Are you interested in the biggest questions of human existence: does God exist? What is the ultimate nature of the world we live in? What is the nature of right and wrong? Do you find yourself drawn to debate or rational analysis? Do you often ask questions about how things work or why things are done the way they are? Do you find yourself interested in questions that are informed by a variety of different academic disciplines?

If any of this sounds like an accurate description, Philosophy may be the major for you. The Philosophy major is currently thriving (we now have a community of nearly 50 students in the major), but we still enjoy one of the best student-faculty ratio of any major approximately 3 to 1. This means lots of individual attention, and plenty of opportunities for hands-on interaction and a personalized education.

**WHY MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY?**

The Philosophy major is designed to teach you how to be an incisive logical thinker, a strong writer and oral communicator, and a conscientious citizen. Our major-level courses emphasize an interactive approach to learning, where discussion and feedback from professors is of paramount importance.

A degree in Philosophy can be an excellent asset to your professional career. The analytical problem-solving abilities and communication skills that the major stresses are of great value in the business world, as well as in fields like law and medicine. It is no accident that Philosophy majors have historically scored the highest of any major nationally on the LSAT (the standardized admissions test for law school), and second only to engineering on the GRE (the parallel standardized test for graduate school). Illustrating this trend, Philosophy majors at SJU have been admitted to a number of the nation’s top law schools and graduate programs in recent years, as well as have been hired by non-profit organizations and prestigious financial firms.

Because of the Philosophy major’s flexibility and natural interconnections with issues in other disciplines, many students combine it with a major or minor in another field. Popular choices include psychology, English, economics and political science, though there are many other possibilities as well. For those not able to commit to a Philosophy major, the Philosophy minor can serve as an excellent complement to virtually any course of study. Our recent minors have come from an array of majors, including accounting, biology, mathematics and history.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PHILOSOPHY MAJOR:**

- Visit the Philosophy Department’s Website: [www.sju.edu/academics/cas/philosophy](http://www.sju.edu/academics/cas/philosophy)
- Visit the College of Arts and Sciences Advising Support Center, located in Barbelin 122
- Contact the Philosophy Department to schedule a meeting with a faculty member by calling 610-660-1564
- Speak with current students in the major
- Schedule an appointment with the Career Development Center 610-660-3100
**WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN PHILOSOPHY?**

Whatever you put your mind to. Following are descriptions of just a few of the careers you might pursue. You can learn more about these careers at [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org):

**Attorney:** Represents clients in criminal and civil litigation and other legal proceedings, draws up legal documents, and manages or advises clients on legal transactions. May specialize in a single area or may practice broadly in many areas of law.

**Judge:** Arbitrates, advises, adjudicates, or administers justice in a court of law. May sentence defendants in criminal cases according to government statutes. May determine liability of defendants in civil cases. May issue marriage licenses and perform wedding ceremonies.

**Philosophy and Religion Teacher, Postsecondary:** Teach courses in philosophy, religion, and theology.

**Writer and Author:** Originates and prepares written material, such as scripts, stories, advertisements, and other material.

**HOW CAN I ENGAGE MY INTEREST IN PHILOSOPHY OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM?**

There are so many opportunities to get involved at Saint Joseph’s University – and to develop experience in your major while doing so! Here are just a few:

Greater Philadelphia Philosophical Consortium  Peer Review Board
Student Union Board  University Student Senate

**A CLOSER LOOK AT GRADUATES WITH DEGREES IN PHILOSOPHY:**

As depicted in the chart below, recent graduates have started their careers in a variety of industries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Philosophy Majors' Chosen Industries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science/Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Interest/Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement/Military</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here is a sampling of positions our graduates have accepted:

- Account Executive
- Annuities Associate
- Corps Member
- Court of Living Counselor
- Fellow
- Human Intelligence Collector
- Loan Packager
- Network Quality Specialist
- Teacher

Here is a sampling of additional job titles:

- Business Administrator
- Campus Religious Coordinator
- Church/Camp Director
- Consultant
- Diplomat
- Editorial Assistant
- Financial Consultant
- Fundraiser
- Hospital Administrator
- Legal Assistant
- Lobbyist
- Management Trainee
- Missionary
- Newswriter
- Paralegal
- Public Policy Associate

Some of the organizations that have hired our graduates:

- East West Mortgage Company
- Jesuit Volunteer Corps
- JG Wentworth
- New World Resource Corporation
- Paula Hign Design
- Pearson Kia
- Pennsylvania Army National Guard
- Pepperjam Network
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Prudential Financial
- The ARC of Atlantic County
- U.S. Public Interest Research Group

Sample work settings that hire Philosophy Majors include:

- Consulting Firms
- Colleges & Universities
- Media
- Newspapers & Magazines
- Publishing Companies
- State/Federal Government agencies
- Non-profit Organizations
- Religious Associations

Some of the graduate schools in which our students have continued their education, in programs including the Arts & Humanities, Law, Medicine/Health Care and the Social Sciences:

- American University
- Catholic University
- Dickinson College
- Drexel University
- Hofstra University
- Saint Joseph's University
- Seton Hall University
- Temple University
- University of Chicago
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Pennsylvania
- Villanova University
- Virginia Tech

FURTHER ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR MAJOR AND CAREER OPTIONS:

The Career Development Center can help you with the process of choosing a major and exploring your career options. For assistance, please call 610-660-3100 to schedule an appointment to meet with a Career Counselor.
GETTING THE JOB – SAMPLE PHILOSOPHY MAJOR RESUME:

Philosophy Post
350 Pennbrook Hall Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19131
(267) 555-1212 ♦ ppost2013@sju.edu

Education

Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy; Economics minor
Expected Graduation: December 2013
GPA: 3.94

Honors:
• Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Member
• National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Member
• Saint Joseph’s University Honors Program, Member
• Presidential Scholarship Recipient
• Dean’s List, Fall 2009-present

Saint Louis University, Madrid, Spain
Study Abroad Program, Fall 2011
• Studied European political and economic institutions
• Met with members of the European Commission, Parliament, Presidency, and BusinessEurope
• Lived with a non-English-speaking host family, which resulted in advanced Spanish fluency and great cross-cultural sensitivity
• Worked with two language partners from Spain
• Traveled extensively across Europe and Africa

Experience

Philosophy and Spanish Tutor, January 2013–present
Learning Resource Center, Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA
• Tutor undergraduate students in Philosophy and Spanish in an official capacity

Board Member, September 2012–present
Green Fund Advisory Board, Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA
• Evaluate and implement sustainability proposals sent in from the university at large
• Promote the sustainability of Saint Joseph’s University through various programs and initiatives

Writing Center Tutor, October 2010–present
Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA
• Tutor English as a Second Language (ESL) students and students from all academic departments, which requires adaptability and communication skills
• Discuss content, style, organization, and grammar issues in student writing

Intern, May 2012 – July 2012
Salud por Derecho (Right to Health Foundation), Madrid, Spain
• Researched international public health issues and wrote reports and fact sheets for publication
• Translated posts from Spanish to English for publication on organization’s website
• Communicated with colleagues within a Spanish-speaking office environment and participated in weekly planning meetings

Intern, June 2011-August 2011
Clear Channel Communications, Bala Cynwyd, PA
• Created, produced, mixed, and voice acted in radio spots, songs, voice-overs and interviews
• Conducted research for and managed content on WRFF’s official website
• Represented Clear Channel at station events