

Waarom Fort College? Wat kan ik er mee?

Ter beantwoording van deze vraag kunnen bepaalde zinnen afkomstig van de onderstaande websites misschien helpen. Fort College staat in een brede stroming wereldwijd.

What is Philosophy (Harvard)

Philosophy is the systematic and critical study of fundamental questions that arise both in everyday life and through the practice of other disciplines. Some of these questions concern the nature of reality: Is there an external world? What is the relationship between the physical and the mental? Does God exist? Others concern our nature as rational, purposive, and social beings: Do we act freely? Where do our moral obligations come from? How do we construct just political states? Others concern the nature and extent of our knowledge: What is it to know something rather than merely believe it? Does all of our knowledge come from sensory experience? Are there limits to our knowledge? And still others concern the foundations and implications of other disciplines: What is a scientific explanation? What is the status of evolutionary theory versus creationism? Does the possibility of genetic cloning alter our conception of self? Do the results of quantum mechanics force us to view our relations to objects differently?

The aim in Philosophy is not to master a body of facts, so much as think clearly and sharply through any set of facts. Towards that end, philosophy students are trained to read critically, analyze and assess arguments, discern hidden assumptions, construct logically tight arguments, and express themselves clearly and precisely in both speech and writing. These formidable talents can be applied to philosophical issues as well as others, and philosophy students excel in fields as varied as law, business, medicine, journalism, and politics

Een kaart, niet het gebied (UVA)

Denken gaat altijd ergens over: het goede leven, een rechtvaardige maatschappij, het verschil tussen voor- stelling en realiteit, de functie van taal, de methoden van de wetenschappen, de waarde van cultuur. En het filoso- fische denken onderzoekt wat we eigenlijk aan het doen zijn als we over dergelijke belangrijke onderwerpen nadenken. 'Wat is je doel in de filosofie? De vlieg de weg uit het vliegenglas wijzen' (Wittgenstein). De vlieg is ons verstand, gevangen in zijn eigen manieren van denken. Maar het verstand kan ook een uitweg wijzen, refererend aan zichzelf. Filosofie denkt het denken.

East Tennessee State University

- Philosophy helps us understand that things are not always what they seem.
- Philosophy helps us learn about ourselves and the world. It teaches us how to grapple intelligently with basic questions such as:
 - "Who am I?"
 - "Does God exist?"
 - "How should I live?"
 - "Should I do what society tells me to do?"
 - "Can I be sure of any of my beliefs?"
 - "Does my life have meaning?"
 - "Are values just a matter of opinion?"
 - "What is the nature of mind, language, and thought?"

Philosophy makes us more critical. It shows us that what we take for granted may be false -- or only part of the truth. Philosophy develops our ability - to reason clearly - to distinguish between good and bad arguments - to think and write clearly - to see the big picture - to look at different views and opinions.

These skills are highly prized by employers and by graduate / professional schools. They are never outdated. They enrich our lives and our relationships.

Why Study Philosophy? (Laurier Faculty of Arts)

One might distinguish two reasons for studying philosophy or any other subject. First, and most importantly, you may study something because it intrigues or interests you. This is probably the best reason for studying anything. In the case of philosophy, studying it formally or informally is for you if you are curious or passionate about questions like:

- "What is right and wrong?"
- "Why is the Mona Lisa a great work of art?"
- "Is religion superstition?"

- "How can we distinguish between science and pseudo-science?"
- "Is abortion wrong?"
- "What can we know?"
- "In what sense is 'virtual reality' real?"
- "Is morality possible if there is no God?"
- "What ultimately exists?"
- "Is the human mind just a sophisticated computer?"
- "How should we treat animals?"
- "What obligations do we have to the poor?"
- "Is time travel possible?"
- "Are men and women different in ways that go beyond their sexual and reproductive goals?"
- "What is the right way to reason?"
- "Does European civilization think too highly of itself?"

If these kinds of questions capture your imagination, then you should find some time for philosophy. Not everybody is suited to an in depth study of the discipline, but everybody lives a life that depends on beliefs that philosophy explores, so most lives can be deepened and enriched by some study of philosophy.

A second reason for studying something is the possibility that it will provide a basis for future employment or a career. Such concerns are legitimate and important, but it might easily be argued that they are over emphasized in today's education. If you ask sixty year olds what they studied when they were twenty, you will usually find that the specific job skills they learned then have little to do with their present occupation (go ahead and try it!).

There are lots of reasons for this: people's interests change; career advancement often means that someone's job changes along with the skills that it requires; individual initiatives and opportunities often take people in unexpected directions; and job skills frequently change as technology and the world changes (a forty year old today didn't learn multi- media or how to use the web twenty years ago).

Looked at from this point of view, philosophy is an excellent preparation for almost any career. It does not teach job related skills (at least not directly) but it is one of the most effective -- perhaps the most effective -- discipline for teaching basic reasoning, writing and thinking skills which are of use in any occupation. By also teaching students how to think about "the big picture" and how to think of rationality and morality, it can provide an excellent basis for a career.

The key point to note about philosophy is its emphasis on active thinking. Unlike programs which emphasize the memorization and regurgitation of a body of facts, philosophy encourages the cultivation of analysis, criticism and communication. The benefits and skills acquired by analyzing philosophical texts and writing about them include the ability to:

- Comprehend complex passages
- Assimilate and understand the ideas of others
- Develop an ability to research a topic

- Criticize the propositions in other people's arguments
 - Learn to assert your own ideas
 - Be creative and novel in solving problems
 - Communicate ideas clearly
 - Construct rational and persuasive arguments
 - Work around a deadline
 - Work under pressure
 - Formulate articulate, well-constructed essays and presentations
 - Learn about and appreciate other disciplines (psychology, sociology, communication studies, english, history, anthropology, etc.)
- By learning to effectively comprehend, analyze and criticize texts, and creatively form solutions or answers to problems, the philosophy student is forced to adapt to new situations, try different approaches, and adopt a variety of perspectives. Because philosophy questions all assumptions, philosophy students learn to probe issues more deeply than students in many other disciplines.

An added benefit of philosophy is an introduction to the intellectual currents and trends that inform the society in which we live. Reading Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes or contemporary feminists is not relevant only because they have important ideas you need to think about. It is also important because their ideas have had a profound impact on how we as a society think of -- and raise questions about -- the good life, morality, politics, science, truth and so on. If you are comfortable with philosophy, you will be comfortable with the "big questions" that an informed understanding ourselves and the way we live depends on

Unique, challenging, reflective: reasons to choosing the Master in Philosophy of Management and Organizations at VU University Amsterdam

Unique in the Academic World The Philosophy of Management and Organizations specialization is the only or at least one of very few Master's degree programmes in the world that focuses on the fundamental philosophical issues that underlie management and organization.

Relating theory with practice You will be given every opportunity to pursue your interest in answers to fundamental questions. We will challenge you to hone your critical and reflective intelligence within the practical context of an organization.

Thinking beyond the boundaries and outside the rules VU University Amsterdam encourages you to think beyond the boundaries and outside the rules in order

- to develop an independent ability to reflect philosophically about management and organization.
 - to think beyond the point at which others give up.
- Enhancing mental capacities** A key focus of the programme is practicing reflective thinking. This not only involves reflection at a theoretical level, but also in the practical context of organization and management. The Philosophy of Management and Organizations programme offers you the unique opportunity to enhance your

mental capacities and to increase your sensitivity to fundamental issues in the practical context of organization and management.

(RUG)

Als afgestudeerd filosoof liggen er tal van mogelijkheden voor je open. Je blijkt veel kans te hebben op een baan als je in denken en doen flexibel bent en een aantal belangrijke vaardigheden beheerst. Je moet hoofd- zaken van bijzaken kunnen onderscheiden, je moet problemen scherp en helder kunnen analyseren, je moet een kritische houding hebben, je moet goed kunnen communiceren, je moet je bewust zijn van de morele gevolgen van je handelingen en je moet creatief zijn. En dat zijn nu net vaardigheden die filosofen beheersen!

Learning outcomes University western australia

Philosophy cannot be learnt by rote or from a text book. Studying philosophy in depth develops reasoning powers by requiring focus on some of the most difficult, abstract and persistently worrying questions that engage reflective people. Philosophical studies provide intellectual virtues in demand beyond the university.

Transferable skills and personal characteristics include:

- reasoning skills: logic; analysis and synthesis; handling of concepts; critical ability; identifying and questioning assumptions; arguing a case; problem solving and decision making
- handling symbolism: formal systems; statistical arguments; computer literacy
- communication skills: clarity, relevance, and succinctness in written and oral presentations
- comprehension: mastery of difficult and complex texts; listening to what others say, and appreciating different points of view; coping with a high level of uncertainty
- depth and breadth of view: seeing beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries; identifying first principles and practical applications; tracing connections; objectivity
- reflexivity: handling of second-order questions; awareness of one's own thinking and use of language; ability to assess one's own strengths and weaknesses, and those of others
- originality: independence of thought; flexibility of approach; adaptability to a changing environment; inventiveness in producing examples and counter-examples
- co-operativeness: ability to work in teams in different capacities; constructive contribution to group discussion and joint products
- responsibility: ability to act autonomously and to learn independently; awareness of ethical implications

Seton Hall University (New York)

Entertainment Philosophy seems especially helpful for honing skills in comedy - perhaps because, as with observational comedy, philosophy involves looking at the world in different ways and challenging those things that we normally take for granted. Woody Allen, George Carlin, Steve Martin, Dennis Miller, Jay Leno, Joan Rivers, and Jimmy Kimmel all majored in philosophy in college. Other prominent philosophy majors to achieve success in entertainment include filmmakers Wes Anderson and Peter Lynch, actors Harrison Ford, David Duchovny, and Susan Sarandon, as well as Gene Siskel, Alex Trebeck, and Chris Hardwick.

Politics A philosophy major is also good preparation for a career in politics. Politics does not involve expertise in any one area but requires making judgments over a wide range of topics including economics, law, and ethics. Politicians who studied philosophy in college include Jerry Brown (former Governor of California), President Bill Clinton, Rudi Giuliani, Vaclav Havel (former President of Czechoslovakia), Robert McNamara (Secretary of Defense under JFK and LBJ), Pierre Trudeau (former Prime Minister of Canada). Many important political activists have also studied philosophy including the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Aung San Suu Kyi, and Elie Wiesel. Philosophy is helpful for spiritual leaders as well as political leaders, as Karol Wojtyla (a.k.a. Pope John-Paul II) earned a degree in philosophy.

Business Though it might be an over-used cliché of business-speak, "thinking outside the box" is essential for success in highly competitive business markets. Thinking outside the box - questioning basic presuppositions, thinking critically, and looking for creative solutions to difficult problems - is the essence of philosophy. For this reason, many successful entrepreneurs studied philosophy in college. Among them are J. Paul Getty (founder of Getty Oil), Carly Fiorina (CEO of Hewlett-Packard), Gerald Levine (CEO of Time-Warner), and George Soros.