

What Can I Do with a Philosophy Major or Minor?

Philosophy is the search for truth about life's big questions by means of reason. In your philosophy classes you will learn how to read difficult texts, wrestle with big ideas, critically assess competing positions and arguments, and clearly articulate and defend your own. Adding a philosophy major or minor to your primary area of study will help you to read, write, and argue more effectively in that discipline.

Common double majors in philosophy at ODU include philosophy and theology, philosophy and history, philosophy and English, and philosophy and political science. And with only 30 required credits, 6 of which are already required for the BA, adding a philosophy major is easy to combine with almost any other major.

Not ready to commit? Adding a philosophy minor is even easier. After you have completed your two required philosophy courses, just take three more philosophy courses at the 200-level or higher (any three will do) and you got it!

But What Can I Do After I Graduate?

Employers are always looking for applicants with the sorts of skills that a philosophical education provides. Graduates with majors or minors in philosophy are often able to think critically, write clearly, and argue persuasively at a much higher level than their peers. Indeed, on average, philosophy graduates score higher than graduates from any other discipline on the GRE and LSAT.

Recent philosophy graduates from Ohio Dominican University have gone on to pursue graduate study in philosophy, law, medicine, and theology. Others have gone on to teach philosophy or related disciplines at the primary or secondary level. Others have gone on to pursue careers in business.

One thing you may not know is that many important, influential, or otherwise well-known figures have graduated with degrees in philosophy, such as Bruce Lee, Jay Leno, Martin Luther King Jr., Alex Trebek, Lana del Rey, Phil Jackson, John Elway, Thomas Jefferson, Philip K. Dick, Wes Anderson, Rashida Jones, and Pope Saint John Paul II.

So what can you do with a philosophy major or minor? Anything you want! And whatever you end up doing, your study of philosophy will help you do it better.