

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN**PHILOSOPHY****OVERVIEW OF MAJOR**

The Department of Philosophy at Concordia offers at the undergraduate level a BA Honours in Philosophy, a BA Major in Philosophy and a Minor in Philosophy. At the graduate level the department offers a Masters of/Magisteriate in Arts (Philosophy) with two program options, with thesis or with research papers. The Department also provides the possibility of entering the Humanities interdisciplinary doctoral program or the Special Individualized Program (SIP). For the latest information on programs and research areas of faculty, go to the Department of Philosophy's website at: <http://philosophy.concordia.ca>. The study of philosophy provides a framework upon which one can examine serious issues and attempt to understand today's world. Philosophy majors develop skills transferable to any field requiring abstract thinking, interpretation and analysis; and consequently, graduates can go on to build careers in areas such as law, medicine, government, the nonprofit sector and business. A PhD is normally required for those wishing to teach at university.

**EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY
CONCORDIA GRADUATES**

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are qualified upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Administrative Assistant (1411)
- Advocacy Program Coordinator
- Editorial Assistant (1452)
- Executive Director (0014)
- Facilitator
- Grant Writer
- Human Rights Commission
- Intern (4164)
- Intelligence Analyst
- Intervention Worker (4212)
- Journalist (5123)
- Junior Professional Consultant (1122)
- Legal Policy Analyst
- Policy Analyst (4164)
- Political Attaché (4168)
- Political Consultant (4164)
- Political Organizer (4164)
- Program Officer (4164)
- Public Affairs Officer (5124)
- Recruiter (1223)
- Researcher (4164)
- Social Scientist (4169)

CELEBRATED PHILOSOPHY MAJORS

Angela Davis. American Political Activist and University Professor

Umberto Eco. Writer, Linguist and Philosopher

Beverly McLachlin. Canadian. Chief Justice of Canada

Deepa Mehta. Internationally Renown Canadian Film Director

Paul Martin. Lawyer, Businessman and 21st Prime Minister of Canada

David Souter. U.S. Supreme Court Justice

Charles Taylor. Canadian Philosopher and Professor. Awarded Templeton Prize

Alex Trebek. Host of Canadian Game Show "Jeopardy"

MORE JOB TITLES

The verbal and logical skills acquired by those who study philosophy are useful in a wide variety of careers such as criminal justice and religion-related fields. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which philosophy majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>. The verbal and logical skills acquired by those who study philosophy are useful in a wide variety of careers such as criminal justice and religion-related fields. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which philosophy majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Administrator
- Affirmative Action Advisor (4164)
- Announcer (5231)
- Archivist (5113)
- Art Consultant (3144)
- Biomedical Ethicist
- Book Publishing Manager (0512)
- Columnist (5123)
- Critic (5123)

- Diplomat (4168)
- District Sales Manager (0611)
- Editor (5122)
- Employment Interviewer (1223)
- Foreign Service Officer (4168)
- Freelance Writer (5121)
- Fundraiser (5124)
- Guidance Counselor (4143)
- Legislative Aide (1222)
- Lobbyist (4164)
- Market Research Analyst (4163)
- Mediator (1121)
- Novelist (5121)
- Patient's Representative
- Philosopher (4169)
- Political Scientist (4169)
- Public Relations Specialist (5124)
- Publisher (0016)
- Purchasing Agent
- Religious Research Assistant (4122)
- Salvation Army Worker (4217)
- Social Worker (4152)
- Speech Writer (5121)
- Teacher (4131),(4141)
- Technical Writer (5121)
- University Professor (4121)
- Volunteer Coordinator (4212)
- Writer (5121)

POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

A substantial number of philosophy majors work either in the nonprofit sector often employed in educational or religious settings or they find employment in businesses in the profit sector. Other graduates in this field work in government or are self-employed. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet.

- Advertising Firms
- Archives
- Book Stores
- Civic Organizations
- Colleges & Universities
- Community & Social Services
- Consulting Firms
- Correctional and Rehabilitation Services
- Cultural Organizations
- Ethics Review Boards
- Financial Institutions

CON'T. – POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

- Health-Related Services
- Historical Societies
- Insurance Companies
- Labour Relations
- Law Firms
- Marketing & Marketing Research
- Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Public Relations
- Publishing Companies
- Radio & Television Stations
- Real Estate Agencies
- Religious Institutions
- Research Centres
- Volunteer Services

SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The skills of abstract thinking, interpretation and analysis, which are developed by those who study philosophy, are eminently useful across disciplines and are an especially good fit for today's global economy. They are skills that are valued by employers in practically every field and will serve one well in career advancement. In addition, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for succeeding in the field.

- Ability to Defend Ideas
- Ability to Summarize & Synthesize Complicated Material
- Ability to Work Independently
- Cause-effect Analysis Skills
- Clarity of Thought
- Clear, Precise Written Expression
- Concept Formulation Skills
- Constructing & Assessing Rational Arguments
- Critical Reasoning
- Curiosity
- Debating Skills
- Highly Developed Analytical Skills
- Objectivity
- Open-mindedness
- Oratory Skills
- Persuasive Powers
- Presenting Alternative Viewpoints
- Problem-solving Skills
- Skillful Reasoning
- Strong Research Skills
- Theory Development Skills

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

CANADIAN

Canadian Philosophical Association

<http://www.acpcpa.ca>

Promotes philosophical scholarship and education across Canada. Includes job postings, academic programs and publications. Offers student memberships.

Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

<http://www.yorku.ca/cshps1/>

The Society represents a broad range of interdisciplinary scholars, including philosophers, interested in exploring science. Under Resources provides links to Canadian universities offering History and Philosophy of Science programs. Site also has links to numerous newsletters, journals, seminars and conferences that will keep one informed as to new developments and activities in the field. Offers student memberships, fellowships and scholarships.

Société de philosophie du Québec

<http://laspg.org/>

Composed of those interested in the development of philosophy. Membership and activities for students available. Offers an opportunity to become involved in a Montreal-based organization. Provides links to philosophy departments at Quebec CEGEPS and universities as well as Offres d'emplois.

INTERNATIONAL

American Philosophical Association

<http://www.apaonline.org>

Primary professional organization for philosophers in the U.S. Members enjoy, among other things, access to a Career section, conferences, newsletters and a number of prizes and awards. Great way to network and keep current with issues of importance to philosophers. Site also provides the Guide to Graduate Programs in Philosophy.

American Association of Philosophy Professors (AAPT)

<http://philosophyteachers.org>

AAPT promotes the art of teaching philosophy. Offers programs, publications, and teaching resources to improve the quality of instruction in philosophy.

Society for Women in Philosophy

<http://www.uh.edu/~cfreelan/SWIP/>

The Society's aim is to promote and support women in philosophy. Membership offers opportunities to network and stay current with issues in the field.

CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

- Careers for Culture Lovers and Other Artsy Types
- Careers for Philosophers
- Great Jobs for Liberal Arts Majors
- Guide for Philosophy Job Seekers
- Jobs For Philosophers
- Liberal Arts Jobs
- Life on the Tenure Track: Lessons from the First Year
- A Non-Academic Career – American Philosophical Association
- Guide
- Philosophy – A Brief Guide for Undergraduates
- The Philosophy Major
- Smart Moves for Liberal Arts Grads: Finding a Path to Your
- Perfect Career