

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy teaches you valuable and empowering thinking, reasoning, problem-solving, and communication skills that are useful for...



SEEKING TRUTH AND JUSTICE AND THINKING FOR YOURSELF

“I took ‘Introduction to Philosophy’ ... After that course, I was hooked. I loved the clarity and logic and especially the intellectual discipline – in short, the habits and elegance of thought that was philosophy.”

Kwame Ture, Civil Rights Leader, B.A. in Philosophy
source: *The Life and Struggles of Stokely Carmichael (Kwame Ture)*, Scribner 2003

BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

“[P]hilosophy is a study of how to think clearly ... Formulating what your investment thesis is, what the strategy is, what the risks with the approach are, what kinds of things you would be doing with it, are all greatly aided by the crispness of thinking that comes with philosophical training.”

Reid Hoffman, founder of LinkedIn, MA in Philosophy
source: www.businessinsider.com

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

“[T]he main skills you learn in a humanities degree are timeless: critical reading, critical thinking, communication of complex ideas, and most importantly (in my opinion) logical reasoning. These skills have made me a far better engineer than I would have been without them, and I expect the same is true for most others with an arts degree, no matter which field they enter.”

Rosemary Barnes, Engineer; Engineering and Philosophy degree
source: www.abc.net.au/news



BLAZING YOUR OWN CAREER PATH

“It was by far the best major I could have taken in college. It allowed me to do anything that I wanted to do. Philosophy is a great major because it allows me to ask questions, and that is what I do every day.”

Katy Tur, journalist, B.A. in philosophy
source: Saber, Ian, “Katy Tur on Her Philosophy Degree,” *NBC News*, June 6, 2017

SAINT PAUL COLLEGE

Philosophy Courses

PHIL 1700: INTRO TO PHILOSOPHY (MNTC GOAL 6)

Do you have free will? Do gods exist? Could a computer ever be conscious? Is death bad? What is equality and why does it matter? Is time travel possible? What is the meaning of life? This class teaches strategies for examining philosophical questions like these.

PHIL 1710: LOGIC (MNTC GOAL 4)

How can you tell when someone's arguments or reasoning are good or flawed? Logic teaches you how, while also fulfilling your Math transfer requirement!

PHIL 1720: ETHICS (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 9)

What's right or wrong, and how can you know? Should we all be vegans? Does the U.S. owe reparations for racial injustice? Is it wrong to blow up oil pipelines to protest climate change? Is it wrong to enjoy the work of immoral artists? What makes something racist or sexist? What makes discrimination wrongful? When, if ever, is abortion morally permissible? Learn skills for making your own well-reasoned decisions about moral questions and apply them together in collaborative discussions about a variety of issues. You'll find out that productive discussion about these issues is possible – and fun!

PHIL 1722: HEALTH CARE ETHICS (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 9)

Should assisted suicide be legal? Is abortion morally permissible? When is it justifiable to break patient confidentiality? When is it justifiable to kill animals for medical research? This class teaches strategies for participating in collaborative discussions and productive debates about ethical controversies like these.

PHIL 1724: ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 10)

What obligations do we have to nature and other animals? Who should bear the biggest burdens of combating climate change? What obligations do we have to climate refugees? What is environmental racism? Is it justifiable to blow up oil pipelines to protest climate change? Learn skills for thinking and discussing questions like these productively by engaging in a variety of debates and discussions about important environmental issues.

PHIL 1742: GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGY (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 8)

Learn about the ancient Greek and Roman myths that inspire art and entertainment to this day, and discuss the philosophical questions they give rise to.

PHIL 1750: EASTERN PHILOSOPHY (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 8)

How can we tell what is real and what is not? Where do we get knowledge? What could we do to suffer less? What does a well-lived life look like? Learn about and discuss ideas and answers from Hindu, Buddhist, Confucianist, and Taoist philosophies.

PHIL 1760: WORLD RELIGIONS (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 8)

Examine the history and practices of religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Engage in discussions, visits to local places of worship, and more!

PHIL 1770: FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY (MNTC GOALS 6 AND 7)

What is gender, and how is it related to a person's sex and gender identity? Is gender socially constructed? Is being non-binary a good way to fight gender oppression? What is misogyny? Should we legalize sex work? How can we support cultural diversity while resisting gender oppression? How do race, ability, and other identities interact with gender? How should feminists respond to offensive speech? Examine a variety of feminist views about the nature of gender oppression and what we ought to do about it, and learn skills you can use to think about and discuss these issues productively. Everyone is welcome, regardless of your gender and whether you identify as a feminist or not.

Questions? Email

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