Philosophy

Department of Philosophy
Administration/Humanities Building (ADM), Room 254, (907) 786-4355

Philosophy is the creative and critical reflection on enduring questions concerning the nature of the world and our place in it. For example, philosophy asks metaphysical questions about what exists, epistemic questions about what we can claim to know, and ethical questions about the nature of the good life and right action. In addition, philosophy involves the study and practice of good reasoning and clear thinking, skills that are essential to any discipline or profession.

The Department of Philosophy offers a variety of courses in the central areas of philosophy that acquaint students with the rich, living traditions of the world and explore historical and contemporary issues. Departmental faculty have a wide range of philosophical interests and expertise, with a particular strength in theoretical and applied ethics.

The department offers two options for students interested in the study of philosophy:

- Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy
- Minor in Philosophy.

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Philosophy provides a strong foundation for students for graduate study in a variety of areas including law, philosophy, or other humanities such as religious studies, theology, or classics. Many careers require the core skills learned in earning a philosophy degree such as critical thinking, clear argumentation for one’s own views, and the ability to see and evaluate multiple views on an issue. In this way, a BA in Philosophy has been used by students interested in a variety of fields, including teaching, politics, advertising, business, among others. In general, it is ideal for students who are seeking jobs in fields where writing, critical thinking, and general liberal arts skills are in demand, or for lifelong learners interested in philosophy.

The Minor in Philosophy is designed for students who are interested in philosophy but pursuing another degree, and for students majoring in a discipline that is complemented by the study of philosophy, such as history, justice, English, psychology, anthropology, sociology, economics, mathematics, political science or the natural sciences.

Programs of Study

Bachelor of Arts

- BA in Philosophy (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/cas/philosophy/ba-philosophy/)

Minor

- Minor in Philosophy (http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/cas/philosophy/minor-philosophy/)