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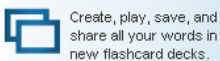
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phi·los·o·phy

[fi-**los**-uh-fee] [Show IPA](#)

-noun, plural -phies.

1. the rational investigation of the truths and principles of being, knowledge, or conduct.
2. any of the three branches, namely natural philosophy, moral philosophy, and metaphysical philosophy, that are accepted as composing this study.
3. a system of philosophical doctrine: *the philosophy of Spinoza*.
4. the critical study of the basic principles and concepts of a particular branch of knowledge, especially with a view to improving or reconstituting them: *the philosophy of science*.
5. a system of principles for guidance in practical affairs.
6. a philosophical attitude, as one of composure and calm in the presence of troubles or annoyances.

Origin:

1250–1300; Middle English *philosophie* < Latin *philosophia* < Greek *philosophia*. See [philo-](#), [-sophy](#).

—Related forms

an-ti-phi-los-o-phy, *adjective, noun, plural* -phies.
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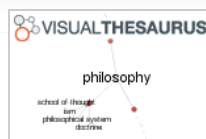
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World English Dictionary

philosophy (fɪlɪsəfi)

— *n* , *pl* -phies

1. the academic discipline concerned with making explicit the nature and significance of ordinary and scientific beliefs and investigating the intelligibility of concepts by means of rational argument concerning their presuppositions, implications, and interrelationships; in particular, the rational investigation of the nature and structure of reality (metaphysics), the resources and limits of knowledge (epistemology), the principles and import of moral judgment (ethics), and the relationship between language and reality (semantics)
2. the particular doctrines relating to these issues of some specific individual or school: *the philosophy of Descartes*
3. the critical study of the basic principles and concepts of a discipline: *the philosophy of law*
4. *archaic* , *literary* or the investigation of natural phenomena, esp alchemy, astrology, and astronomy
5. any system of belief, values, or tenets
6. a personal outlook or viewpoint
7. serenity of temper

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- canorous
- brummagem
- storyteller
- apposition

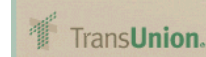
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Plant City of Los Angeles, No. 09-53750 archived on March 24, 2011

[C13: from Old French *filosofie*, from Latin *philosophia*, from Greek, from *philosophos* lover of wisdom]

Collins English Dictionary - Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition
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Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009
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Word Origin & History

philosophy

c.1300, from O.Fr. *filosofie* (12c.), from L. *philosophia*, from Gk. *philosophia* "love of knowledge, wisdom," from *philo-* "loving" + *sophia* "knowledge, wisdom," from *sophis* "wise, learned."

Nec quicquam aliud est philosophia, si interpretari velis, praeter studium sapientiae; sapientia autem est rerum divinarum et humanarum causarumque quibus eae res continentur scientia. [Cicero, "De Officiis"]

Meaning "system a person forms for conduct of life" is attested from 1771. *Philosophize* is attested from 1594.

Online Etymology Dictionary, © 2010 Douglas Harper
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Cultural Dictionary

philosophy definition

A study that attempts to discover the fundamental principles of the sciences, the arts, and the world that the sciences and arts deal with; the word *philosophy* is from the Greek for "love of wisdom." Philosophy has many branches that explore principles of specific areas, such as knowledge ([epistemology](#)), reasoning ([logic](#)), being in general ([metaphysics](#)), beauty ([aesthetics](#)), and human conduct ([ethics](#)).

Different approaches to philosophy are also called philosophies. (See also [epicureanism](#), [existentialism](#), [idealism](#), [materialism](#), [nihilism](#), [pragmatism](#), [stoicism](#), and [utilitarianism](#).)

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Computing Dictionary

philosophy definition

See [computer ethics](#), [liar paradox](#), [netiquette](#), [proof](#).

The Free On-line Dictionary of Computing, © Denis Howe 2010 <http://foldoc.org>
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Famous Quotations

philosophy

"Hebraism contains no eternal realm of essence, which Gr..."

"It is a commonplace that all religion expresses itself ..."

"Philosophy can be compared to some powders that are so ..."

"A philosophy can and must be worked out with the great..."

"Seeing our common-sense conceptual framework for mental..."

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