Affairs
- International Development
- Languages (any)
- Law
- Liberal Studies
- Literature (any)
- Medicine
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Policy & Administration
- Religion
- Social Sciences
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Theology
- Writing
- and others!

Sources of additional information for PHILOSOPHY majors:

- VU Department of Philosophy: <http://www.valpo.edu/philosophy/>
- VU Majors & Areas of Study: <http://www.valpo.edu/cas/departments/philosophy.html>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- America's Job Bank: a partnership between the US Department of Labor and the state operated public Employment Service for public and private sector jobs. <http://www.ajb.dni.us/>
- EpistemeLinks.com: includes thousands of sorted links to philosophy resources on the internet and has several additional features. <http://epistemelinks.com/>
- GovernmentJobs.Com: devoted to helping individuals find the jobs they are seeking in the public sector. <http://www.govtjobs.com/>
- Jobs in Philosophy: Job advertisements in philosophy worldwide, postings in any language. http://www.sozialwiss.uni-hamburg.de/phil/ag/jobs/main_english.html
- Moving Ideas: Dedicated to explaining and popularizing complex policy ideas to a broader audience. Includes jobs & internships. <http://www.movingideas.org>
- Opportunity NOCs: connects you with a full range of employment and human-resources-related information and services. <http://www.opportunitynocs.org/>
- Philanthropy News Network: the voice of the nonprofit world and the marketplace for products and services nonprofits need. Site includes nonprofit jobs. <http://pnnonline.org/>
- The American Philosophical Association: the main professional organization for philosophers in the United States. Promotes the exchange of ideas among philosophers, to encourage creative and scholarly activity in philosophy, to facilitate the professional work and teaching of philosophers, and to represent philosophy as a discipline. Includes a Jobseekers database. <http://www.apa.udel.edu/apa/index.html>
- The Philosopher's Magazine: The on-line philosophy magazine (from the United Kingdom). <http://www.philosophers.co.uk/>

- USAJobs: The U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information provided by the United States Office of Personnel Management. <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>
- Voice of the Shuttle: Various resources and websites devoted to arts & humanities studies. <http://vos.ucsb.edu>

VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:

- *100 Best Nonprofits To Work For*
- *Alternatives To The Peace Corps : A Directory Of Third World And Us Volunteer Opportunities*
- *Book Of U.S. Government Jobs : Where They Are, What's Available, And How To Get One*
- *Career Opportunities For Writers*
- *Career Opportunities In Law And The Legal Industry*
- *Career Opportunities In Politics, Government & Activism*
- *Careers For Bookworms & Other Literary Types*
- *Civil Service Career Starter*
- *Education For Action : Undergraduate And Graduate Programs That Focus On Social Change*
- *Essays That Worked, For Business Schools : 35 Essays From Successful Applications To The Nation's Top Business Schools*
- *Federal Personnel Guide 2005*
- *Government Job Finder*
- *Graduate Programs In Education*
- *Graduate Programs In Humanities*
- *Graduate Programs In Social Sciences*
- *Great Jobs For Liberal Arts Majors*
- *Guide To America's Federal Jobs : A Complete Directory Of Federal Career Opportunities*
- *Harvard Business School Guide To Careers In The Nonprofit Sector*
- *Law Schools*
- *LSAT 2006*
- *Opportunities In Government Careers*
- *Opportunities In Journalism Careers*
- *Opportunities In Law Careers*
- *Opportunities In Library And Information Science*
- *Peterson's Game Plan For Getting Into Law School*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law & Social Work*
- *Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences*
- *Undergraduate's Guide To Corporate Leadership Development Programs : What They Are, Where To Find Them & How To Get Hired and others!*

For more information about majoring in PHILOSOPHY, contact:

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For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at Career.Center@valpo.edu