Careers Planning for DCS Masters Students

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Today

• Your options and approaching career planning

• The UK recruitment process

• Careers support available
Industry

• Consider what level you are at

• Graduate scheme
  • Structured training programme – usually 1 - 3 years
  • Can be fast track to senior/management roles
  • Generally start between August – September
  • Large employers
  • Small proportion of graduate jobs

• Graduate job
  • Smaller employers
  • Less structured on the job training
  • Recruit later in the year

• Skills, experience and knowledge gained from your masters can help you stand out
Industry

• Direct entry roles
  • Many postgraduate students choose direct entry roles
  • Any size employer
  • Common for SMEs, specialist/niche employers, not-for-profit or charities
  • Immediate hire – apply 2 -3 months in advance

Internships

• May be attractive if you don’t feel ‘ready’
• Most aimed at undergraduates
• Look for temporary, contract work or make speculative applications
• Use this to help you address any skills or experience gaps
From games developer to manager of IT and communications services, you’ll have a range of opportunities open to you as a computer science graduate.

Warwick Graduates:

Examples from 2016/17 and 2018/19 Graduate Outcomes Survey

Job options

Jobs directly related to your degree include:

- Application analyst
- Applications developer
- Cyber security analyst
- Data analyst
- Database administrator
- Forensic computer analyst
- Game designer
- Games developer
- Information systems manager
- IT consultant
- Software engineer
- Systems analyst
- UX designer
- Web designer
- Web developer

Analytical chemists
Business and related associate professionals
Finance and investment analysts and advisers
IT business analysts, architects and systems designers
IT user support technicians
Management consultants and business analysts
Marketing associate professionals
Natural and social science professionals n.e.c.
Programmers and software development professionals
Public relations professionals
Quantity surveyors
Research and development (R&D) managers
University researchers
Web design and development professionals

https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/computer-science
Labour market

• “There are far fewer graduate jobs” – is a myth

• In 2020 3million people employed in the UK’s digital tech economy – 11% increase in two years (Tech Nation’s UK tech in 2020). Demand for tech jobs was 42% higher in June 2021 than at the same time in 2019 (Tech Nation’s Jobs and Skills Report 2021)

• The total volume of online job adverts on 28 January 2022 was at 141% of its February 2020 average level. (Luminate)

• Jobs that didn’t exist 10 years ago... Influencer, Blockchain Analyst, Podcaster, Cloud Architect, Uber Driver

• Virtual recruitment and working remotely
Industry

- Researching employers
  - Student Opportunity website
  - Employer websites
  - Vacancy databases

- Speculative applications

- Networking

- Finding vacancies – beware the start date!
Where to search...

Graduate schemes and jobs
- myAdvantage
- Gradcracker
- BrightNetwork
- Prospects

Direct entry
- Targetjobs
- Reed
- Technojobs
- CW jobs – IT Sector
Outside the UK

• Ensure you research recruitment processes and practices

• Internships may be more common but they may not be paid

• International Careers webpages

• GoinGlobal

• Prospects country profiles
Making applications

- CV
- Cover letter
- Application form
- Speculative applications

- Student Opportunity website
- DCS website
- Application feedback appointments with Job Search Advisers - book via MyAdvantage
Gabi Obiefe

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Technical skills

Programming: Java, JavaScript, C, C++, C#, Python, PHP
Databases: MySQL, SQL Server, Interbase

Education

- BSc (Hons) computer science with information systems; 1st class degree; Abingdon University (2015–2019)
  - Modules included: high-performance computing and distributed systems; database systems implementation; and advanced machine learning.
- A levels: maths (A), physics (A), English (B); Abingdon Sixth Form (2013–2015)

Work experience and projects

Placement developer, Question Technologies, industrial placement (2017–2018)

- Contributed to the development of the March 2018 update for Question Technologies’ flagship software, Question Answerer 4, primarily coding using C and C#.
- Responsible for implementing improvements to the user interface and conducted in-depth research into methods to increase the software’s accessibility functionality.
- Demonstrated strong teamwork skills with colleagues in the development team, which was necessary for discussing requirements and solutions to complex problems.
- Communicated with, and offered technical support to, a wide and varied client base.

FindMyGlasses. Android application (2019)

- Working in a team of two at a hackathon, developed an application for Android OS in 36 hours. This app used GPS tracking to find a user’s glasses. This was written in Java.
- This demo was later fleshed out and released on the Play Store in April 2019. Downloaded 1,467 times since release.

Volunteer, Tech4Kids (2015)

- Assisted in teaching the basics of coding to students at St Benjamin’s School, Didcot.

Interests

- Grade 8 Oboe. Performed as part of the University Woodwind Band. Served as treasurer from 2016–2017.

Target Jobs: https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/information-technology/tips-graduate-technical-cv-template-and-advice
Interviews & Assessment Centres

- Video interviews
- Psychometric and aptitude tests
- Assessment centres
- Interviews
- Technical assessment
Interviews & Assessment Centres

- Careers [website](#) and [workshops](#)

- Mock interviews – book 30 minute appointment on myAdvantage

- [Technical interviews](#) resources list on DCS Career page

- Practice technical assessments
  
  [https://www.hackerrank.com/](https://www.hackerrank.com/)
  [https://leetcode.com/](https://leetcode.com/)
  [https://codesignal.com/](https://codesignal.com/)
PhD

DCS academics

Prospects website

Jobs.ac.uk

FindaPhD.com

Vitae website

Fulbright Commission for USA
How to choose?
# Careers Planning

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How do you choose?

• Use the self-awareness Moodle

• Explore options – Prospects Career Planner tool

• Browse different jobs – Prospects Job Profiles, career guides on CWJobs and Techno Jobs

• Read about further study

• Connect with alumni – mentoring and LinkedIn

• Speak to a Careers Consultant
Help and support

- Applications Feedback appointments with Job Search Advisers – book via MyAdvantage

- Careers Guidance appointments to discuss career planning and options
  - Use this appointment type to book a mock interview

- Workshops/employer talks/careers fairs/sector events all on MyAdvantage

- Immigration & Compliance team for visa information for international students
What to do next

• Start reflecting on and researching career ideas

• Decide what options you are focusing on

• Plan your next steps
  • What actions do you need to take to help you move forward?
  • What support do you need?
  • What deadlines do you need to be aware of?
Any questions?