

What can I do with a degree in Philosophy?

Know Yourself

Knowledge of yourself is important for career decision making. Start by looking at your personal goals, abilities, values and interests to explore study and career options that are relevant to you. Some of these may change over time, so it is important to self-reflect and evaluate your career on an ongoing basis.

What skills do employers want?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness and teamwork. With technology and globalisation changing the nature of society, skills such as resilience, problem solving and adaptability are valuable at work as well as in life.

What skills are developed through your degree?

- Some skills are developed through your degree

- Extra-curricular activities can help, for example getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering

AT A GLANCE

Philosophy students gain the highest GRE scores in verbal



Through their Philosophy degree, graduates develop a valuable set of skills that are transferable to a range of careers. These skills include:

- Careful, rational, systematic and clear analysis
- Thinking critically, creatively and challenging ideas
- Logic and reasoning
- Research and computing skills
- Problem solving skills
- Interpretive and analytical thinking
- Understanding the role of ethics
- Effective persuasive oral and written skills.

Opportunities to apply your learning outside the classroom are available in this major. Undertaking an internship, for example, can deepen your skillset, awareness of others, working knowledge, and employability.



Philosophy graduates are employed in a wide variety of sectors, including for example:

- Technology companies
- Government agencies
- Healthcare

- Education and training
- Legal services
- Finance and insurance
- Manufacturing and retail sectors.

New Zealand organisations that have hired humanities graduates with problem solving and critical thinking skills include:

- Public sector bodies such as the Ministry of Education, the Government Communications Security Bureau, and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
- Private organisations such as Vodafone, Microsoft and Kraft Heinz
- Digital technologies such as UC Arts Digital Lab
- Not-for-profit organisations such as Fairtrade Australia and New Zealand.

UC Philosophy graduates have landed roles in various universities, government organisations, a music company, law firms, recruitment agencies, technology companies, the retail trade, and private tutoring services. Some of these graduates have even set up their own business.

Internationally, Philosophy is recognised as excellent preparation for medical, business and law graduate schools. With growing business buy-in to concepts of global citizenship, and corporate social responsibility, opportunities for graduates with an ethics background are wide.

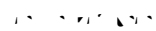


Graduates with this degree are employed in a range of jobs – see some examples below.

Note: Some of the jobs listed may require postgraduate study. See the 'Further study' section.



- Identifies issues and opportunities eg, in society, law or governance
- Interprets and consults on existing policies
- Prepares reports and recommends changes



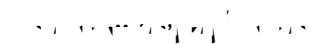
- Prepares and gives lectures and tutorials
- Sets and marks assignments and exams
- Conducts research, writes and publishes articles



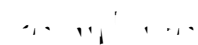
- Specifies and writes AI code
- Designs prototype robots
- Markets AI systems to customers eg, banks, hospitals, the military



- Trains people in professional ethics
- Promotes ethics and embeds frameworks within an organisation eg, police, hospitals

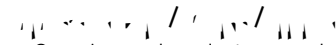


- Collects and analyses market insight
- Prepares and implements marketing plans
- Works with others to promote goods or services

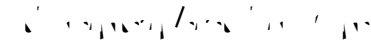


- Helps develop strategies and business plans
- Manages standards and business relationships

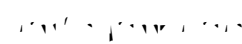
- Structures resources to deliver services or goods on time and to budget



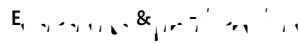
- Organises and conducts research surveys
- Tests theories and interprets the results
- Writes reports and makes recommendations



- Understands a business's personnel needs
- Advertises vacancies and recruits staff
- Advises on workplace policies and procedures



- Plans and delivers instructional lessons
- Evaluates performance and provides feedback
- Sets and marks assignments and tests



E Entrepreneurship and innovation are an increasing part of the working landscape. Through generating a business idea, or getting involved in a start-up/business venture, you have the potential to create a work opportunity that aligns with your knowledge, skills, values and risk profile. To get started on how to establish, run and grow a new business, go to Te Pokap Rakahinonga, Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Canterbury
www.canterbury.ac.nz/uce



Connecting with professional bodies and organisations can help you to establish professional networks and learn more about different career options in your area of interest. Gaining valuable insight into a profession can assist in making informed career decisions.

- New Zealand Society for Legal and Social Philosophy www.nzlsp.wordpress.com
- Australasian Association of Philosophy www.aap.org.au
- International Association for Critical Realism www.criticalrealismblog.blogspot.co.nz
- New Zealand Association for Philosophy Teachers



Te Rāpapa Rapuara UC Careers
www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Careers New Zealand
www.careers.govt.nz

Philosophy for Children New Zealand
www.p4c.org.nz

UC Arts Digital Lab
<http://dh.canterbury.ac.nz>

Artificial Intelligence Forum of New Zealand
www.aiforum.org.nz

M

Te Kura Kete Aronui | School of Humanities and Creative Arts

The Department offers world-class expertise in specific areas of Philosophy as well as a broad-based degree. A Philosophy degree is flexible, allowing students to pursue very different pathways. It also allows students majoring in other subjects to add Philosophy courses.

Staff are happy to go the extra mile to help students so enquiries are welcome.

T: +64 3 369 3377

E: artsdegreeadvice@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/philosophy

A

Te Rāpapa Rapuara | UC Careers

UC offers intending and current students and recent graduates a wide range of services, including individual career guidance, seminars, career resources and student and graduate employment opportunities.

T: +64 3 364 3310

E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

R

Read more stories about our students' university experiences online. UC alumni make a difference in varied ways around the globe. To find out where graduates are now visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/getstarted/whyuc/student-profiles

T

Te Rāpapa Takawaenga | Student Liaison

The liaison team provide advice to future students who are starting their degree for the first time. They can assist with information on degrees, scholarships, accommodation, and other aspects of university life. We have offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Te Rāpapa Takawaenga | Christchurch

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