

5 Things to Know

1. What is Philosophy?

Philosophy asks fundamentally important questions—concerning knowledge, value, existence, ethics, race and gender, religion, truth and justice—that have enduring relevance in everyday life. Anything and everything can be questioned in Philosophy, no matter how complex or difficult the subject. Philosophers then propose and examine various possible answers to such questions, using careful and systematic reasoning.

2. Why study Philosophy at Dalhousie?

Dalhousie's Philosophy Department is a close-knit and supportive community of scholars: professors and students gather together for lively philosophical exchange in an ongoing colloquium series typically held Friday afternoons year-round! There is also an active undergraduate student society which meets regularly.

3. What degrees and courses are offered?

We offer a variety of options for majors and honours as well as opportunities for disciplinary or sub-speciality minors in topics such as Applied Ethics and Bioethics. Some of our classes include: Philosophy of Sex and Love; Epistemology; Animal Ethics; Philosophy of Language; Ethics and Health Care; Contemporary Feminist Theories; Philosophy and the Black Experience; and Philosophy of Art.

4. What can I do with a Philosophy degree?

The basic skills practiced in philosophy—clear and critical thinking, logically cogent argumentation, and writing, to name a few—are the very skills demanded and rewarded in the most lucrative, influential professions. Philosophy majors are highly regarded by **law schools**, **medical schools** and in **graduate programs** generally, not least because philosophy majors typically excel on professional school exams like the LSAT, MCAT, and GRE.

5. I want in! Where do I begin?

Register for a first-year course such as PHIL 1500 (Ethics, Social, and Political Philosophy) or PHIL 1501 (Epistemology, Metaphysics), or pick a second-year course in an area of interest to you and start there! A few second-year options include: PHIL2020 Legal Thinking, PHIL/RELS 2205 Philosophy of Religion, PHIL2480 Environmental Ethics, or PHIL 2660 Understanding Scientific Reasoning.

Have a question? Email: dalphil@dal.ca

Learn more: dal.ca/philosophy

