After graduation

Philosophy graduates possess a range of skills that employers identify as enormously valuable: clear and analytical thinking, persuasive writing and speaking, insightful questioning.

Data gathered by PayScale from the 2016–2017 academic year shows that people with bachelor's degrees in philosophy tend to earn more over their lifetime than people with degrees in any other humanities field. Philosophy students have both the highest starting salary of any humanities major ($44,700) and the highest percent increase between starting and mid-career salary ($84,100).

Median Income for Humanities Majors by Years of Experience

Years of Experience	0 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 20	20 and up
Philosophy	$44,700	$60,700	$81,600	$95,000
English Literature	$41,100	$56,700	$71,800	$82,200
History	$42,200	$54,700	$70,100	$83,800
English Language and Literature	$40,400	$54,400	$67,400	$72,600
Art History	$40,800	$53,300	$62,500	$70,800
Creative Writing	$38,900	$51,300	$64,700	$77,200
Theater	$39,500	$50,200	$59,100	$67,900
Humanities	$40,900	$49,100	$55,300	$65,000
Music	$38,300	$48,500	$57,100	$70,800

Our students often go on to graduate study in Philosophy and other fields. Many select the major, minor, or Ethics minor as an integral element in their preparation for law school.

Philosophy majors consistently perform best or near best on graduate school admission exams, year after year compared to other majors. The success of philosophy graduates on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) is persistent, and students of philosophy regularly outperform their peers. Philosophy majors rank significantly better than any other humanities degree, with an average score slightly lower than economics for the second highest of any field for the 2017-2018 year.

Average LSAT Scores by Major

Major	Average Score	Number of Students
Economics	158.9	2,757
Philosophy	157.2	2,238
Engineering	156.2	974
History	156.3	3,138
English	154.8	3,151
Finance	154.9	1,471
Political Science	153.6	11,947
Psychology	152.5	3,736
Communications	150.8	1,183
Criminal Justice	145.9	3,629

Data source: https://www.lsac.org/sites/default/files/media/2017-18_applicants-major_0.pdf