

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Student Learning Outcomes for the B.A. in Philosophy

Students completing the B.A. major will be able to:

1. develop a facility with philosophical modes of thinking and analysis, including the evaluation of arguments found in various contexts in ordinary life, such as political discourse, the media, and so forth, and also formal logic
2. develop the capacity to write and speak clearly and effectively; in particular, they should develop the ability to express philosophical ideas and to defend them effectively in argument (both in writing and orally)
3. familiarize themselves with central topics in a range of areas which are typically regarded as central to contemporary philosophical thought (sometimes called the "core" areas of philosophy), including metaphysics, theory of knowledge, philosophy of mind, and the philosophy of language
4. familiarize themselves with the most important topics in ethics and the related fields of social and political philosophy, including philosophy of law; here we seek both a more abstract, theoretical understanding and also an ability to apply theory to actual social problems and institutions
5. understand the work of major figures in the history of philosophy and how it frames and contributes to the ongoing philosophical conversation

Program Website: <http://www.philosophy.ucr.edu/>