

The Philosophy Major produces students who possess the following strengths with respect to these *essential* and *enduring* global outcomes:

Knowledge, Skills, Values

University of Guelph Learning Outcomes

	<i>Critical & creative thinking</i>	<i>Literacy</i>	<i>Global Understanding</i>	<i>Communicating</i>	<i>Professional and ethical behaviour</i>
Advanced literacy: the ability to simplify and clarify the central assumptions and arguments informing a wide range of viewpoints, even when couched in specialized or complex vocabulary.		✓		✓	
Advanced communication: the ability to clearly and accurately communicate complex issues verbally and in writing, and to argue successfully for one's own view.		✓		✓	
Critical thinking: the flexibility to appeal to a range of sources and evidence-types in making a case, and the ability to assess evidential weight and the balance of probabilities in very complex and difficult cases.	✓	✓			
Depth and breadth of knowledge: a sophisticated sense of the complexities of social-political, ethical, scientific, and aesthetic issues; a deep immersion in the intellectual traditions of the West and the ways they have shaped modern culture, society, politics, science, art, religion, and metaphysics. Exposure to the philosophical traditions of India, China, Africa, and Indigenous cultures.			✓		✓
Intellectual independence: the ability to identify and question the often implicit presuppositions that inform various viewpoints, and the confidence to propose novel and creative solutions.	✓		✓		
Active Citizenship: an interest and ability to contribute to and participate in civic life, and articulate and understand different viewpoints in the realm of public discourse.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Intellectual integrity: a sympathetic appreciation of the viewpoints of others, rooted in a firm sense of the complexity of real-world issues; a clear understanding of the main moral traditions dealing with equality, justice and personal ethics; an ability to recognize and to value the intellectual contributions of others.			✓		✓

The Philosophy Major produces these global outcomes by achieving a range of discipline-specific learning outcomes. Students who have completed the Philosophy Major will be able to:

Knowledge, Skills, Values

University of Guelph Learning Outcomes

	<i>Critical & creative thinking</i>	<i>Literacy</i>	<i>Global Understanding</i>	<i>Communi-cating</i>	<i>Profession al & ethical behaviour</i>
<i>Prepare</i> a sustained piece of philosophical writing in which a topic is articulated clearly and a stance on that topic is supported by appropriate and well thought-through reasons.	✓	✓		✓	
<i>Deliver</i> an oral presentation on a philosophical topic that is clear, accurate and well-reasoned.	✓	✓		✓	
<i>Understand, explain and assess</i> major theories in the history of ethical thought, including virtue ethics, utilitarianism, deontology, and intersubjective hermeneutics, and apply them to pressing modern issues in areas such as business, economic justice, biomedical interventions, and the treatment of animals and the environment.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Understand, explain and assess</i> major moments in the development of logic and the theory of knowledge, the landscape of contemporary epistemology, broadly construed, and its application to pressing modern issues in areas such as the proper assessment of the natural and social sciences, scientific methods and results, evidence-based approaches in, say, medicine, and the function of testimony in legal and other contexts.	✓	✓		✓	✓
<i>Understand, explain and assess</i> major moments in the history of metaphysics, the landscape of contemporary metaphysical thought, broadly construed, and its application to pressing modern issues in areas such as the ontology of science, phenomenology, the place of consciousness in the natural world, or the nature of time.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Identify and critically evaluate</i> the practical and cultural significance of central issues in ethics, philosophy of mind and science, feminism, aesthetics, existentialism, and social and political philosophy.		✓	✓		
<i>Identify and critically evaluate</i> central philosophical claims made by canonical philosophers of the ancient, early modern and modern periods; these figures include Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, Kant, and Hegel. In addition, have some familiarity with canonical philosophers of the mediaeval and contemporary (twentieth and twenty-first century) periods, and with some non-canonical philosophers including those who critique the canon.	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Understand, explain and assess</i> the significance of key concepts, in philosophy and beyond, such as the appearance-reality distinction, the fact-value distinction, validity and soundness, modes of necessity, nature and community, and so on.	✓	✓			
<i>Be skilled</i> in the use of key tools for sound justification and rational persuasion, including informal logic, propositional logic, the predicate calculus, basic statistical reasoning, and the dialectical method.	✓	✓			
<i>Organize and present</i> a philosophical theory and engage with others in the development of a defense and critique of the theory.	✓			✓	
<i>Argue</i> successfully for one's own view and be able to identify and critically evaluate patterns of argumentative reasoning in the work of others.	✓			✓	
<i>Develop</i> research methods for gathering a wide range of primary and secondary source material, and synthesize this material and evaluate its credibility.	✓	✓			