

# What you can do with your **PHILOSOPHY MAJOR**



## Philosophy Major Skills:



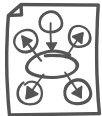
### Critical Thinking

You interpret complex data, place it in context, and analyze it logically, synthesize and critique an array of information and assumptions to formulate hypotheses and solutions, and weigh controversial questions and issues with respect and fairness.



### Oral & Written Communication

You communicate complex ideas simply to a variety of audiences, respectfully discuss contentious issues, and seek to understand conflicting viewpoints and build consensus.



### Analytical Reasoning

You analyze arguments to identify patterns, latent assumptions, and salient data and values and discern significant distinctions.



### Ethical Conduct and Responsible Citizenship

You think carefully about responsibilities to others, work collaboratively, provide appropriate attribution for others' ideas, recognize the limitations of your own ideas, and demonstrate thoughtful engagement with society at large.



### Problem Solving

You evaluate competing solutions to problems, make informed decisions on the basis of reasoning and evidence, and think outside the box to develop new solutions.

## Supplement Your Skills With Experience In:



Internships,  
Volunteering &  
Part-Time Work



Self-Reflective  
Career Exploration &  
Planning



Fostering  
Professional Equity  
& Inclusion



Student  
Organizations &  
Leadership



Quantitative Data  
Analysis &  
Interpretation

## Chart Your Path Forward

### Activate Your Handshake Account

for connections to jobs,  
internships, employer &  
alumni networking.

### Explore Career Communities

to discover a wide variety of  
fields where you can turn your  
major into success.

### Get Career & Internship Advising

from SuccessWorks to make a  
plan, whether you're a first-year  
student or about to graduate.

**Get Started: [successworks.wisc.edu](https://successworks.wisc.edu)**

# Put your Philosophy major to **WORK**

## Frequent Alumni Job Titles:

1. Attorney
2. Business Owner
3. Chief Executive Officer
4. Partner/Principal
5. President
6. Director
7. Professor/Instructor
8. Executive Director
9. General Manager
10. Chief Operating Officer



## Top Employers of Recent Alumni:

1. Epic
2. American Family Insurance
3. Northwestern Mutual
4. American Express
5. Ashley Furniture Industries
6. Associated Bank
7. Boardman & Clark LLP
8. Botanica Fine Gardens and Landscapes
9. Colorado State University
10. Federal Judiciary

## Additional Employers:

- First Weber
- Jenner & Block
- Kantor & Kantor LLP
- Latham & Watkins
- Marquette University
- Saint Paul Public Schools

## Post-Graduation Plans:

- 58%** Employment
- 35%** Continuing Education or Grad School
- 7%** Other

## Industry of Employment:

1. Information Technology
1. Consumer Goods
2. Finance
3. Healthcare
4. Media
6. Retail
7. Agriculture
8. Arts & Entertainment
9. Consulting
10. Education

## Where Alumni Live & Work:

- 27%** Wisconsin
- 10%** New York
- 9%** California
- 9%** Illinois
- 5%** Minnesota
- 40%** Other



"I use epistemic inquiry every day in my career. It is crucial to question why we believe what we believe. Becoming comfortable with re-examining my own closely-held beliefs helps me develop good public policy, and also good people and teams."

**Renee Walk, 2006**

Programs & Policy Unit Director, WI Department of Employee Trust Funds  
Madison, WI



"My philosophy courses taught me the critical thinking and writing skills necessary to think through legal problems and excel at writing briefs. I also learned to challenge every assumption and develop sound reasoning for my assertions and beliefs."

**Zachary Pestine, 2013**

Attorney, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.  
Chicago, IL

## Career Communities for Philosophy Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources, and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Philosophy majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit [SuccessWorks](#) to explore more widely.

- Government, Policy, International Affairs & Law
- Non-Profit Management & Education
- Consulting, Finance, Management & Client Relations
- Technology, Data & Analytics

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