Your Degree What Next: Philosophy

What can I do with Philosophy?

In the recent past, graduates of Philosophy (Single Honours and TSM) have worked in areas as diverse as accountancy, academic teaching, journalism, law, TV reporting and research, film making, banking, computing and advertising. Research on graduate entry aptitude tests in the US (GRE) show that philosophy graduates outscore all other disciplines in two of the three main areas (verbal reasoning and analytical writing) and tend to do well in the third, quantitative reasoning. The kind of reasoning and analytical competencies acquired in studying philosophy are transferable to a multiplicity of careers.

Roles
- Account Support
- Clerical Officer
- Education Administrator
- Analyst
- Front of House Manager
- Marketing Manager

Employers
- Stride
- Department of Foreign Affairs
- Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS
- Moloney Search UK
- Compass Group
- Jacobs Allen Chartered Accountants

Each year some graduates also opt to pursue a research career in Philosophy, beginning with postgraduate study in Ireland or abroad.

Some of the other areas that students have progressed onto further study include: Accounting, Computer Science, Digital Media, Education, Finance, Human Resource Management, Peace Studies, Politics, Psychology and Software Development.

Useful Resources

The organisations and professional bodies listed below are useful resources for career / sector specific information:

Resources
- gradireland (IE)
- Targetjobs (UK)
- Prospects (UK)
- Vault Career Insider (Global)

Professional Bodies
- Irish Philosophy Society
- Society for Women in Philosophy Ireland
- British Philosophical Association
Graduate attributes and transferrable skills you can develop at Trinity

You gain a wide range of skills and attributes while at College, through academic study, clubs and societies, voluntary work, student politics, work and other commitments. These are important to recognize as they inform your career decisions and are a critical ingredient in your applications for postgraduate study and jobs.

Here are some skills you can gain:

1. Critical Thinking - The most fundamental part of a university education is learning to work on your own and to make independent judgments. You have to discover the information that you need to analyse complex questions and develop your ideas about them and to present your arguments clearly and persuasively.

2. Teamwork - Learning to work as part of a team is an important skill; sharing the workload, agreeing roles and working as a team to develop ideas, analyse information and present a coherent group argument.

3. Independent Research - You will have learnt how to use the library and other complex information resources and coordinate information from a wide variety of sources.

4. Logical argumentation - You will know how to bring together facts and arguments in order to answer a specific question.

5. Time and project management - By working on assignments and studying for exams you will have developed the ability to revise and consolidate your work and know how to extract the essential points from a mass of information. You will also have learned how to manage your own time and to work under pressure of deadlines.

6. Verbal communication - You will know how to present your ideas orally and to contribute constructively to discussions.

7. Written communication - You will have had the opportunity to present your ideas in writing accurately and concisely, using convincing arguments which are based on solid evidence; responding flexibly to different types of questions and expressing your thoughts concisely; carrying out in-depth research on a specialised topic and develop the sustained writing skills needed.

8. Digital Skills - You will have the opportunity of developing your computer skills both from typing up your own essays and papers and from undertaking searches on the web & using databases.

9. Personal Development – You are managing the learning required for a degree and recognising the gaps in your understanding and ensuring that these are addressed in ways that best suit your learning style.

How can the Careers Service help me?

The Careers Advisory Service supports students in exploring their career options and connects students with employers. You can book an appointment with your careers consultant to help you deciding your next step in your career.

Login to MyCareer at www.tcd.ie/careers and book your appointment today.