



# Your Degree What Next: *Microbiology*

Microbiologists study microbes at both cellular and molecular levels, using a wide range of techniques. This provides microbiologists with a wide range of expertise that open up doors to many industries — pharmaceuticals, medical research, medical devices etc.

## What skills can I develop at Trinity?

You gain a wide range of skills 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 through your course:

**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 co-ordinate 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 or analyse a problem.

**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.

## What can I do with Microbiology degree?

Microbiology students have various options available upon completion of their degree. Careers are available in academic research and industry, as well as jobs outside of the laboratory environment. Microbiologists can be involved in cutting-edge research in health-care, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, environment, food and agriculture industries. Here are some examples of employment opportunities:

### Roles

Quality Control / Assurance

Research Assistant

Consultant

Medical Scientist

Scientific Writer

Technical Support Scientist

### Employers

St. James's Hospital Dublin

Amgen

Trinity College Dublin

Abbott

MSD

Irish Blood Transfusion Service

Many Microbiology students go on to postgraduate courses such as masters or PhD to develop skills in specific disciplines: biomedical diagnostics, food microbiology, physician associate; and programmes outside of laboratory environment: science communication, regulatory affairs and biotechnology & business 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)

Sciencemag (Global)

Vault Career Insider (Global)

### Professional Bodies

The Irish Society of Clinical Microbiologists

The Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

BioConnect Ireland

Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine

## How can the Careers Service help you?

The Careers 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](http://www.tcd.ie/careers) and book your appointment today.

## Contact Us

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