



*Your Career with
an Arts Degree*

Careers with Philosophy



Philosophy graduates and the employment market

The study of Philosophy provides many skills that are valuable in the workplace. Skills in logical thinking and "relating parts to the whole" are useful, particularly in management. In fact, the problem solving that you learn in philosophy can be useful in many types of jobs. Employers are often more interested in the transferable skills that you have learnt rather than your knowledge of your degree subject. Skills and abilities you develop while studying Philosophy include:

- Logical and analytical thinking and reasoning
- Problem solving
- Research skills
- Writing skills
- Communication skills – oral and written
- IT, information retrieval and presentation skills
- The ability to formulate opinions about problems under discussion
- The ability to study/work independently
- A willingness to adapt
- Self-discipline, self-direction, independence of mind and initiative alongside an ability to work with others

Source: "Degrees of Skill: Student Employability Profiles"
The Higher Education Academy.



Typical jobs for Philosophy graduates...

Philosophy graduates find employment in diverse fields. Here are some of the most popular career destinations for our Philosophy graduates:

*Law • Retail Management • PR and Communications
Publishing • Systems Analyst • Banking • Insurance Underwriting
Politics • Civil Servic • Education • Journalist
Information Officer • Management Consultant • Editor*

Note: Further qualifications may be needed for certain positions. This list is a sample of positions available.

Career Destinations of our Philosophy Graduates

It is useful to know what fellow graduates have done after obtaining their degree at NUI Galway. The following are some of the roles our Philosophy graduates took up after graduation:

- *TEFL Teacher, GCI Business School Galway*
- *Senior Business Advisor, BBC News*
- *Community Development Worker, Galway Simon Community*
- *Social Care Worker, SOS, Kilkenny*
- *Part time Script Reader, RTE*
- *Teaching English, Korea*
- *Working with underprivileged children, Roscrea*
- *Youth Worker, Youth Development Project, Galway*

Source: NUI Galway First Destinations Survey

Boosting your employability as a Philosophy Graduate

Up to 40% of graduate employment opportunities are open to graduates of all disciplines. In most cases, however you will need further postgraduate study or professional training.

Although Philosophy does not lead directly to a specific career, outside academia, there are many professions that value Philosophy graduates.

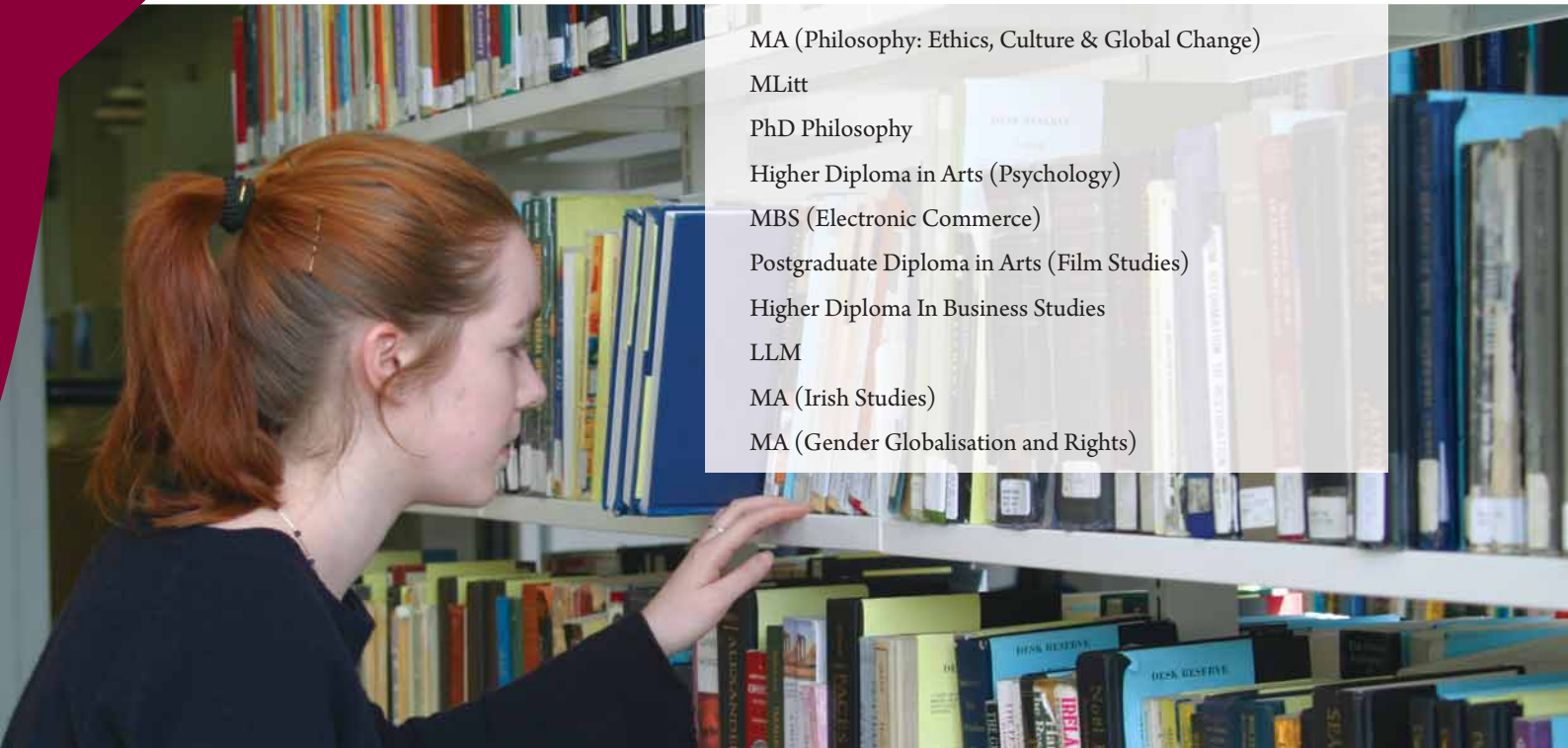
The American Philosophy Association has a booklet at http://www.apaonline.org/apaonline/Publications/Informational_Booklets_Pamphlets_HomePage/A_Non-Academic_Career_.aspx entitled "A Non-Academic Career? Information, Resources, And Background On Options For Philosophers" that is worth reading.



What Postgraduate Courses do Philosophy Graduates do?

For certain career choices, employers may look for candidates with further qualifications and training. Our Philosophy graduates frequently choose one of the following postgraduate programmes at NUI Galway:

- MA (Philosophy: Ethics, Culture & Global Change)
- MLitt
- PhD Philosophy
- Higher Diploma in Arts (Psychology)
- MBS (Electronic Commerce)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Film Studies)
- Higher Diploma In Business Studies
- LLM
- MA (Irish Studies)
- MA (Gender Globalisation and Rights)



Other postgraduate programmes undertaken by previous Philosophy graduates include:

- MA (Development) Dublin City University
- MA (Womens Studies) University of Limerick
- MA (Public Relations) St. Patrick's College Drumcondra
- MA (Philosophy and Literature) University College Dublin
- MA (Journalism) DIT
- HDip (Psychotherapy) University College Dublin
- MA (Philosophy) Leiden University-Belgium

For information on studying in Ireland and studying abroad with useful links for many countries worldwide visit: www.nuigalway.ie/careers

www.postgradireland.com also has useful information on postgraduate courses in Ireland,

www.prospects.ac.uk is an excellent site for researching opportunities in the UK and <http://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/> covers the EU.

What our students say...



Hannah Healy
Bachelor of Arts

"There are many reasons why I chose to attend NUI Galway. It's a great campus with a fun atmosphere and many events taking place! I chose to study Arts because it gives you a wide variety of subjects to choose from, so it seemed the best option for me. I hope to do a postgraduate programme in Public Relations once I'm finished.

Being from Galway, I enjoyed the comfort of always being welcomed by a familiar face. Having said that I still wanted the other advantage of college life, meeting new people and getting involved in all the great clubs and societies NUI Galway had to offer. In first year I joined the Surf Club and went on numerous weekend and day trips throughout the year and the craic you have on those is unbelievable!

NUI Galway is a great university with such friendly open-minded people and I'm sure whoever decides to attend Galway will love it as much as I do."

Where can I find out more?

We have found that the following websites contain relevant and interesting information on opportunities with a degree in Philosophy.

www.nuigalway.ie/faculties_departments/philosophy/

EUROPE

Philosophy Now www.philosophynow.org/

Royal Institute of Philosophy www.royalinstitutephilosophy.org/

ABROAD

Jobs in Philosophy worldwide www.jobsinphilosophy.org/

American Philosophy Association www.apaonline.org/

Philosophical Gourmet Report www.philosophicalgourmet.com

Guide to Philosophy on the Internet www.earlham.edu/~peters/gpi/jobs.htm

GENERAL STUDENT / GRADUATE WEBSITES

Career Development Centre, degree opportunities: www.nuigalway.ie/careers/students/degreeopp.html

Gradireland www.gradireland.com

Prospects UK Philosophy profile www.prospects.ac.uk/options_philosophy_your_skills.htm
www.jobs.ac.uk [academic jobs, fellowships etc UK, Europe and worldwide]



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O'É Gaillimh