"THE AIM OF PHILOSOPHY is to understand how things in the broadest sense of the term hang together in the broadest sense of the term."

— WILFRED SELLARS.

Philosophy is for intellectual omnivores and ranges over the nature of morality through free will to unraveling the concepts of scientific disciplines such as biology, physics and psychology. Philosophy relies on careful analysis, rigorous argument, clear writing and disciplined imagination—approaches that transfer to virtually any endeavor.

PHILOSOPHY CURRICULUM

The undergraduate major provides an overview of most areas of philosophy, often in interaction with other disciplines. This prepares you to grasp information in its broader context. If you like, you can specialize in one of three broad areas of specialty among the faculty: philosophy of science, cognitive studies or value theory. Philosophy of science addresses questions about the nature of science and the content of specific theories. Cognitive studies focuses on the mind, using tools from linguistics, psychology, computer sciences and neuroscience. Value theory includes the philosophy of art, social and political philosophy and fundamental questions about morality.

SAMPLE COURSE TITLES

- Introduction to Logic
- Political and Social Philosophy
- Investigating Darwin’s Dangerous Idea
- Spooky Action at a Distance: Where Physics meets Metaphysics
PHILOSOPHY DEGREES IN ACTION

95% of recent ARHU graduates are either working full time, interning or pursuing graduate studies. Here’s where some of our philosophy graduates are working or studying:

- National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems, Membership Coordinator
- Rocket Fuel, Sales Coordinator
- Law Offices of Phillip B. Ochs, Esq., Legal Assistant
- National Institutes of Health, Intramural Research Training Award Fellow
- Georgetown University, Law
- University of Louisville, Counseling Psychology
- University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Sports Management

SOPHIA SANBORN ’13, PHILOSOPHY
Doctoral student, University of California, Berkeley

“It’s hard to overstate how important the skills I acquired in the UMD philosophy department have been for me as a developing scientist. I believe the philosophy major should be thought of as basic training for how to think well—for students in both the humanities and STEM.”

TIPS FOR CAREER SUCCESS

It’s never too early to start planning for your career after graduation. Make an appointment to talk with the University Career Center @ARHU where we’ll work with you to assess your skills, values and interests and use them to help find opportunities that meet your goals. Academic and career advisors will work with you to incorporate internships, living and learning programs, global experiences, research and more into your academic plan. Research shows that having one or more internships drastically increases your ability to land a full-time position upon graduation. Learn more at careers.umd.edu.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit philosophy.umd.edu or call 301.405.5689.

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
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ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES (ARHU)

ARHU is home to 14 departments and 64 bachelor’s degrees, minors and certificate programs, so you can tailor your degree (or double major) across various fields of study, including performing and visual arts, languages, literatures and cultures. With a 10 to 1 student-faculty ratio, ARHU offers you the benefits of a tight-knit community with access to the resources of a large, public research institution near the nation's capital.