



CAL POLY

Philosophy

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



PHILOSOPHY

Contact

T: 805-756-2041

Faculty Office Building 47,

Room 37

philosophy.calpoly.edu

The Philosophy Department at Cal Poly is one of the largest in the CSU system. It prides itself on excellence in teaching and the high standards met by its students. A degree in philosophy is one of the best preparations for graduate or professional school, and the evidence for this is substantial. Nationally, philosophy majors outscore everyone but majors in mathematics and physics on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT). Similar trends are also seen for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), the exam required by most MBA programs.

The reason for this is unsurprising. The study of philosophy requires the meticulous development of general analytical reasoning skills. The ability to communicate clearly and forcefully is increasingly rare and, as a result, increasingly sought after in the job market.



Major and Minors

Philosophy (B.A.)

Students can pursue a curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy, including optional concentrations in philosophy and religion, ethics of science and technology, or ethics and society.

The department offers minors in philosophy and religious studies. A large number of courses are offered in the history of philosophy, as well as courses in specific areas

of philosophy philosophy (logic, ethics, metaphysics, epistemology), and courses that deal with the philosophical issues arising in other disciplines (e.g., philosophy of art and philosophy of science).

Concentration (Optional):

Ethics of Science and Technology

Ethics and Society

Philosophy and Religion

Minors

- Philosophy
- Religious Studies

Education

- Teaching
- Research
- Administration
- Student affairs
- Academic affairs

Government/Politics

- Public policy
- Research
- Intelligence
- Foreign service
- Legislative, executive or judicial services
- Elected office
- Special interest advocacy

Law

- Environmental law
- Intellectual property law
- Prosecution/defense
- Corporate
- Nonprofit or public interest
- Government
- Mediation

Communications

- Writing/editing

Ethics

- Research
- Medical/clinical
- Bioethics
- Emerging technologies

Religion

- Clergy and other religious leaders
- Chaplaincy
- Mission work

Social/Community Services

- Public relations
- Policy analysis
- Research
- Grant writing
- Direct service

Business

- Marketing and sales
- Management
- Human resources/training and development
- Underwriting and claims management

Where can this major take me?

