Cornell’s Career Resources for the Non-Academic Job Search

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Academic Jobs: Relatively Straightforward Path

- Graduate Student
- Postdoctoral researcher
- Assistant Professor
- Lecturer
- Tenure!
Jobs Outside of Academia

Postdoctoral researcher

Graduate Student
Jobs Outside of Academia

- You don’t have any skills
- Your advisor won’t support you
- Employers won’t sponsor work visas
- You don’t have time to apply
- You’re afraid of making a career change
- You’re tired and burned out
Jobs Outside of Academia

- You’ll be wasting your degree
- You’ll have to compromise your personal values
- You’ll miss academia after all
- You’ll be viewed as a failure
- You won’t be intellectually satisfied
How Can You Overcome These Challenges?

By gathering information so you can make a well-informed career decision

Treat your job search process as a research project
Your Graduate Experience Already Taught You How To:

- Define a topic of interest by reading extensively
- Formulate a hypothesis or question
- Figure out what you know and don’t know
- Identify resources (books, websites, databases)
- Talk to experts intelligently
- Question your assumptions
Your Graduate Experience Already Taught You How To:

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Your Career Exploration Research Project

1. Conduct background research to identify topics of interest
2. Develop a hypothesis or question
3. Gather information to test your hypothesis or answer your question
4. Evaluate your findings
5. Articulate your results and publicize
Your Career Exploration Research Project

1. Conduct background research to identify topics of interest
   *Identify your skills and what is important to you in your career*

2. Develop a hypothesis or question

3. Gather information to test your hypothesis or answer your question

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1. Conduct background research to identify topics of interest

2. Develop a hypothesis or question
   
   E.g. “I would like to use negotiation skills in my future career” or “Is consulting a good match for my skills and interests?”

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2. **Develop a hypothesis or question**

3. **Gather information to test your hypothesis or answer your question**
   - Locate resources, read, and speak to experts to learn about careers in which you could use certain skills and fulfill your priorities

4. **Evaluate your findings**

5. **Articulate your results and publicize**
Your Career Exploration Research Project

Conduct background research to identify topics of interest

Develop a hypothesis or question

Gather information to test your hypothesis or answer your question

Evaluate your findings
Prove your hypothesis or answer your question by processing the information you found. Are any careers a good fit for your skills, interests, and values?

Articulate your results and publicize
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*Apply for jobs!*
There Are Resources at Cornell To Help You During Every Step in Your Project
General Resources: Programs

Grad students:

- Workshops, alumni panels, career fairs
  - CCS Event calendar
  - Grad School Program Chart

Employer information sessions, alumni discussions
  - Posted in CCNet

Postdocs:

- Events posted on Postdoc Listserv
General Resources: Career Advising

Postdocs

Graduate Students Interested in a Postdoc

Christine Holmes
Director of Post-Doctoral Studies
Caldwell Hall
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# General Resources: Career Advising

## Research Master’s and PhD students

### Agriculture and Life Sciences
- 140 Roberts

### Architecture, Art and Planning
- 103 Barnes

### Engineering
- 201 Carpenter

### Hotel
- 180 Statler

### ILR
- 201 Ives

### University-wide
- 103 Barnes

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**Professional master’s students:** Contact your program’s office
General Resources: Guides and Books

• Cornell Career Guide (online, hard copy)

• Cornell Library Guides

• Books:
  *So What Are You Going to Do With That?* By Susan Basalla and Maggie Debelius
  *Put Your Science to Work* by Peter Fiske
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   *Identify your skills and what is important to you in your career*

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Background Research: Identifying Skills and Your Career Goals

- Meet with career advisor for a discussion or an assessment
  - Myers-Briggs
  - StrengthsQuest
  - SkillScan
  - Values-Driven Work
Background Research:
Identifying Skills and Your Career Goals

• Meet with career advisor for a discussion or an assessment

• Online tools:
  ScienceCareers’ myIDP
  O*Net Interest Profiler
Background Research: Identifying Skills and Your Career Goals

- Meet with career advisor for a discussion or an assessment

- Online tools:

- List the things you’ve liked and disliked in your academic experience, previous job/volunteer experiences
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Gather information to test your hypothesis or answer your question

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Gathering Information: What Can I Do With My Degree?

- VersatilePhD
- Google search of LinkedIn profiles
- Sloan Career Cornerstone
- #alt-academy
Gathering Information:
Skills

- O*Net
- Google LinkedIn profiles
- Find job ads, look through them for skills
Gathering Information:
Career Fields

- **Vault Guides**
- O*Net
- Google LinkedIn profiles
Gathering Information: Organizations/Employers

Industry/For-Profit:
- Hoovers
- Uniworld
- CareerSearch

Nonprofit:
- Leadership Library (find people and organizations)
- Guidestar
- Idealist
Gathering Information: Organizations/Employers

Higher Education:
• Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC)
• Chronicle of Higher Education

International students:
• Myvisajobs.com
• Goinglobal
Gathering Information: Networking

Speak to individuals in the field:

• LinkedIn search

Job title, company, industry, degree, career path

• VIVO
• Conferences / symposia
• Collaborators on research projects
• Alumni databases:

  CCNet mentors, CornellConnect
Finding Jobs

- CCNet
- CCS Link Library
- Jobs.phds.org
- ScienceCareers
- NewScientist
- Usajobs.gov
- Chronicle of Higher Education
Applying for Jobs: Resumes and Cover Letters

• Meet with career advisor
• CCS Media Library
• Optimal Resume
Applying for Jobs: Interviewing and Negotiating Salary

• Meet with career advisor
• CCS Media Library
• OptimalResume
• Glassdoor
• NACE salary calculator
What Are Your Questions?