Why Philosophy and Religion at UCA?

The department faculty is both large and diverse in its interests, ranging from the classical areas of study in philosophy and religion to contemporary issues in artificial intelligence, postmodernism, feminism, as well as Christian, Buddhist, Islamic and Judaic philosophical and religious thought. Students repeatedly report that what they like most about the program is the accessibility of the faculty and fellow students for advising, discussion and debate. The department hosts a philosophy and religion film and lecture series, a Facebook page for the discussion of various philosophical, religious and social-political issues and the philosophy program maintains a chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, the national honors society for undergraduates in philosophy.

The Department of Philosophy and Religion at UCA offers a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science degree in philosophy and a Bachelor of Arts degree in religious studies. Owing to the close intellectual connections between the two programs, many students who begin their undergraduate work in one program decide to major or minor in the other. Visit us at uca.edu/philosophy
WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY?

Philosophy begins in wonder. From the start, wonder, curiosity and doubt have motivated the great questions of philosophy. People everywhere are driven to understand the world around them and philosophy is the most persistent attempt to do so through the human capacity to reason and base beliefs upon the best evidence available to us. A student of philosophy becomes a creative and critical thinker informed by the many answers great minds have offered to the most basic questions asked by human beings everywhere. All of this makes for a deeper appreciation and understanding of what it means to be a human being.

WHY STUDY RELIGION?

We live in a diverse and pluralistic world where religious faiths exist not in isolation from one another, but in close proximity and contact. Living well in such a world entails understanding it in all its diversity.

A degree in Religious Studies is excellent preparation for those interested in religious occupations, as well as those with interests in broader professional careers where an understanding of the human condition in all its variety is the best foundation.

STUDENT LIFE: GRADUATE STUDIES AND BEYOND

The study of philosophy and religion develops the skills necessary to succeed in a host of other areas of study. The philosophy or religious studies major does well on all significant graduate entrance exams: GRE, LSAT, and GMAT. The GRE is usually required for admission to graduate studies in the sciences and humanities. A study showed that of students who took this exam, philosophy and religion majors scored high. On the quantitative section, philosophy majors outscored all others majoring in a humanities field.

PRE-LAW STUDENTS

The Law School Admission Test (LSAT) places emphasis on clear thinking. Courses in logic and critical thinking are especially recommended, but every philosophy course will help in the improvement of reasoning skills. Records of law school admissions indicate that philosophy majors were more likely to be admitted to law schools than all other humanities and business students, and more likely than almost all social science majors.

OUTSTANDING FACULTY

Many of the faculty members in the Department of Philosophy and Religion have national and international reputations for their work in their areas of specialty, and all of the faculty love teaching and helping students to enter the vast and important world of thought and practice that philosophy and religious studies investigates. Join us to discover the excitement and insights of philosophy and religion at UCA!

EDUCATING FOR DIVERSITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

As with other Liberal Arts majors at UCA, you will have opportunities for study abroad, undergraduate research, internships and service learning. In the past, students have traveled with professors and fellow students to France, Italy, Washington D.C., Honolulu and elsewhere. EDGE provides you with the opportunity to work with professors doing research for presentations and publications in various national and international forums. Students have the opportunity to live in EDGE Residential College, which makes global education a living/learning experience.

uca.edu/liberalarts/edgeplan

VINCENT FLESOURAS

VINCENT FLESOURAS CREDITS HIS PHILOSOPHY DEGREE FOR HIS RECENT APPOINTMENT AS SR. DRUPAL DEVELOPER AT SLAC NATIONAL ACCELERATOR LABORATORY AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN CALIFORNIA.

“I think my time in the philosophy and religion department gave me an incalculable advantage in regards to problem solving and working with others.”