Philosophy Department

Program Objectives
The Department of Philosophy in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Science offers a program that leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy. The study of philosophy is the reasoned pursuit of fundamental truths. It is a systematic investigation of the key assumptions that underlie our thinking and which often are taken for granted. Much of what is learned in philosophy can be applied in virtually any endeavor. This is both because philosophy touches upon so many subjects, and especially because many of its methods and forms of analysis are applicable in any field.

Degrees & Concentrations Offered
Graduation Planner: usm.maine.edu/advising/degreeplanning
Degree Offered: Bachelor of Arts
Major Offered: Philosophy
Minor Offered: Philosophy

Philosophy Department
Portland Campus, 47 Exeter Street
(207) 780-4258
Web Address: usm.maine.edu/phi
Facebook: USMPhilosophy
Twitter: #USMPhilosophy Dept.

Career Possibilities*
Administrator
Advertiser
Advocate
Clergy Member
Counselor
Editor
Environmentalist
Financier
Diplomat
Fund Raising
Position in Human Resources
Insurance Agent
Federal Government Agent
Journalist
Lawyer
Manager
Positions in the Medical Field
Policy Developer
Researcher
Positions in Student Affairs
Teacher
* Additional education, training or experience may be required.

Acquired Transferable Skills
Active
Active Listening
Complex Problem
Critical Thinking
Instructing
Judgment and Decision Making
Learning Strategies
Reading Comprehension
Speaking
Writing

For more information on transferable skills go to:
usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/career-tools
### AREA

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<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
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| **Social/Community Services** | Nonprofit organizations  
Social service organizations  
Public interest research groups  
Museums  
Mental health agencies | • Develop excellent verbal and written communication skills.  
• Gain related work experience.  
• Volunteer in relevant organizations.  
• Obtain master's degree in social work or counseling  
• Become familiar with grant writing techniques. |
| **Education** | Colleges and universities  
Adult education programs  
Vocational-technical educational programs  
Professional or graduate schools | • Obtain a doctorate degree for opportunities in teaching or research.  
• Develop one or more concentrations  
• Related experience through internships, volunteering, or employment.  
• Earn a master's degree in a specialized area  
• Seek campus leadership positions |
| **Government** | Federal, state, local government  
Commission on Civil Rights  
Federal Communications  
Foreign Service  
Legislative, executive, judicial  
Special interest groups | • Supplement curriculum with courses in area.  
• Serve in model United Nations.  
• Become involved in student government.  
• Acquire foreign language competency and travel  
• Earn a graduate degree in political science or public administration  
• Volunteer with the staff of a government official. |
| **Writing** | Publishing companies  
Magazine, newspaper companies  
Professional associations  
Advertising agencies  
Electronic media organizations | • Serve on college newspaper staff.  
• Develop excellent writing and desktop publishing skills.  
• Take courses in journalism, advertising, public relations, or English.  
• Gain related experience.  
• Become a student member of a related professional group.  

*To learn about these areas and much more visit: [whatcanidowithismajorm.com/major](http://www.whatcanidowithismajorm.com/major) • © 2011 What Can I Do With This Major

### Enrichment Opportunities

| **Internships** | For more information contact Dept. of Philosophy. [usm.maine.edu/cecd](http://usm.maine.edu/cecd) |
| **Study Abroad** | For more information contact the USM Office of International Programs. [usm.maine.edu/international/study-abroad](http://usm.maine.edu/international/study-abroad) |
| **Clubs & Organizations** | Philosophy Symposium  
For a complete list of student organizations: [webapp.usm.maine.edu/pathways/list](http://webapp.usm.maine.edu/pathways/list) |
| **USM Corporate Partners** | The USM Corporate Partners are over 350 business people, from nearly 100 companies. [usm.maine.edu/corporatepartners](http://usm.maine.edu/corporatepartners) |

### Helpful Career Links

**USMCareerConnections:**  
USM's career network for job and internship searches. [usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/usmcareerconnections](http://usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/usmcareerconnections)

**O*NET OnLine:**  
Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with O*NET. [onetonline.org](http://onetonline.org)

**Occupational Outlook Handbook:**  
Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with OOH. [bls.gov/ooh](http://bls.gov/ooh)

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS To name a few...**

- American Philosophical Association
- American Society for Bioethics and Humanities
- Association for Practical and Professional Ethics
- Society for Business Ethics
- American Philosophical Practitioners Association
- Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory