PHILOSOPHY

WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY?

Explore truth, beauty, justice, equity, life, freedom, art, and meaning.

For thousands of years, the great thinkers of our time have tried to answer fundamental questions about existence, knowledge, values, reason, the mind, and language. From the ancient, the medieval and the contemporary, it is those voices that continue to shape how we understand the world.

Challenge yourself to get to know our world, deeply, and appreciate the diversity of human thought and experience.

Philosophy explores the questions that shape how we understand the world, that define and even create our values, from which our motivations, actions, and meanings spring. It asks the questions that we need to ask to flourish as thinkers, as humans, and as communities.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Philosophy continues to challenge you throughout your life. Build strong career-building skills in effective communication, problem-solving, and the ability to analyse complex issues from multiple perspectives.

With a strong foundation for success and personal growth, our graduates pursue careers in politics, education, law and journalism, and many others.

"I loved how Philosophy challenged me, not only to consider different perspectives, but with new and interesting content that facilitates critical and abstract thinking.

"In combination with the communication abilities gained by any Arts student, I know that I graduated with a skill set that's highly transferrable across a range of disciplines and career options."
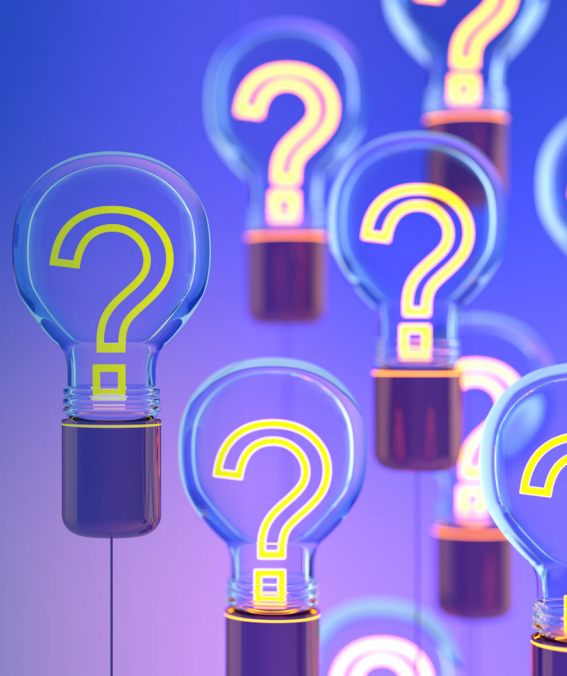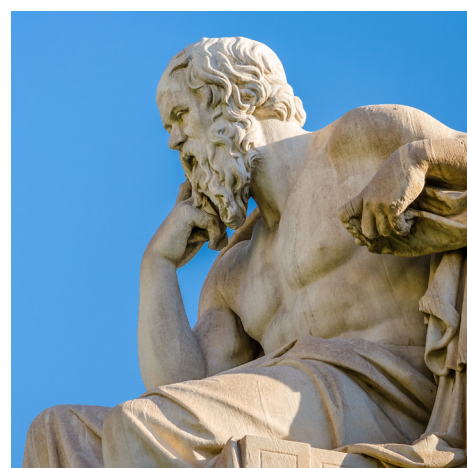
Zack Monk
Ngāi Tahu and Te Atiawa
Chief of Staff, Solve

Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Philosophy + History
/ Bachelor of Commerce

auckland.ac.nz/arts/philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
Waipapa Taumata Rau
NEW ZEALAND

ARTS

WHAT CAN I STUDY?

You can explore a wide range of topics and perspectives, from ancient and medieval philosophy to contemporary issues in ethics, epistemology, and the philosophy of science. You will learn how to construct and evaluate arguments, analyse and critique philosophical texts, and engage in informed and respectful discussions with others.

Get excited about your course options:

Stage 1 Course*

PHIL 104 - Ethics and Justice

How should we live? And how do we live well together? This course examines practical questions of ethics and justice at the personal, professional, social and global levels. The course reflects on these topics in the light of philosophical theories about justice, liberty, rights, and different approaches to ethics that emphasise roles, rules, virtues and consequences.

Stage 2 Course*

PHIL 225 - Power, Critique and Emancipation

What is power? When are relations of power legitimate and illegitimate? How is power structured in the modern world? How can illegitimate structures of power be resisted and reordered to promote justice and human flourishing? This course examines and analyses cultural, economic, political and epistemic structures of power, including gender, race, and class.

Stage 3 Course*

PHIL 351 - Philosophy and the Environment

Do we have obligations to future generations, especially concerning preservation of the environment? What are our moral and epistemic responsibilities regarding climate change and other environmental issues? Does nature have intrinsic value? Is it better to live in a natural world or a virtual world?

Courses you could study*

Mind, Knowledge and Reality

Introduction to Logic

Critical Thinking

Indigenous Philosophy

Complementary majors include:

Philosophy

+

Media and Screen Studies
Sociology

"Philosophy grounds decision-making in solid reasoning. I see new perspectives every time I step from one classroom to another.
I would love to graduate into AI ethics and governance. I hope the future challenges my critical thinking and puts me at the centre of emerging technologies."

Gali Mortimer-Webster

Student: Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Philosophy + Drama / Bachelor of Science

For enrolment information email:

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