

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy majors at RWU learn how to effectively express their rational beliefs on some of life's biggest questions. The writing, reading, and problem-solving skills you develop through discussions, debates, and your senior thesis lay a foundation for success in many different fields, including law and academia.

Many students go on to earn graduate degrees in Philosophy or other subjects such as:

- Law
- Business
- International Relations
- Psychology
- Academic Administration
- English



- + Do you like to discuss and debate?
- + Do you enjoy reading and writing?
- + Are you interested in researching a topic of your choice?

CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU **Philosophy** alumni are working as:

- Professor of Philosophy
- Chief Financial Manager at Anheuser-Busch
- Traveling Secretary for the Florida Panthers of the National Hockey League
- New York City Firefighter
- Director of Community Housing at Dartmouth College

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

“ I find fulfillment in all areas of my practice because they require me to solve problems for clients by applying what I learned from being a Philosophy major at RWU. We're all thinkers. But the Philosophy program made me a critical thinker. Approaching every problem with a critical eye and identifying all the potential solutions is something that I learned through my studies at RWU, and is something that helps me on a daily basis in my career. ”

Fran Deluca '11
Philosophy and political Science double major
Associate attorney with Ogletree Deakins

“ My initial intention was to mix something I thought was lucrative (Computer Science) with something fun (Philosophy). Once I had started down the path, I gradually came to realize that the two fields are deeply intertwined. Software professionals need to be capable of critically assessing the impact and meaning of our work and how to carry it out ethically – exactly the kind of analysis where past and emerging philosophical work is directly applicable and relevant. ”

Joe Ethier '04
Philosophy and computer science double major
Software engineer at Google

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU, Philosophy majors can:

- Partner with local Archives and Preservation Centers for research on topics like Feminist Theory and the History of Slave Trading in Rhode Island.
- Participate in service-learning, project-based coursework through the Community Partnerships Center (CPC).
- Discuss philosophical questions each month in the on-campus Socrates Café.
- Learn from guest speakers.
- Engage in work-study and internships with Philosophy faculty that includes helping with the university's online Philosophy journal.

Faculty

Your professors are researchers, archivists, and authors. They are experts in the field who will bring their skills and experiences to you in the form of coursework, experiential learning, and mentorship.

CURRICULUM

Structure

The Philosophy major develops skills in careful reading, critical thinking, and clear, effective writing. This program introduces you to the discipline, acquaints you with the world's major philosophic figures, and encourages you to explore your own philosophical questions. Your program culminates with a senior thesis in which you analyze and critically evaluate an important philosophical issue of your choice.

Special Courses

The program offers many interesting elective courses that apply the field of Philosophy to society and daily life. Examples include:

- Philosophy and Race
- Philosophy of Love and Sex
- Philosophy of Consciousness & Artificial Intelligence
- Buddhism, East and West
- The Meaning of Life
- Conscience and Violence
- Dissent and Disobedience

OVER 80% OF RWU STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH MORE THAN JUST A SINGLE MAJOR

Design your experience with your passion and have a unique career advantage with a minor or double major. Many students combine **Philosophy** with:

- Legal Studies
- Communication
- Psychology
- Creative Writing
- Public and Professional Writing
- Political Science



Last Updated: July 2021