

# DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

---

**Donald Smith, Ph.D.**

Associate professor and chair

[philosophy.vcu.edu](http://philosophy.vcu.edu) (<http://philosophy.vcu.edu/>)

Philosophy aims at a deeper understanding of matters that should most concern the human race. Philosophical questions crop up in science, religion, art, morality, politics, medicine and in everyday life. Students enrolled in philosophy are encouraged to think seriously about fundamental issues in all these domains and to formulate coherent and well-grounded points of view. Because of its extensive use of critical and analytical reasoning, philosophy equips students for careers in medicine, law, business and other fields that require careful thought and the clear expression of ideas.

The Department of Philosophy offers a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. The department offers courses for students in other programs, as well as for those majoring in philosophy or religious studies.

Students who complete the requirements for any of these concentrations will receive a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy.

- Philosophy, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba/>)
- Philosophy, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a concentration in ethics and public policy (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba-concentration-ethics-public-policy/>)
- Philosophy, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a concentration in philosophy and law (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba-concentration-philosophy-law/>)
- Philosophy, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a concentration in philosophy and science (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba-concentration-philosophy-science/>)
- Philosophy, minor in (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-minor/>)
- Philosophy of law, minor in (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-law-minor/>)