Philosophy

Why Study Philosophy at TCNJ?
Philosophy students at TCNJ’s School of Humanities and Social Sciences examine profound questions about the nature of reality, knowledge, and ethics. Our program focuses on developing critical thinking, close analysis, argument and counter argument to equip students with the skills and insights to succeed in a range of meaningful pursuits — including law, medicine, healthcare, business, education, and post-graduate philosophy work. Students have the advantages of small class sizes, a challenging curriculum, and the support of dedicated and accomplished faculty who are passionate about teaching and research.

Programs of Study
TCNJ offers a Philosophy major, a Philosophy minor, and specializations in Law and Philosophy, and Ethics. Our curriculum is designed to cultivate intellectual agility, reasoning, ethical thinking, and persuasive arguing — and to support their application in a fluid and complex world.

Students benefit from:

• A flexible curriculum that easily accommodates double majors — with various other programs in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and beyond

• Small, engaging classes — that foster collaboration and discussion

• Opportunities for faculty-mentored research, internships, or study abroad — that help students broaden perspectives and practice learned skills

• Exceptional preparation for law school or graduate school — if a desired path

• Dedicated instruction and mentorship from renowned scholars with diverse expertise — faculty specializations cover a wide range of philosophical areas and orientations

Philosophy majors outperform all other majors in:
• Composite GRE scores
• GRE analytical writing
• GRE verbal reasoning

Source: Educational Testing Service

Philosophy majors are one of the majors that perform the best on the LSAT

Source: Law School Admission Council, Inc.

TCNJ also offers minors and self-designed majors in Religious Studies and Classical Studies — furthering the quest to more deeply understand ourselves and our world.

philos.tcnj.edu
Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Students may choose to pursue faculty-mentored research opportunities or design independent research projects for academic credit. TCNJ Philosophy faculty are deeply committed to their research and engaging interested students in participation. Students may co-author academic papers for publication, create posters, and present their work at conferences.

Internships

Internships are highly encouraged so students can gain practical experience as undergrads. With placements through TCNJ’s Career Center, alumni network, or personal connections, our Philosophy students have had significant internships at a wide variety of organizations.

Recent Internships:
- AmeriCorps
- Cooperman Scholars
- Legal Aid Justice Center (LAJC)
- New Jersey Department of Education
- New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission
- New Jersey Primary Care Association
- Newark Department of Law
- Planned Parenthood
- Rockland County Public Defender’s Office
- Williamson Law Firm

A Philosophy Degree from TCNJ Opens Doors

Our graduates gain the skills, insights, and experience to answer fundamental questions through rational investigation, making them highly attractive to prospective employers and top graduate programs. About 50% of our students go on to law school, with others pursuing business, government, journalism, counseling, education, medical school, and more. A foundation in philosophy translates to almost any profession and endeavor.

Recent Graduate School Placements:
- College of William and Mary Law School
- CUNY Doctoral Program in Philosophy
- Georgetown University Law School
- New York University Law School
- Rutgers University Masters Program in Information Science
- Rutgers University Masters Program in Public Policy
- TCNJ Masters Program in Counselor Education
- TCNJ Masters Program in Public Health
- University of Maryland Law School
- University of North Carolina Masters in Education
- West Virginia University Medical School

Recent Graduate Employers:
- Gabel and Associates Inc.
- H & R Block
- Health Union
- KPMG
- Peace Corps
- Princeton Public Library
- Teach for America
- United States Army
- National Guard

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New Jersey Primary Care Association
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Planned Parenthood
Rockland County Public Defender’s Office
Williamson Law Firm

Take the Next Step

To learn more about earning your Philosophy degree at TCNJ, visit philos.tcnj.edu or contact us with questions.

Ready to apply? Visit admissions.tcnj.edu to get started.