



## Your Degree What Next: *Modern Languages*

### What can I do with my degree in Irish, Italian, French, German, Near and Middle Eastern Studies (Hebrew, Turkish, Arabic) Spanish, Russian?

Graduates follow a wide range of careers all over the world. While a number of these build directly on a specialised knowledge of subjects studied, more commonly it is the general intellectual and personal skills developed which prove to be of most obvious value to employers. Language skills are in demand across a range of sectors in Ireland including management, marketing and sales, customer service, IT technical support, claims and collections, according to recent National Skills Bulletins. Local and international employers include media organisations, consultancy firms, recruitment and training organisations, banks, technology firms, retail, non– profit organisations as well as a wide range of small to medium-sized enterprises including start-ups. Typical job titles and employers of graduates of languages include:

#### Roles

Translator/ Interpreter/Teacher  
International Development Worker  
Logistics/ Distribution Administrator  
Customer Service Agent  
Marketing Executive  
Social Media Manager  
Tour Guide

#### Employers

Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard  
PayPal Ireland  
IBEC Global Graduates  
Transperfect  
Aryzta  
Enterprise Ireland  
Upwork– opportunities for freelancers

These are small sample of the types of career paths graduates of your course typically enter. Remember many graduate roles are open to graduates of all disciplines. Further study is a popular choice for language graduates. Some graduates choose to continue their academic studies by doing a Masters or a PhD, while others choose to study more vocational postgraduate courses in areas such as teaching, journalism, librarianship, psychology, law, health sciences e.g. speech and language therapy and business. See the Careers Service postgraduate resources for help with finding courses and funding.

### Useful Resources

The lists below are useful resources for career / sector specific information:

#### Professional Bodies and Useful Sites

Irish Association of Translators and Interpreters  
Chartered Institute of Linguists (UK)  
European Movement Ireland  
EU Careers  
Top Language Jobs  
Artsmanagement.ie  
ActiveLink & Dochas - non-profit opportunities

#### Resources

gradireland (IE)  
icould (UK)  
Prospects (UK)  
Vault Career Insider (Global)  
EURES– European Job Mobility Portal  
Mentoring– from Careers Service & Trinity Alumni  
LinkedIn- Trinity College Dublin alumni group

## Graduate attributes and transferable 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 publications and 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 post-graduate study and jobs. Here are some skills you can gain :

1. **Language** – fluency and confidence in communicating in a foreign language.

2. **Critical Thinking** - making independent judgments. You discover the information that you need to analyse complex questions and develop your ideas about them and to present your arguments clearly.

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.

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

### Contact Us

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