PHILOSOPHY

Overview

The interests of philosophy students vary considerably, but often sectors and issues such as Charities, Ethics, Law, the Public Sector, Politics, Media and Education can be a draw. The majority of these links shows how the sectors break down, the main graduate recruiters, characteristics of working in the sector and key current issues as well as lists of job roles available in the sector. Philosophy graduates can enter any sector, so if you are still very open minded then feel free to browse all the sectors on the Prospects website.

Roles

Each job title links through to a broad job description, salary and conditions, entry requirements, typical recruiters and links to further pre-assessed useful information. The following profiles are available on Prospects (www.prospects.ac.uk).

- Corporate and Social Responsibility (CSR) Management
- Think Tank Researcher
- Barrister
- Solicitor
- Civil Service Fast Streamer
- Charity Officer
- Newspaper Journalist
- Social Researcher
- Editorial Assistant
- Higher Education Lecturer

Finding Opportunities

Much of the information you need about getting work experience, placements and graduate jobs is contained in the links above. For legal careers, Higher Education Academic careers and/or research roles in Think Tanks, further study is essential.

On the whole, the other roles mentioned above do not require further study beyond your first degree, but some may require you to gain experience before you move into them e.g. CSR.

Some routes into work are well structured such as those listed for public sector roles where there are formal graduate schemes. Others are more complicated such as CSR roles and a creative jobs search may be required to unearth vacancies using recruitment agencies, applying speculatively or using niche recruitment sites. Sites that may be able to help are listed below:

- civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk for generalist opportunities and faststream.gov.uk for main graduate roles
- lawcareers.net for legal work experience and training contracts

reading.ac.uk/careers

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• **Working in Thinktanks** produced by Oxford University Careers provides a good overview
• [lgjobs.com](https://www.lgjobs.com), [jobs.nhs.uk](https://jobs.nhs.uk) and in Higher Education ([jobs.ac.uk](https://jobs.ac.uk)) for other public sector job options
• [journoresources.org.uk](https://www.journoresources.org.uk) lists many of the training schemes on offer
• [thebookseller.com](https://www.thebookseller.com) is helpful for publishing
• [indeed.co.uk](https://www.indeed.co.uk) or [totaljobs.com](https://www.totaljobs.com) are very useful for a search on any job areas but particularly relevant for areas such as CSR, Social Research, creative or media where roles are hard to find
• [charityjob.co.uk](https://www.charityjob.co.uk) is key for roles in the not for profit sector.

### Building Experience

- Use any opportunities you can on campus, (and locally) to gain experience that will help you – for example [Reading Voluntary Action (rva.org.uk)](https://www.rva.org.uk) and RUSU can help you get experience that will help for the Not for Profit sector and [Student Media](https://www.reading.ac.uk/studentmedia) opportunities can help with journalistic experience.

Many of the job roles listed in this profile will require speculative applications so use the listings to find out organisations to target:

- [The News Media Association (newsmediauk.org)](https://www.newsmediauk.org) for lists of local newspapers to apply for speculative work
- [Chambers.com](https://www.chambers.com) and the Law Society to find firms to apply to for legal work
- [publishersglobal.com](https://www.publishersglobal.com) can help you find publishers to target

Many of the web links listed on the previous page under Finding Opportunities also carry experience opportunities.

### Exploring Further

The skills and knowledge you have gained in your degree will be valuable in a wide range of roles and job sectors. If you are not sure what you want or want to explore other roles not listed in this helpsheet but don’t know where to start why not visit the Explore pages of our website or book an appointment with one of our Career Consultants?