Our Program

The study of philosophy provides students with the unique opportunity to carefully analyze and thoughtfully respond to the fundamental ideas and basic concerns present in human experience. It requires the constructive re-experiencing of those problems and doubts in one’s own life which are also found in the writings of the principal representatives of the eastern and western philosophical traditions. Accordingly, the program places foundational importance on the history of philosophy both East and West. The goal is to become acquainted with, evaluate and respond critically and imaginatively to what has been and continues to be of fundamental importance in human experience and to do so in a scholarly manner with an eye toward appropriating the best for oneself and one’s culture.

The philosophy major offers a broad education in the liberal arts, and philosophical methodology emphasizes precision in thought and communication. Philosophy thus provides an excellent vehicle for the development of logical, critical and creative reasoning, analytical reading and writing, and creative problem-solving skills. Since those skills are highly valued by employers and graduate/professional programs alike, career opportunities for philosophy graduates exist in a variety of fields. Examples include education, business, management, government, public administration, medicine and law. The philosophy major is excellent preparation for law school because it cultivates the analytic and reasoning skills necessary for a successful career in law.

An undergraduate major in philosophy is also an excellent second major for almost any field. This is due, in part, to philosophy’s low unit requirement and emphasis on developing transferable skills highly sought by employers and graduate programs.

For more information

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