



# WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A SOCIAL SCIENCES DEGREE?

## What if you have no idea what you want to do?

When you are thinking about your future you can find yourself going round in circles but the circle below is actually one that could take you somewhere. Rather than thinking about jobs and whether you would like them it is worth taking sometime with some self-exploration to discover what you are good at, what you might enjoy and what would be important to you in a job. Then you can move on to looking at particular options to see how they fit with your ideal. You are likely to be able to dismiss certain options quite quickly because they clearly don't fit.

### *Spend some time thinking about:*

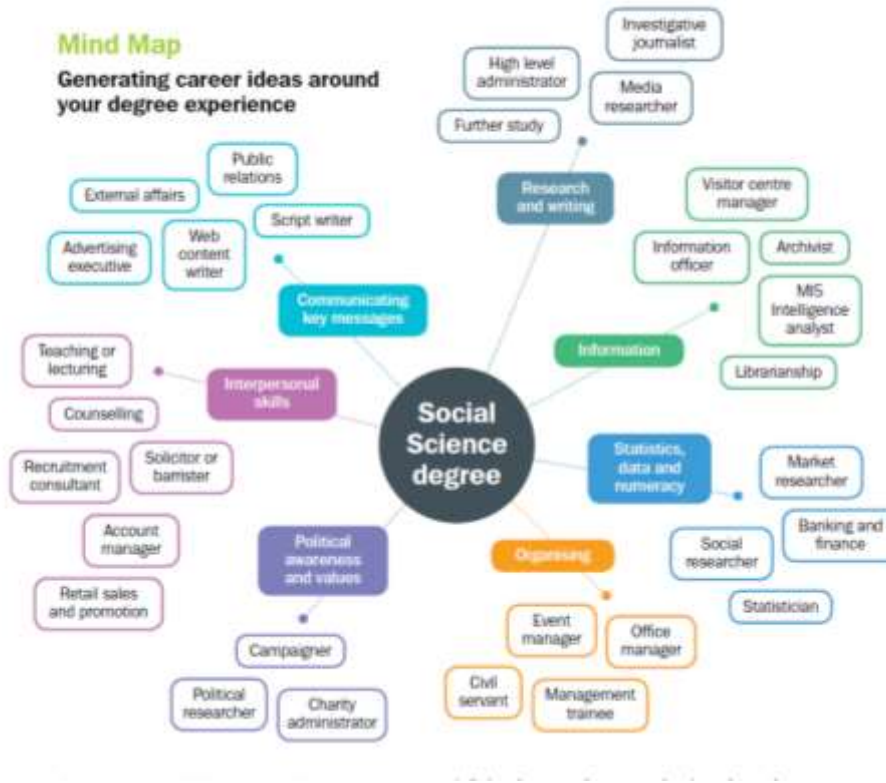
- Things you are good at, things you have enjoyed.
- What other people say you are good at.
- What you are interested in or passionate about.
- Topics in your course you have found interesting.
- Your values in relation to the work you might do or the organisation you work for.
- Practical things like location, life style, environment.

### *Use the resources below:*

- Read this blog article "Find your meaning at work – 6 things salary can't buy" <http://blogs.bath.ac.uk/careers/2016/10/05/find-your-meaning-at-work-6-things-salary-cant-buy>. This gives a few starting points to get you thinking. Also it contains links to a few other relevant blog postings.
- Check out the Choose a Career section [www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/choose-a-career](http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/choose-a-career) of our website. Look at the various pages and try some of the online guidance tools listed. An additional one not listed there is Plotr: [www.plotr.co.uk/game](http://www.plotr.co.uk/game).
- Find out what graduates from your degree have gone on to do [www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/choose-a-career/what-our-graduates-do/humanities](http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/choose-a-career/what-our-graduates-do/humanities).
- Read the relevant What can I do with My Degree? [www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree).

## Generating ideas around your degree experience

Below are some jobs which are linked to particular skills that you have developed through your degree. You may need to find out more about what these jobs involve before you dismiss them.



Source: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/careers/aboutus/publications/socscibkkt>

## Researching your options

Start by picking some jobs you think might interest you or look at jobs generated from the resources above and dig a bit deeper into what they involve.

### Find out:

- What are the main duties of the job?
- Which skills does this employer look for?
- Have I got those skills?
- What evidence can I use to persuade them I have got those skills?

### Use the resources below:

- You can view our catalogue of web and other resources for different occupations [www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/information-resources/catalogue/occupational](http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/information-resources/catalogue/occupational).
- Look at Job Profiles on the Prospects website [www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles). Browse by Sector or an A-Z list.
- Check out website icould <http://icould.com> for inspiration.

- Look at Job Sectors on Prospects website [www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors) to get an overview of roles within a sector. An alternative is Targetjobs website <https://targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors>.
- Bath Connection gives you the chance to network with Bath graduates who are willing to talk to current Bath students about working for their employer and what's involved in their job [www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/choose-a-career/bath-connection](http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/choose-a-career/bath-connection).
- Check Events in MyFuture <https://myfuture.bath.ac.uk> for any relevant employers or occupational talks. For example we usually run something about the charity sector.

## Sector Specific Information

### ***Some public sector graduate schemes which usually start in September:***

- Civil Service Fast Stream (various different streams) opens late September and closes end of November [www.faststream.gov.uk](http://www.faststream.gov.uk).
- National Graduate Development Programme (local government) opens late October and closes early January [www.ngdp.org.uk](http://www.ngdp.org.uk).
- Frontline (working with vulnerable children and families) closes mid to late November [www.thefrontline.org.uk](http://www.thefrontline.org.uk).
- NHS Graduate Scheme (four different schemes) Opens early October closes early December [www.nhsgraduates.co.uk](http://www.nhsgraduates.co.uk).
- Think Ahead ( fast track scheme for mental health social work) closes beginning of December <http://thinkahead.org>.
- Teach First (Teach First Leadership Development Programme) closes end of June <https://graduates.teachfirst.org.uk>.
- Imperial College London's Graduate Management Training Scheme closes end of October [www.imperial.ac.uk/job-applicants/opportunities/graduate-schemes/management/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/job-applicants/opportunities/graduate-schemes/management/).
- Ofcom Graduate Scheme closes early January [www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/jobs/graduates-apprenticeships-internships](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/jobs/graduates-apprenticeships-internships).
- NHS Digital formerly the Health and Social Care Information Centre ran a Graduate Scheme in 2016 and opened in February <https://digital.nhs.uk/careers>.
- IntoUniversity Trainee Graduate Education Worker closes early January <http://intouniversity.org/graduatescheme>.
- There are few Charity Sector Programmes:
  - Cancer Research Graduate Programme closes late November [www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-us/graduates-and-interns/graduate-scheme](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-us/graduates-and-interns/graduate-scheme).
  - CharityWorks opens beginning of October and closes late February [www.charity-works.co.uk](http://www.charity-works.co.uk).
  - Wellcome Trust runs two graduates schemes closes mid to late November <https://wellcome.ac.uk/jobs/graduate-development-programme>.

These helpsheets can all be downloaded from our website  
[www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/information-resources/helpsheets](http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/information-resources/helpsheets):

- International development, international organisations and international relations careers
- Politics careers, including working in Westminster and Europe
- Social policy, social sciences and sociology careers

Working in the Charity/Not for Profit Sector Moodle course  
<https://moodle.bath.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=56584> and Working in the Not for Profit/Charity Sector Talk usually late November. Check in MyFuture  
<https://myfuture.bath.ac.uk>.

Careers Service

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This publication is available online at

[www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/information-resources/helpsheets](http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/careers/information-resources/helpsheets).

If you need this information in another format, please contact us.

[www.bath.ac.uk/careers](http://www.bath.ac.uk/careers)