

# Why Philosophy?

April 22, 2015

# Section 1

## Philosophy Pays

# George Soros



# Carl Icahn



## Carly Fiorina: HP CEO





# Peter Thiel: Founder of PayPal



# Salaries

`http://online.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/  
info-Degrees_that_Pay_you_Back-sort.html`



## Section 2

# Philosophy Makes You Smart

## GRE

## THE POWER OF PHILOSOPHY

GRE SCORES BY INTENDED GRADUATE MAJOR, 2011-12

**Verbal**

(Average score out of 170)

<b>Philosophy</b>	<b>160</b>
English	157
Political Science	156
Physics	156
Economics	154
Biology	153
Chemistry	153
Psychology	152
Education	151
Communications	151
Business	150
Computer Science	149

**Quantitative**

(Average score out of 170)

<b>Physics</b>	<b>161</b>
Economics	159
Computer Science	158
Chemistry	157
<b>Philosophy</b>	<b>153</b>
Biology	153
Business	152
Political Science	151
English	148
Education	148
Psychology	148
Communications	147

**Analytical Writing**

(Average score out of 6)

<b>Philosophy</b>	<b>4.4</b>
English	4.3
Political Science	4.2
Physics	4.0
Psychology	4.0
Economics	4.0
Biology	3.9
Chemistry	3.9
Education	3.9
Communications	3.9
Business	3.7
Computer Science	3.4

Source: Educational Testing Service; data available at [http://www.ets.org/s/gre/soll/ore\\_guide\\_tablet.cdf](http://www.ets.org/s/gre/soll/ore_guide_tablet.cdf)

# GMAT

[http://www.nmu.edu/sites/DrupalPhilosophy/files/  
UserFiles/Files/Pre-Drupal/SiteSections/Resources/  
GMAT\\_by\\_Intended\\_Major.pdf](http://www.nmu.edu/sites/DrupalPhilosophy/files/UserFiles/Files/Pre-Drupal/SiteSections/Resources/GMAT_by_Intended_Major.pdf)

# LSAT

[http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/AAS/Phil/upload/  
LSAT-Scores-of-Majors.pdf](http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/AAS/Phil/upload/LSAT-Scores-of-Majors.pdf)

## Section 3

# How Philosophy Helps

### 3 Important Skills

1. The ability to think logically, critically, and independently.
2. The ability to communicate clearly and effectively.
3. The ability to reason with abstract concepts and apply abstract concepts to particular cases.

# Logic: The Math of Critical Thinking

- $\exists x(Fx \wedge \forall y(Fy \implies x = y))$
- $\exists x \exists y((Fx \wedge Gy) \wedge \neg(x = y)) \wedge \forall z(Fz \implies ((z = x \vee z = y)))$

## Applied to Abstract Material

1. God is the greatest possible being that can be imagined.
2. God exists as an idea in the mind.
3. A being that exists as an idea in the mind and in reality is greater than a being that exists only as an idea in the mind.
4. Thus, if God exists only as an idea in the mind, then we can imagine something that is greater than God.
5. But we cannot imagine something that is greater than God (for it is a contradiction to suppose that we can imagine a being greater than the greatest possible being that can be imagined.)
6. Therefore, God exists.