Seek truth. Find understanding.

What does it mean to be a human being? How should I live? What can we know about God? At Assumption, you’ll explore these fundamental questions in your philosophy and theology courses.

Philosophy and theology provide you with the wide perspectives and deep insights that are the heart of Assumption’s liberal arts tradition. Your courses in philosophy and theology enhance the reading, reasoning, and communication skills that will serve you through life.

DID YOU KNOW?

From the ancient contributions of Plato and Aristotle to the modern issues of biomedical ethics and social responsibility in business, a wide range of topics is offered by the philosophy department to engage our students in the pursuit of truth.

The complementary role of faith and reason

By exposing you to ideas that expand your way of thinking and challenge you to see the world in new ways, the Departments of Philosophy and Theology provide valuable and distinctive dimensions to an Assumption liberal arts education.

You’ll learn about the human experience and explore the role of faith and reason in the search for truth, and find out more about yourself in the process. While philosophy and theology are required subjects for all Assumption students, many decide to add one or the other as a minor or another major.

With faculty and your peers, you’ll grapple with profound questions surrounding the human condition and examine contemporary issues of ethics, law and science. You’ll address the complex relationship between religion and the social order. And you’ll gain a deeper understanding of God’s relation to each of us and to our world.

“The recognition of both faith and reason is something that was highlighted at Assumption. My education prepared me well for graduate studies, and made me a better, more thoughtful person.”

- Julia Hazlett ’11, math and theology double major, Ph.D. student in math at Tufts University
Course of study

Assumption offers both philosophy and theology so students broaden their thinking and enrich their perspective. Adding a major or minor in philosophy or theology can complement a major in any discipline and is a great addition to your educational experience.

PHILOSOPHY

Major or Minor. Philosophy majors take courses in ethics, metaphysics, and the history of philosophy. In addition, you choose elective courses on such topics as Plato; Islamic, Jewish, and Christian philosophy; and existentialist thought.

Learn about our philosophy faculty, courses and degree requirements at www.assumption.edu/philosophy.

THEOLOGY

Major or Minor. Theology majors take courses in the Bible, the nature of theology, and on such topics as the Christian tradition, the Church, moral theology, Catholic social teaching, and world religions. Majors are required to participate in the senior seminar, their capstone course in which they report on the theology topic of their choosing.

Learn about our theology faculty, courses and degree requirements at www.assumption.edu/theology.

DID YOU KNOW?

Assumption's core curriculum is a set of required courses covering many disciplines, including literature, art, science, philosophy and theology. All students take two courses in philosophy and in theology, including "Introduction to Philosophy" and "The Bible" as well as a third humanities optional course in Philosophy or Theology.

With strong analytical and communication skills and the ambition to seek truth in all things, Assumption students of philosophy and theology are well prepared for careers in virtually any field.

Most students who major in philosophy or theology also have another major as a career interest. While some go on to graduate programs in philosophy or theology, many pursue law and political science or enter directly into careers in such fields as education, counseling, business, government, and ministry. Here’s a sampling of where Assumption philosophy and theology alumni are making a difference in the world:

DID YOU KNOW?

The Saint John’s Bible is a handwritten, illuminated work of theology and art created by British calligrapher Donald Jackson and a team of artists. The seven volumes took more than 12 years to finish and depict historic images in abstract form, and incorporate contemporary images to reflect the biblical stories and the true spirit of Christianity. In May 2012, Assumption acquired one of only 360 full-scale reproductions.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Sample graduate schools

Andover Newton Theological School
Boston College
Marquette University
Syracuse University
The Catholic University of America
The University of Memphis
Yale University
University of Dallas
University of Notre Dame

Sample recent employers

Brigham Young University
Congregational Church of Amherst, N.H.
Lahey Clinic
Malden Catholic High School
State Street Corporation
University of Massachusetts Medical School
U.S. Navy

For a list of the graduate schools and employers of recent philosophy and theology alumni, visit www.assumption.edu/programs.