Students who study philosophy at the UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ask probing questions about the nature of reality, the mind, knowledge and value. Examples of philosophical questions include: Which, if any, non-human animals have conscious experiences, and how would we know? Should I back off of my beliefs, at least a little, if I find out that my equally informed peer has beliefs directly opposed to mine? When life-saving medical resources are scarce, how should we decide who lives and who dies? Students who study philosophy can expect to receive training in these areas of inquiry and also in clear thinking, inventive synthesis and precise expression.

PHILOSOPHY CURRICULUM
The department offers a wide range of courses, including courses on historical figures, such as Plato and Kant; traditional philosophical topics, such as the nature of the mind, language and the just society; and several that deal with the philosophy of various disciplines outside philosophy itself, such as philosophy of science and philosophy of law. Since philosophy often reflects on fundamental concepts in other areas of intellectual inquiry, it is an excellent second major or minor to pair with many other programs of study, such as government and politics, linguistics, computer science and psychology.

SAMPLE COURSE TITLES
- Metaphysics
- Ethics and Artificial Intelligence
- Know Thyself: Wisdom Through Cognitive Science
- Philosophy of Race
PHILOSOPHY DEGREES IN ACTION

97% of recent ARHU graduates are either working full time, interning or pursuing graduate studies.* Here’s where some of our philosophy graduates are working or studying:

- Cornell University, Law School
- University of Pennsylvania, Master’s Degree in Bioethics
- University of Oxford, Master’s Degree in Public Policy
- Medical College of Wisconsin, Medical School
- Fulbright Program, English Teaching Assistant in Taiwan
- Booz Allen Hamilton, General Management Consultant
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security, IT Business Analyst

*Placement rate is based on the May 2019 university graduation survey

KATELYN TURNER ’18, PHILOSOPHY AND GOVERNMENT & POLITICS
Master of Science, University of Oxford; Fulbright Research Scholar

“My philosophy degree equipped me with many skills: an eye for detail, a strong foundation in writing, and the ability to think critically and deeply about complex problems. These are not only transferable to any career path and intellectual endeavor, but have proven essential for my work as a researcher and change agent.”

TIPS FOR CAREER SUCCESS

It’s never too early to start planning for your career after graduation. Make an appointment to talk with the University Career Center @ARHU. We’ll work with you to assess your skills, values and interests and use them to find opportunities that meet your goals. Academic and career advisors will help you incorporate internships, living-learning programs, global experiences, research and more into your academic plan. Research shows that having one or more internships increases your ability to land a full-time position after graduation. Learn more at careers.umd.edu.

BE WORLDWISE. GET WORLDREADY. CAREER INITIATIVE

The “Be Worldwide. Get Worldready.” initiative prepares students to adapt and thrive in the workplace and shapes the kind of global citizens they can become. It creatively integrates career development in the ARHU academic experience by offering strategic career preparation and academic advising; engages faculty to develop new and reimagined courses, majors and minors; and provides opportunities to apply scholarship to practice. Students learn to communicate the real-world value of their arts and humanities degree through this initiative.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES (ARHU)

ARHU is home to 14 departments and 79 bachelor’s degrees, minors and certificate programs, so you can tailor your degree (or double major) across various fields of study, including performing and visual arts, languages, literatures and cultures. With an 8 to 1 student to faculty ratio, ARHU offers you the benefits of a tight-knit community with access to the resources of a large, public research institution near the nation’s capital.