

# What can I do with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy?

*A guide compiled by CUE Career Services and the Faculty of Arts*

## General Skill Sets

A Bachelor of Arts degree is versatile. Graduates are employed in almost every industry and every company in North America. When employers are hiring, they are interested in transferable skills attained through university study. Examples include:

- Writing skills
- Research skills
- Preparation and facilitation of public presentation
- Skill in presenting yourself as a competent, articulate potential employee
- Accomplishing an outcome through working with a group (teamwork)
- The ability to start something and complete it (i.e. a university degree)
- A broad understanding of the history and framework of our society
- Knowledge and understanding of society and societal issues
- Knowledge and understanding of history and the development of culture in other countries and peoples
- Self-confidence
- Self-discipline
- The ability to communicate with anyone – anywhere; in any forum – using any format

Statistics tell us that university graduates are more likely to be promoted or to attain leadership positions than those who do not have a degree. Generally, they move into positions with increased responsibilities and increased pay, or they leave their current employer to take on a better-paying role elsewhere, as at this time, the degree is combined with work experience

## Skills developed in the study of Philosophy:

Studying music gives you a range of skills sought after by all types of employers, such as:

- Critical thinking
- Ability to analyze how ethics impact individuals and organizations
- Creative thinking
- Presenting alternative points of view comprehensively and objectively
- Reviewing and analyzing information
- Ability to develop process or methods for problem solving
- Influencing and persuading
- Organizing, clarifying and communicating ideas logically
- Compiling and organizing information
- The ability to read and interpret difficult prose
- Critical writing
- Ability to break down complex data so that it is accessible
- Editing written materials
- Ability to analyze a problem and consider all points of view

As learning is life-long, some careers which are related to a BA degree in Philosophy require additional training. This may involve weekend, evening or part-time courses; further education (some employers provide support by allowing time or offering finances to assist you in your learning); distance studies; or full-time college or university. The Bachelor's degree is a starting point.

## Careers related to Music degrees

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Music is a starting point for a spectrum of careers, some of which require further education. People with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music, including Concordia University of Edmonton alumni, have pursued careers in these and other areas:

### Non-profit and Health

- Fundraiser
- Volunteer manager
- Family support worker
- Non-profit administrator
- Social worker
- Camp director
- Credit counselor
- Foreign aid worker
- Hospital ombudsman
- Geriatric support worker
- Medical facility administrator
- Genetic counselor

### Religious

- Religious minister
- Chaplain
- Church worker
- Missionary
- Administrator for religious organizations

### Business

- Business administrator
- Manager
- Consultant (all areas in business)
- Insurance underwriter
- Financial analyst
- Financial advisor
- Buyer/purchaser
- Systems analyst
- Management consultant
- Sales representative
- Credit analyst
- Human resources manager
- Communications specialist
- Bookstore owner/worker

### Institutional/ government

- Lobbyist
- Aide (for MP or MLA)
- Political campaign worker
- Politician
- Public service official
- Prison administrator
- CSIS officer/RCMP/ municipal police
- Mediator
- Consultant for government (all levels)
- Criminologist
- International relations specialist

### Education

- Student advisor
- Guidance counsellor
- Teacher (elementary, secondary, adult)
- University/college professor
- Administrator in post-secondary institutions



**Media/ writing**

- Editor Editorial assistant
- Film writer/producer/ director
- Technical writer
- Journalist/ broadcaster
- Commentator on social issues
- Writer Arts consultant
- Critic (literary, media)
- Publisher

**All sectors**

- Speech Writer
- Lawyer
- Paralegal
- Public relations professional
- Economist
- Union representative

**REFERENCES**

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For more information or assistance with career and educational planning, please contact CUE Career Services at +1 780 378 8461 or email us at [careerservices@concordia.ab.ca](mailto:careerservices@concordia.ab.ca).

