

What can I do with a major in PHILOSOPHY?

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT PHILOSOPHY GRADUATES POSSESS:

- understanding reality through the critical application and understanding of values
- ability to assess divergent views and analyze underlying issues
- processing one's thoughts and organizing them in a clear and concise manner
- linking together thoughts, ideas and data points to a general theory
- compiling and evaluating information and using such information to solve problems
- analyzing complex arguments critically to form an opinion

It is important to enhance and diversify your skills and knowledge with work, volunteer, research and field study experiences while in university.

EXAMPLES OF CAREER PATHS PHILOSOPHY GRADUATES HAVE PURSUED:

Philosophy graduates can pursue a variety of career paths, including those that might not seem to have a direct connection to philosophy at first glance. The following is a non-exhaustive list of some examples:

DIRECT career paths: The skills and knowledge acquired in a philosophy education are often required or considered an asset in the following positions.	LESS DIRECT career paths: The generic skills and knowledge obtained in a liberal arts education are pertinent in the following positions.	The following paths may require FURTHER STUDY or SPECIALIZED TRAINING* in addition to a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy.
Bioethics Research Assistants assist with the collection and analysis of data to inform ethical policies and practices in the provision of health care. They work for post-secondary education institutions, hospitals or research institutes.	Acquisitions Editors solicit, evaluate and negotiate contracts to acquire written materials for upcoming publications. They work for media companies or publishers.	Compliance Officers develop and implement programs and policies to prevent illegal, unethical or improper conduct and practices in the organization. They work for financial or public institutions.
Environmental Advocates develop programs and campaigns to educate the public and gather support for environmental causes. They work for environmental advocacy agencies or governments.	Financial/Investment Advisors assess clients' financial situations and recommend products or strategies to help them reach set financial goals. They work for financial institutions, insurance companies or consulting firms.	Immigration Lawyers research and interpret immigration laws and regulations; advise clients on legal rights and obligations; and represent clients in legal proceedings. They work for law firms, the government or agencies that support newcomers.
FOIP Advisors assist with policy development and interpretation on the appropriate collection, usage and disclosure of business and personal information. They work for government, educational and other public institutions.	Social Media Strategists create and execute strategies to engage and inform a target audience using new social media. They work for a broad range of private and public organizations.	Mediators facilitate communication between disputants to clarify issues and find creative solutions acceptable to all concerned. They work for government or public agencies, unions, or environmental or industrial organizations.
Intelligence Officers conduct investigations and prepare reports on national security-related matters. They work for the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.	Student Life Coordinators develop, plan and deliver extracurricular programs or projects to enhance student experience on campus. They work for post-secondary institutions.	<i>*NOTE: Qualifications for similar jobs might vary depending on the employer. Try checking with the employer(s) you're interested in working for to see what they require and recommend in terms of education and/or experience.</i>

WANT MORE INFORMATION? CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES:

Available in MacEwan University Libraries:

- How to Get the Most Out of Philosophy – *Douglas J. Soccio*
- Jobs for Philosophers – *Anthony Weston*

Additional Resources (Available Online)

- Alberta Arbitration and Mediation Society
- Alberta Family Mediation Society
- The American Philosophical Association
- Canadian Bioethics Society
- The Canadian Philosophical Association
- Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy (CSCP)
- ISEE: International Society for Environmental Ethics
- Society for Business Ethics

WANT TO DISCUSS YOUR OPTIONS WITH SOMEONE?

- Book an appointment on [MacEwanLife](#) under “Career Advice and Support.”
- Talk to a [philosophy discipline advisor](#)

[MacEwan.ca/mycareer](https://macewan.ca/mycareer)

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