

Hi! My name is Kayleigh, and I am a senior philosophy major and communication minor from Pinehurst, North Carolina.

My inspiration for studying philosophy is not your expected response. My junior and senior year of high school, I enrolled in dual enrollment courses at my local community college, one course being sociology. I participated in policy debates and fell in love with debating, finding fallacies in arguments, asking questions to find presuppositions, researching topics, and obtaining an open mind to either side, for or against, as I did not know which topic or which side I would be assigned. So you may be wondering, why philosophy? Well, my senior year of high school, we had to construct and present a final project on our desired career. I chose "How to Become A Lawyer".

"I wanted a major that would challenge, intrigue, benefit, and most importantly teach me."

As I researched suggested majors, minors, concentrations, programs, everything your basic incoming freshman does, philosophy was one result. Philosophy was recommended by Deans of Law Schools, philosophy majors also proved to score the sixth best in terms of LSAT's and GPA scores; they are also admitted to law school at a higher percentage than any other major. I was intrigued. But I had never taken a philosophy course, let alone study philosophy in my free time. However, I knew that I did not want to go the "basic" pre-law route with political science or psychology. I wanted a major that would challenge, intrigue, benefit, and most importantly teach me, and I can successfully tell you, majoring in Philosophy at Appalachian State has done just that.

Some ideas that philosophy treats that I personally find exciting and applicable to my future career are philosophy of law and medical ethics. As I am pursuing a future career in law, I am very interested in healthcare law or medical malpractice. Medical ethics is taught to protect and defend patients rights, it helps to establish principles to help govern medical conduct- which is extremely important especially with the high demand of medical assistance.

One thing I heavily value about our Philosophy Department here at Appalachian State is the close connections you form with your fellow students and professors. Being an unconventional major, our numbers are smaller, but our connections are stronger. You will find that your philosophy peers are among the same classes as you and if you happen to have a favorite professor, you will meet them again in the following semester. That being said, in our department, not only is it very important and beneficial, it is very easy to recognize a familiar face and form connections.



**Philosophy Major
Kayleigh Conley**