Skills Developed In College

You have developed a range of skills through your education, work experience and personal interests and achievements. Understanding what skills you have to offer and like to use can help you understand what you want in a career, as well as providing key information for job or further study applications.

In terms of securing a job, academic qualifications alone will not guarantee success. Evidence-based skills sections on your CV can demonstrate the broad range of qualities you have to offer employers. Here are some of the main skills you may have developed while in college:

- **Communication skills, both verbal and written**
  Expressing ideas effectively and conveying information appropriately and accurately. Influencing others by expressing self effectively in a group and in one to one situations. Showing a range of verbal and nonverbal signals that the information being received is understood.

- **Teamwork / Working with Others**
  Working effectively and confidently within a group to achieve a common goal or task. Including understanding your role within the team, and listening and supporting other team members.

- **Problem-solving ability**
  Identifying, prioritising and solving problems, individually or in groups; possessing the ability to ask the right questions, sort out the many facets of a problem, and contribute ideas as well as answers regarding the problem.

- **Time-management skills / ability to meet deadlines**
  Managing several tasks at once; being able to set priorities and to allocate time efficiently in order to meet deadlines

- **Cultural Appreciation**
  Understanding and acceptance of different cultures, religions, economies, governments, and global issues. Appreciating the internal diversity and cross-cultural connectedness of cultures and showing curiosity and openness towards other cultures

- **Global Organisations Awareness**
  Understanding of the architecture of global organisations in terms of strategy, structure, operations, logistic, human resources, financial management, creativity, innovation, change, and decision making.

- **Business Awareness**
  Having an awareness of the business issues that affect specific industries and understanding
the environment in which they operate in relation to stakeholder perspectives (customer, supplier, employer, employee, shareholder).

- **Planning and Organising**
  Establishing a course of action for self and/or others to accomplish a specific goal. Planning proper assignments of personnel and appropriate allocation of resources.

- **Leadership skills**
  Motivating and taking responsibility to lead other people, in order to achieve set goals and Objectives.

- **Initiative & self-management**
  Identifying opportunities and being proactive in putting forward ideas and potential solutions. Self-disciplined and self-motivated, in the pursuit of studies and professional practice.

- **Ability to make quick decisions / work under pressure**
  Making decisions and taking action. Maintaining performance under pressure and / or opposition.

You may also have developed a wide range of technical / specific course related skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Employers / Industry Sectors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animation firms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book and magazine publishing companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate art and graphic design departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic media companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film and television companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent contracting and consulting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic design agency/Digital media agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game design firms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail stores/App stores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government departments &amp; agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museums and other public institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities or colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public television</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR Consultancies/PR Departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games designers – indigenous companies Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small ‘indie’ development, e.g. arcade, iphone, android, mobile games, casual games</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For sector information see [GradIreland](https://gradireland.ie), [Careers Portal](https://careersportal.ie), [Prospects (UK)](https://www.prospects.ac.uk) & [Target Jobs (UK)](https://www.targetjobs.co.uk).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Options With Your Course (including job profiles)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some of main occupations secured by Creative Digital Media graduates include:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Mobile, smart device and dynamic web applications designer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Digital media researcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Web/content designer/developer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Iphone, android, W7WebAPP designer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Game consultant
• Game software engineer
• Game software development
• Game manager
• Games tester
• Games designer
• Games programmer
• Games quality assurance
• Game client developer
• Audio/video programming
• Audio designer
• Audio tester
• Level designers
• TV Graphic Designer
• 2D animator
• DVD designer
• Project managers
• Digital media consultant
• Media analyst
• Content creator
• Games analyst
• Game Server Developer
• Unity Game Developer
• Lecturer
• Media Content Developer
• Self-employed/Business start up
• Video Editor
• Multimedia developer
• Usability specialist
• Illustrator
• Animator
• Consultant
• Localisation Manager/Language Technology Development

For more occupational information see GradIreland, Careers Portal, Prospects (UK) & Target Jobs (UK).

Employers Who Have Recruited in Your Area

A sample of employers:
Brand X
Osgo Solutions
Paddy Power
Salesforce
Skill Soft
Trocaire
Tifco Hotel
Digital Hub
Go Radiate
Dublin Design
Job Hunting

It is important that you access both the advertised and hidden jobs market and use any and every means available to you to job hunt effectively.

See www.dit.ie/careers (job hunting section) for more details.

Advertised Jobs

WEBSITES

• Most University and IT Careers Services have jobs listings on their websites
  • dit.ie/jobscene (grad programmes and immediate vacancies)
  • dit.ie/careers/careersdiary/ (List of Career Events throughout year)

• www.Gradireland.com – Immediate jobs / Summer/ Grad programmes

• Graduate jobs in UK: www.prospects.ac.uk & www.targetjobs.co.uk

• Over 250 UK Graduate Programmes at www.savethestudent.org/student-jobs/graduate-scheme-deadlines

• Internships/Work placement/Work Experience. E.g. enterntships.com, IBEC graduate scheme - http://www.ibec.ie/GradLink, iagora.com, eurobrussels.com, eu-careers.eu, digitalmarketingjobs.ie, internships.com

• Company websites – look at advertised vacancies under jobs /careers section

• Local and national press – Local and national press

• Public Service - www.publicjobs.ie, www.localgovernmentjobs.ie

• Recruitment Agencies/On-line recruitment sites, e.g. www.irishjobs.ie/agencies, recruitmentagenciesireland.com – complete list of agencies, e.g. Hayes, Zartis, etc.


• Job websites - indeed.ie, irishjobfairy (twitter), irishjobs.ie, digitalmarketingjobs.ie, digitalmediajobs.com, careerjet.ie, alternativesdigital.ie, simplyhired.ie, gamesjobsireland.com, prosperity.ie, gamedevelopers.ie, monster.ie, irishgamedev (twitter), mobiledev (facebook)

• Other career websites: www.careersportal.ie

Opportunities Abroad

• Consider possibilities regionally and abroad www.prospects.ac.uk – working abroad, www.kent.ac.uk/careers/sitesint.htm - working in different countries, www.rileyguide.com, targetjobs.co.uk campaignlive.co.uk, marketingweek.co.uk, mediaweek.co.uk, thedrum.co.uk, revolutionjobs.co.uk (digital jobs), Guardian Jobs (http://jobs.guardian.co.uk), jobhopper.co.uk, sourcethatjob.com, creativepool.co.uk,
Targetjobs.co.uk

TEACHING
• Education/Teaching jobs: educationposts.ie, educationcareers.ie, euraxess.ie, heanet.ie, jobs.ac.uk

VOLUNTARY / CHARITY / NGO SECTOR

OTHER
• Careers fairs – gradireland - Autumn and Summer Fairs, Careers Zoo, plus many others
• Notice boards/Student email accounts/Lecturers
• Specialist publications/magazines

INTERNATIONAL RELATED
• Internships/Job Opportunities Worldwide. E.g. iagora.com, eurobrussels.com, intergrad international career opportunities – http://tinyurl.com/d7pluyx, overseasjobs.com, jobrapido.com
• Marketing communication service www.wpp.com – (advertising, public affairs, pr, marketing worldwide)
• Working abroad (country profiles) www.targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/working-abroad

Unadvertised Jobs

NETWORKING
• Networking – who is in my network? – classmates, lecturers, alumni, family, neighbours, colleagues, clubs and societies, DIT Career Development Centre, professional bodies
• Informational Interviewing/Shadowing
• College work – projects, thesis, placement, guest speakers, student website
• Societies – e.g. guest speakers/events
• Attend events, conferences, short courses, trade shows (e.g. professional bodies, etc), National Digital Conference, Dublin, businessandleadership.com (events), Digital Learning Festival – May, http://www.gamesfleadh.ie/expo/whats-on, cross industry events, i.e. TechBrew/ISIN events/Dublin start-up Commissioner, DubLUDO (game events), Codess (female coder events for women), Dublin Unity User group, etc.
• Meet up groups, e.g. - ‘Data Scientists Ireland’ and ‘Tech for good - Dublin’
• Join Alumni Association/Linked-in DIT Alumni group//Related groups on linked-in, e.g. digitalmediajobsnetwork
• Find a mentor/keep a job hunting record
CONTACTING AND TRACKING COMPANIES

• Speculative applications + cold calling. Think about your offering

• Contact organisation with ideas (ways to reduce costs, make them more money, research project, Your Unique Selling Point – Think about your offering)

• First Destination Reports (where have previous graduates gone?) – DIT Linked-in


• Check out industry award recipients – Best Workplaces in Ireland (download on gradireland.com), Ireland’s top 1000 companies http://www.top1000.ie/companies Award recipients – Digital Media Awards (digitalmedia.ie) http://www.digitalmedia.ie/, IAPI (ADFX) Awards, Media Awards, ICAD awards (creative excellence in advertising), IFTN awards, Irish Magazines Awards, All Ireland Marketing Awards, etc.

• Check out Labour Market trends, www.careersportal.ie, IDA (Industrial sectors), IBEC, www.dit.ie/careers (labour market news),

• www.siliconrepublic.com/topics/jobs announcements

• Search newspaper business pages on-line to get success stories on businesses as they are growing – DIT Careers website (labour market news)

START UPS

• Start-up companies – www.startupdublin.com, dublinstartupjobs.com


• https://angel.co/ - start up jobs worldwide

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

• Freelancing/Self-employment – Hothouse, DIT Aungier Street, Incubation Centres

OTHER PROACTIVE IDEAS

• Social networking sites (facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Blog, Discussion Groups)

  Linked-In (set up a profile, link to others, search for companies - employees who have LinkedIn profiles, advertised jobs, follow companies) - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ocp1MNP5kWs (How to use LinkedIn)

• Join linkedin discussion groups

• Think of small companies not just big brands

• Consider alternative roles (marketing, advertising, journalism, sales)

• Blogs/Editors with articles, radio contributor, guest lecturer

• Undertake voluntary work in areas you are interested in

• Scholarships/Competitions

For more information on how to go about finding a job and job-hunting sites, click here
Interviews

For more information on how to perform in interviews, click here

CVs/Cover Letters & Applications

For information on how to put together a great CV/Cover Letter or Application, click here

Useful Links (e.g. Company Databases, Professional Bodies, LinkedIn Groups)

This list contains links to some of the most useful websites for your course including professional bodies and associations, employer directories, information sources and LinkedIn groups.

General Websites

Related Professional bodies/Associations: Members, training, events, opportunities, news

Other examples

Worldwide Media guide - www.mondotimes.com
Yellow and White pages directories from around the world - www.superpages.com/global/
Specialists in Student Travel - www.usit.ie

Careers Open To All Disciplines (including ‘Paths into……’ series)
Many graduate vacancies don’t require specific degree subjects as possession of a degree is taken as evidence of intellectual ability. What is more important to the potential employer is the range of transferable skills and experience you can demonstrate.

Many graduate training programmes take final year students from a wide range of disciplines – register with the Career Development Centre’s Jobscene for a full list of programmes.

Here is a range of career areas that are potentially open to graduates of all disciplines. It’s important to note that some of these options may require further study either on the job or beforehand. If you are considering diversifying or changing career direction a postgraduate conversion course may be a viable option.

Some examples of career areas open to students of all disciplines:

- Teaching & Education
- Financial Services & Accounting
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Retail, Sales and Customer Service
- Banking, insurance and financial services
- Charities and voluntary sector
- Fund management / administration and investment banking
- Human resources, recruitment and training
- Management consulting
- Management, business and administration
- Media and publishing
- Public sector and civil service
- Social, community and youth

Further Study (including Postgraduate Conversion Courses)

Are you considering further study or training? Click here for comprehensive information.

Conversion courses

Some graduates find that their primary degree did not meet their expectations, either vocationally, academically or personally, and seek change career direction. Conversion courses offer the opportunity to diversify into another chosen career area while meeting the necessary entry requirements for that discipline. However, it should be noted that this is not the case for all disciplines e.g. disciplines such as science and engineering will require an undergraduate degree in that discipline.

As with all choices good research and planning are very important.

Self-Employment

Ever thought of being your own boss? Think you have an innovative product or service idea that could have commercial value? Want to commercialise your research? Click here for more information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Options (e.g. Time out, travel etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteering and working with communities with is a great way to gain valuable real world experience, to develop new skills, to meet new people, to do something worthwhile and to improve your employability. For more details, see <a href="#">here</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labour Market Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For information on the latest labour market trends see <a href="#">here</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Information / Advice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For any query you might have, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disclaimer: DIT Career Development Centre offers advice in good faith on the basis of the best information available. The Centre accepts no responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice.