Bachelor of Arts

PHILOSOPHY

The Department of Philosophy is a thriving community that fosters intellectual and social development on campus. We prepare students for specific careers, meaningful personal lives and intelligent participation in their communities.

The department offers courses that address issues all human beings confront, such as the nature and limits of knowledge, the principles of right and wrong, the meaning of life, the truth of religious claims and the nature of reality. These courses aim to inspire students with new ideas and prepare them for a life rich in critical thinking.

Philosophy students are able to work closely with professors who are the recipients of universitywide awards for excellence and innovation in teaching. All professors in the department are supportive, open-minded and available to engage with students.

Our students graduate with analytical, critical and interpretive capabilities as well as a passion for knowledge and self-expression, preparing them to be responsible and intelligent citizens.

PROGRAM FEATURES

Phi Sigma Tau honor society
The Think Tank Philosophy Club

Department of Philosophy:
Chair and Professor Lou Matz | lmatz@pacific.edu | 209.946.2673
Please visit Pacific.edu/Philosophy for more information
The Major

Students majoring in philosophy receive a solid foundational education with historical philosophy courses, specialized courses on more narrow topics such as ethics or religion and systematic courses that deal with problems that arise in relation to all human activities.

The department also offers a minor in philosophy for students who wish to complement their major in another discipline.

The Experience

Students in the Department of Philosophy have created a thriving community that fosters intellectual and social development on campus.

Many students participate in Phi Sigma Tau, the national honor society for philosophy or Think Tank, Pacific’s philosophy club, where students meet weekly on Wednesday nights to watch films, hold informal discussions and prepare for upcoming conferences and symposia.

Overview

Students choose the Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy for various reasons. Most enjoy the intellectually provocative and challenging nature of philosophical thinking that opens their minds and has relevance for their personal lives. Some study philosophy in order to go to graduate school and eventually teach philosophy or to enter other professional fields such as law. And others take philosophy as a second major since it is a good complement to virtually any other major.

In all cases, the study of philosophy is personally enriching and develops skills that are transferable to a variety of occupations.

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I chose to study philosophy because I really enjoy the content, especially Greek philosophy, and I feel it will help me a lot in law school. I have become a better critical thinker, confident arguer and an exceptional writer because of my philosophy classes.

MYRA NUR LAKDAWALA
BA Philosophy

OUTCOMES

After graduation, philosophy majors succeed and thrive in careers such as business, education, communications, politics and law.

DEGREES OFFERED

Bachelor of Arts

MAJORS OFFERED

Philosophy

MINORS OFFERED

Philosophy

For more information, please visit: Pacific.edu/Philosophy