advice chief

The importance of studying philosophy

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Have you ever read any books about philosophy? How familiar are you with the works of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Confucius, Thomas Aquinas, Lao-Tzu, John Locke, Friedrich Nietzsche, Karl Marx, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, or Karl Jaspers? Or the works associated with Buddha, Jesus Christ, or Muhammad? Even books written by modern-day authors such as Robert Greene can be considered works of philosophy. There are many other sources of philosophy out there for you to consider, evaluate, or believe in. But what is philosophy and why is it so important?

First, philosophy is the study of existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind, and language. It's basically the exploration of life's big questions. Second, it's a discipline that can be applied to any field or subject and it helps to develop critical thinking skills, which are vital to succeed in today's highly complex world.

Philosophy is one of the oldest disciplines in the world and its history can be traced back to ancient Greece. It has had a significant impact on many areas of life and professions including the arts, science, politics, and business.

Reading about or studying philosophy doesn't mean you will agree with it or believe in it. You can take it all in and form your own opinions or beliefs on various matters. As a result of your willingness to read philosophical works, you can obtain knowledge and wisdom that will help you do the following:

1) Be a critical thinker. Philosophy teaches critical thinking by encouraging you to question things, develop your own beliefs, and to think for yourself. Critical thinking is a valuable skill, particularly in a world where it is becoming increasingly difficult to tell fact from fiction. Philosophy also teaches you how to make your case in point more effectively. This is important, as it allows you to defend your beliefs against opposing arguments and helps you to develop a better understanding of other people's views.

2) Understand yourself and your place in the world. Philosophy can teach you how to question your assumptions and beliefs. Many of us take certain things for granted without ever really questioning why we believe them. By exploring how thoughts and beliefs are formed, and how this has evolved throughout history, you can begin to understand your own frame of beliefs. Philosophy can also provide you with a framework for making ethical decisions and for exploring important questions about life and death, meaning and purpose. By studying philosophy, you can develop your reasoning and abstract thinking skills, which are essential for success in any field.

3) Strive to determine what is true and worthwhile. Science is important but it can't answer every question. It can provide us with much data on a particular subject, but it can't make sure we connect the dots on the big picture. Science may give an indication about something, but it can't tell us what makes something right or wrong. It can tell us how things are empirically, but it can't prescribe how we should then live. In short: science helps us live longer, whereas philosophy helps us live better.

4) Develop better business acumen. At first thought, philosophy may not seem especially relevant to business. However, this couldn't be further from the truth. From a business perspective, philosophy is an important and highly relevant field of study. Philosophy is a great way of looking at problems that could affect companies down the line such as how to operate in 10 years as well as the types of employees to hire in the future. A business leader or manager may possess great knowledge on a particular matter, but without essential wisdom, the courses of action necessary for success may not be effective. Knowledge without wisdom is like water in the sand, meaning knowledge is practically useless without wisdom.

All great leaders study philosophy. They acquire an expertise and then learn to interpret the world in a way that enables their expertise to come to life. Studying philosophy can certainly help you in obtaining a level of wisdom necessary to succeed both in your career and in life.

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