

Philosophy Papers for non-philosophy majors:

1) Breathe!

You have come to the right place, the CTL can help you on this paper which may seem foreign, but you got this!

2) Philosophy is a different style of writing.

Things may seem different from high school, or other classes, but that's okay! (sometimes it can even be easier):

A) You can use I.

That's right, all those times in high school they scratched I out of your essay, it's okay here!

B) Introduction, all you have to do is tell me what you're going to do!

You don't have to be fancy, just simply lay out your paper, tell me what you are going to do, and how, but that's it!

C) Conclusion, all you have to do is tell me what you did!

Just like the introduction, you don't have to be fancy, just tell me what you did!

3) Watch out for those circles!

Circular arguments are your worst enemy, stay away from something like this:



You want something like this:



4) Don't tell me the history of philosophers!

I know Kant had a crazy life, and was a big party guy, but this does not belong in your paper, save it as a fun fact on a separate document though, because it is cool stuff!

5) Try and relate your paper to something interesting to you!

So, you're an engineering major who got stuck in a philosophy class, as a philosophy major, I could not imagine taking an engineering class, but I promise you can make this work!

We can find something related between Utilitarianism (let's increase that utility/happiness and decrease suffering) and that new bio-med engineering project you're working on that will help patients overall, or that new computer system that will make it easier for users to work their own computers (which increases their happiness).

Philosophy is cool because it can relate to ANYTHING and your major is no exception!