

PHILOSOPHY

WHERE CAN IT TAKE YOU?

Law or Philosophy Degrees

Law or Philosophy graduates are highly valued within the legal profession due to strong skills in analytical and critical reasoning. Many roles will require further qualifications but Philosophy graduates could become a solicitor or even a barrister. Barristers (in England and Wales) are specialists in advocacy and represent individuals or organisations in court. They're independent sources of legal advice and can advise clients on their case. Generally, they are hired by solicitors to represent a case in court and only become involved once advocacy before a court is needed.

As a barrister you'll plead the case on behalf of your client and the client's solicitor. Members of the public can also go directly to a barrister to ask for advice and representation in court.

As a solicitor, you'll provide expert legal support and advice on a range of personal and commercial issues. Depending on your area of expertise, you can advise on a range of issues, including:

- Personal issues: buying and selling residential property, landlord and tenant agreements, wills and probate, divorce and family matters, personal injury claims and criminal litigation
- Commercial work: helping new enterprises get established, advising on complex corporate transactions (including mergers and acquisitions) and business-related disputes
- Protecting rights: making sure individuals receive compensation if unfairly treated by public or private bodies.

Civil Service

The Civil Service Fast Stream is an accelerated leadership development programme that provides talented graduates from a range of backgrounds with the experience, skills and knowledge needed to become senior leaders within the Civil Service. You'll choose from one of 15 different paths.

These are:

- Government Economic Service
- Government Statistical Service
- Government Operational Service
- Government Social Research Service
- Generalist
- Diplomatic Service
- Human Resources
- Houses of Parliament
- Diplomatic Service Economics
- Digital, Data & Technology
- Commercial
- Science and Engineering
- Finance
- Project Delivery
- Government Communication Service.

Charity Officer

A popular choice among graduates with passion for helping others, a career as a charity officer could be a perfect fit for those up to facing the challenges of working in the voluntary sector.

A charity officer works for a charitable or non-profit organisation and may also be known as a charity administrator, community liaison officer or project development officer.

Recruitment Consultant

Working recruitment is like working in sales, where your basic salary could be bolstered by potentially high on-target earnings (OTE) in the form of performance-related bonuses or commission.

Recruitment consultants are responsible for attracting candidates for jobs and matching them to temporary or permanent positions with client companies.

FURTHER CAREER INFORMATION

These are just a small selection of the careers you could go on to pursue should you study A Level Philosophy.

Many of these careers require a university degree and therefore we would recommend looking into the specific requirements for each university course by heading to their respective websites.

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WHAT TO EXPECT

What does the course involve?

We have all, at some time or another, asked questions about the origin and nature of our existence – are we really here? Why are we here? In Philosophy you will have the opportunity to study a wide range of responses and arguments concerning such questions.

You will also be encouraged to challenge your own beliefs and the beliefs of your classmates. During the course you will build and strengthen your skills of analysis and will become experts in challenging and evaluating your own arguments and the arguments of others.

Year 1 focuses on two key areas of study:

1) How can we be moral? – Is there a correct theory of ethics that we should all be living by?

2) What can we know? – can we be certain about the existence of the world around us?

Year 2 focusses two further areas of study:

3) Is there a God? – are there any arguments that are successful in proving God's existence?

4) Do we have a mind? – Is the mind a non-physical substance, or are we purely physical?

Studying philosophy will take you on a fascinating journey through the history of ideas and will lead you to consider the possibility that in fact you can only be certain of one thing – that you exist!

Can I take additional qualifications?

If you choose to study Philosophy, you will usually take it alongside two other A levels. Subjects which complement Philosophy include: English, Ancient History, Modern History, Politics, Economics and Maths.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through written examination. There will be two three-hour examinations at the end of the A2 course.

What are the costs?

There are no charges to study this course.

What is the duration?

This is a two year course.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.