Philosophy

Benedictine University
College of Liberal Arts

WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY AT BENEDICTINE?

Philosophy students at Benedictine are deeply interested in the world around them. They are planning careers in law, medicine, business or education. Our students recognize that, in order to develop the qualities of mind and character they will need to succeed at high levels, they need to be challenged. The members of Benedictine's philosophy faculty actively accompany students on a rigorous intellectual journey. They do so by working closely with students, guiding them in the study of ancient and contemporary philosophical classics in lectures, seminars, small group discussions and informal gatherings outside of class. Faculty members mentor each student during the research and writing of their capstone philosophy thesis.

PHILOSOPHY OPENS DOORS

The study of philosophy prepares students for almost any kind of post-graduate study or career. Benedictine's philosophy alumni have earned admission to top law, medical and graduate schools. They include practicing lawyers, physicians, businesspeople and academics.

SMALL CLASSES, GREAT IDEAS

In small classes taught by experienced professors, students read works by thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, Descartes, Kant and Nietzsche. Students receive an excellent foundation in the areas of logic, epistemology, metaphysics, politics, feminist philosophy and ethics. They study the history of philosophy — ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary — and learn about both the analytic and the continental philosophical traditions.

NEXT-LEVEL THINKING

Philosophy students hone their skills in thinking, writing and research. The program is reading and writing intensive and grounded in discussion and debate. Experienced faculty guide our students in preparing an undergraduate thesis for presentation at a research conference.

PHILOSOPHY ALUMNI

You will find students of philosophy in almost any career field you can imagine. Some of our alumni have gone on to medical school at Midwestern University, to graduate school at The University of Chicago, to teach philosophy at The University of Notre Dame, and to practice internal medicine at West Suburban Medical Center.

SAMPLE COURSES:
- PHIL 1101: Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 2200: Introduction to Logic
- PHIL 3390: History and Philosophy of Science
- PHIL 4391: Thesis

SIMILAR MAJORS:
History, Mathematics, Psychology

COLLEGE
OF LIBERAL ARTS

Benedictine University's College of Liberal Arts is home to undergraduate programs in the Arts, the Humanities and the Social Sciences. We also house graduate programs in clinical psychology. The "Liberal" in "Liberal Arts" doesn't refer to a political viewpoint but rather what allows you to be free – or liberated! And "Arts" refer to how to create things well – in this case, how to make a life for yourself and develop personally and professionally. Taken together, these liberal arts disciplines allow you to swim rather than float through life. They do this by helping you be adaptable and flexible in the face of change and enabling you to communicate across differences in culture, nationality and creed.

SIGNATURE PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

You'll gain key skills employers prize: Ethical Problem-Solving; Communication Skills; Collaboration, Teamwork, and Leadership; Competency in Intercultural and Global Relationships; Cultural and Civic Literacy.

DECLARE A MINOR

Engaging in your passions and exploring possibilities are important to your growth. Through the college we urge you to declare a minor in a specific area of interest.

SCHOLARS PROGRAM

BenU's Scholars Program offers academically talented students from across the University opportunities to develop their skills as thinkers and leaders.

The majority of College of Liberal Arts classes are held in Scholl Hall or the Kindlon Hall of Learning. Kindlon is home to our Eye of the Eagle television studio and the Fr. Michael E. Komechak, O.S.B. Art Gallery. Scholl houses two Mac labs for our graphic design students, art studio space, music practice rooms and our new Social and Behavioral Sciences Laboratory and Collaborative Work Space.

As a double major in political science and English language and literature, I was a part of a tight-knit community that truly helped me understand what it meant to be Benedictine. I quickly learned the faculty would stop at nothing to help me achieve my goals and were eager to help me develop academically and professionally. I was able to tailor my classes to my specific interests and truly pursue topics I was passionate about. Ultimately, it was my experience on the Benedictine Mock Trial Team that made it clear to me that I wanted to go to law school and be an attorney. I am confident that I wouldn't be where I am today without the personally crafted educational experience I received at Benedictine University.

PAULINA PIASECKI, B.A.'18, POLITICAL SCIENCE & ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Law Student at Georgetown University Law Center

MAJORS WITHIN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Communication Arts+
Criminology+
English Language
   and Literature+
Graphic Arts and Design+

History+
Music+
Philosophy+
Political Science+
Psychology+
Social Science

Sociology+
Spanish+
Studio Art
Theology
Writing and Publishing

GET INVOLVED

College-Related Student Engagement Opportunities
Concert Band, Jazz and
   Wind Ensemble
Mock Trial
Model UN

Political Science Student
   Association (PSSA)
Pre-Law Society
Psychology/Sociology Club

+ Denotes majors that are also available as minors