

PHILOSOPHY

“Studying philosophy has taught me to hunt for the logical connections between subjects and to question material that lacks such a logical thread. I credit philosophy with not only contributing to my academic success but also to my mental stamina and emotional resilience.”

- Emily, a Philosophy Major



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

Study in philosophy engages questions about how one should live, our place in the universe, the nature of thought, and ways of knowing. Philosophy emphasizes the use of human rationality for effective and critical reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The philosophy curriculum prepares for a variety of careers using the breadth, depth, and reasoned rigor of philosophical thinking.

Graduate majors receive a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in philosophy. A minor in philosophy is also available. As an interdisciplinary field of study, a philosophy major combines well with a variety of minors or double majors such as English, peace & social justice studies, women and gender studies, or political science.

OPPORTUNITIES & INTERNSHIPS

- The Philosophy Department provides opportunities to explore diverse philosophical points of view, to develop rational abilities to reflect critically and constructively on a wide variety of important questions, and to cultivate abilities to communicate well through constructive engagement with others' ideas and ways of thinking.

- The Department offers various informal settings for developing students' philosophical abilities and knowledge.
- The Department offers a variety of out-of-class opportunities to pursue philosophical topics, including lectures through the Ross Lecture Series and various off-campus experiences through the Office of Internships.

CAREERS & OUTCOMES

Berea Philosophy graduates find employment or continue their studies in a wide variety of fields and occupations, including:

- Law
- Education
- Entrepreneurship
- Foreign Service
- Journalism
- Government
- Publishing



WHY IS A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION VALUABLE?

A liberal arts education at Berea College, combined with our work study program, equips students with highly employable skills like communication, problem-solving, and teamwork. Beyond offering a degree program, we help our students develop social responsibility and prepare them to successfully navigate diversity, change, and the complex demands of a modern work place.



80

percentage of employers who want colleges to emphasize critical thinking, analytic reasoning, and oral and written communication.

#1

Berea College's ranking as "Best Liberal Arts College" by Washington Monthly Magazine, 2018.

75

percentage of employers who believe successful college graduates should have both liberal arts training and experience in the field.

90

percentage of Berea students who credit liberal arts and work study for developing their communication, critical thinking, & problem-solving skills.



"People with a liberal arts education are able to think and view the world from several different perspectives . . . This ability to understand and adapt is very valuable in today's workplace."

Edward B. Rust Jr.
Chairman and CEO, State Farm Insurance Companies