



Philosophy

Philosophy is the love of wisdom. More specifically, philosophy explores fundamental aspects of reality, value, politics, and religion, spanning a range of topics in science, history, art and humanity. Philosophers are less concerned with finding answers to questions than in examining options, and the arguments for each of them. Doing this allowing individuals to choose between such options and answers for themselves.

Why study philosophy?

The study of philosophy focuses on deep enquiry into a range of topics, and aims to construct detailed arguments for and against certain options. The benefits of doing this are vast, and profound. By studying philosophy, you will:

- Learn how to write and communicate complex ideas and notions;
- Become adept at constructing complex and nuanced arguments – understanding the relationships between them, and developing your own, original conclusions;
- Extend your analysis further by challenging the assumptions that you and others have made in the past;
- Develop confidence in your ability to articulate, question, and evaluate arguments publically.
- Gain knowledge of a host of related disciplines, all of which have played a role in the foundations and history of Western thought.

Saddleback offers a variety of high quality courses such as: Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Ethics, Logic, World Religions, Ancient Philosophy, Modern Philosophy, and Philosophy of Religion.

The philosophy courses at Saddleback College introduce you to a range of subjects, including: epistemology, ethics, logic, metaphysics, and the philosophy of disciplines such as art, science, religion, mind, and politics.

At Saddleback, philosophy is also interlinked with many other disciplines, and our academics are intertwined with a number of other studies including: cognitive science, criminology, education, environmental studies, law, mathematics, peace and conflict studies, psychology, sociology, anthropology, and the humanities.

Career opportunities

Studying philosophy can lead to number of career paths, where you can practice or apply your learning on the job. Philosophy majors often go into medicine and law. Studies- see link below- continually show that that philosophy majors earn the highest scorers on the MCAT and the LSAT.

Other careers philosophy majors excel at are:

- Teaching and academia
- Community development
- Diplomatic and/or foreign affairs
- Business
- Public policy
- Social science
- Science
- Social Work



Student Profile

Sanaz Taghizadeh MD Candidate

My passion for philosophy began at Saddleback College, where I had the privilege of receiving instruction from incredible mentors who inspired me throughout my journey. Rather quickly, I learned the benefits of studying philosophy and how it could instill growth in my character. This art offers a wide range of extremely valuable skills that are pertinent to any field whether it be law, medicine, education, or business. It creates for a well-rounded individual-someone who is able to think analytically and foresee a myriad of pathways to approaching a problem. Philosophy truly provides tools for life in unique way that is not promoted by other curricula.

I received my bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of California, Los Angeles with a concentration in ethics. Specifically, I was interested in Aristotelian ethics, where I deeply investigated the meaning behind living a 'morally good' life. While dabbling into the philosophy of psychology, law and medicine, I immediately developed a curiosity for the board applications that philosophy could have in the world of medicine.

When I earn my MD, I know that I'll be a more careful, attentive, and insightful doctor because of my philosophical training at Saddleback College.