Philosophy, BA

LAPHIBA

Accelerated options for this program are not currently available to ASU Online students.

Become a better thinker by strengthening your foundational skills, such as reading comprehension, and by developing skills in reasoning and argument construction. Studying philosophy prepares you to answer moral and ethical questions that relate to a variety of careers.

Program description

The BA in philosophy teaches students how to think well, which in turn lays the foundation for personal and professional success.

Philosophy students learn how to structure arguments, write precisely and clearly, and communicate their ideas in an orderly, persuasive and unambiguous way. Many philosophical texts are complicated, and philosophy courses teach students how to read, comprehend and summarize conceptually difficult material. In short, studying philosophy trains one to be a better, clearer thinker.

Coursework includes the major subfields of philosophy, such as metaphysics, epistemology and ethics, and electives that connect philosophy to other areas of inquiry, emphasizing the social relevance of philosophy.

In addition to reviewing the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing concurrent or second baccalaureate degrees in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit The College's website for more information and requirements.

At a glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe or Online, ASU Local

- **Second language requirement:** Yes
- **First required math course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math intensity:** General

Required courses (Major Map)

2024 - 2025 Major Map (on-campus)
2024 - 2025 Major Map (online)
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent program options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Accelerated program options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree with:

Global Management (Creative Industries and Design Thinking), MGM

Global Management (Digital Audience Strategy), MGM

Global Management (Global Affairs), MGM

Global Management (Global Business), MGM

Global Management (Global Development and Innovation), MGM

Global Management (Global Digital Transformation), MGM

Global Management (Global Entrepreneurship), MGM

Global Management (Global Health Care Delivery), MGM

Global Management (Global Legal Studies), MGM

Global Management (Nonprofit Leadership and Management), MGM

Global Management (Public Administration), MGM

Global Management (Public Policy), MGM

Global Management (Sustainability Solutions), MGM

Global Management (Sustainable Tourism), MGM

Global Management, MGM

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and how to apply.

Admission requirements

General university admission requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the Change of Major form for information about how to change a major to this program.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program's ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.

ASU Local

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with ASU Local, an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support.

Transfer options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU® to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience

for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Present and defend a philosophical view using concepts, technical terminology, and methods acquired in an advanced topical seminar as well as skills in logical analysis and civil and respectful argumentation.
- Present and explain central philosophical positions from key figures in the historical development of philosophical thought, especially their metaphysical and epistemological positions.
- Evaluate how well different normative ethical theories such as consequentialism, deontology, virtue theory provide moral standards that dictate which (if any) actions are right and wrong or how well different metaethical theories such as realism, expressivism, relativism, and nihilism account for the meaning and truth of moral claims.
- Evaluate arguments for formal validity and construct formal proofs. Students will be able to capture the logical form of prose arguments.

Global opportunities

Global experience
Students can explore a diverse range of cultures and philosophies through study abroad. Study abroad programs help students gain valuable skills, such as problem-solving, communication, adaptability and cultural competency, that enhance their resumes. With over 300 unique programs around the globe available to them, students can tailor their study abroad experience to their interests and skill sets.

More information on available programs can be found on the [Global Education Office website](). The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends these [study abroad programs]() for students majoring in philosophy.

Career opportunities

Philosophy alumni are well prepared for leadership roles whatever path they take, whether in business, law, politics, medicine or education.

The analytical, rhetorical and writing skills developed through the study of philosophy provide ideal preparation for careers in a wide range of fields, including:

- business
- education

- journalism
- law
- medicine
- public service

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
Business Intelligence Analyst ☀	35.2%	$103,500
Detective Sergeant	1.5%	$86,280
Editor		$73,080
Intelligence Officer	1.5%	$86,280
Judge	2.2%	$151,030
Lawyer ☀	7.5%	$135,740
Mediator ☀	5.0%	$64,030
Military Officer		$0
Politician	3.4%	$48,090
Software Developer ☀	25.7%	$127,260

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook

Contact information

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