Creative Digital Media

Your Careers Adviser Helen Vahey

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Skills developed in college

You've developed a range of skills through your education, work experience and personal interests and achievements.

Understanding what skills you have to offer and like to use can help you understand what you want in a career, as well as providing key information for job or further study applications.

In terms of securing a job, academic qualifications alone will not guarantee success. Evidence-based skills sections on your CV can demonstrate the broad range of qualities you have to offer employers.

Opposite are some of the main skills you may have developed while in college:

Communication skills, both verbal and written

Expressing ideas effectively and conveying information appropriately and accurately. Influencing others by expressing self effectively in a group and in one to one situations. Showing a range of verbal and nonverbal signals that the information being received is understood.

Teamwork/working with others

Working effectively and confidently within a group to achieve a common goal or task. Including understanding your role within the team, and listening and supporting other team members.

Problem-solving ability

Identifying, prioritising and solving problems, individually or in groups; possessing the ability to ask the right questions, sort out the many facets of a problem, and contribute ideas as well as answers regarding the problem.

Time-management skills/ability to meet deadlines

Managing several tasks at once; being able to set priorities and to allocate time efficiently in order to meet deadlines.

Planning and organising

Establishing a course of action for self and/or others to accomplish a specific goal. Planning proper assignments of personnel and appropriate allocation of resources.

Leadership skills

Motivating and taking responsibility to lead other people, in order to achieve set goals and objectives.

Initiative & self-management

Identifying opportunities and being proactive in putting forward ideas and potential solutions. Self-disciplined and self-motivated, in the pursuit of studies and professional practice.

Ability to make quick decisions/work under pressure Making decisions and taking action. Maintaining performance under pressure and/or opposition.

You may also have developed a wide range of technical/specific course related skills

Types of employers/industry sectors

Some of the main types of employers/industry sectors in which Creative Digital Media graduates work include:

- Advertising agencies
- Marketing agencies
- Animation firms
- Book and magazine publishing companies
- Corporate art and graphic design departments
- Electronic media companies
- Film and television companies
- Independent contracting and consulting
- Graphic design agency/Digital media agencies
- Game design firms
- Newspapers
- Retail stores/App stores
- Government departments & agencies
- Hospitals
- Museums and other public institutions
- Universities or colleges
- Education
- · Public television
- Non-profit organisations
- PR Consultancies/PR Departments
- Games designers indigenous companies Ireland
- Small 'indie' development, e.g. arcade, iphone, android, mobile games, casual games

For sector information see:

www.gradireland.com www.careersportal.ie www.prospects.ac.uk www.targetjobs.co.uk

Career options with your course

Some of main occupations and job profiles secured by Creative Digital Media graduates include:

- Mobile, smart device and dynamic web applications designer
- Digital media researcher
- · Web/content designer/developer
- · Iphone, android, W7WebAPP designer
- Game consultant
- Game software engineer
- Game software development
- Game manager
- Games tester
- · Games designer
- Games programmer
- Games quality assurance
- Game client developer
- Audio/video programming
- Audio designer
- Audio tester
- Level designers
- TV Graphic Designer
- · 2D animator
- DVD designer
- Project managers
- Digital media consultant
- Media analyst
- Content creator
- Games analyst
- Game Server Developer
- Unity Game Developer
- Lecturer
- Media Content Developer
- Self-employed/Business start up
- Video Editor
- Multimedia developer
- Usability specialist
- Illustrator
- Animator
- Consultant
- Localisation Manager/Language Technology Development

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Employers who have recruited in your area

Companies who have recruited Creative Digital Media graduates include:

- Brand X
- Osgo Solutions
- Paddy Power
- Salesforce
- Skill Soft
- Trocaire
- Tifco Hotel
- · Digital Hub
- · Go Radiate
- Dublin Design

Job Hunting

It is important that you access both the advertised and hidden jobs market and use any and every means available to you to job hunt effectively.

Advertised Jobs

Most University and IT Careers Services have jobs listings on their websites:

www.tudublin.ie/jobscene

Graduate programmes and immediate vacancies

www.prospects.ac.uk & www.targetjobs.co.uk http://www.gradcracker.com/engineering-jobs

Graduate jobs UK

$\underline{www.gradireland.com}$

Immediate jobs/Summer/Graduate programmes

www.mondotimes.com

Local and national press

www.publicjobs.ie

www.localgovernmentjobs.ie

Public service

www.irishjobs.ie/agencies

Complete list of recruitment agencies/online recruitment sites

Company websites - includes immediate vacancies

Job websites:

indeed.ie, irishjobfairy (twitter), irishjob.ie, digitalmarketingjobs.ie, digitalmediajobs.com, careerjet.ie, alternativesdigital.ie, simplyhired. ie, gamesjobsireland.com, prosperity.ie, gamedevelopers.ie, monster.ie, irishgamedev (twitter), mobiledev (facebook)

Other

- Careers fairs Gradireland Fair Autumn and Summer Fair, plus many others
- Notice boards/Student email account/Lecturers
- Company Presentations
- Specialist Magazines & Publications,

Voluntary Sector/Charities

www.activelink.ie

Voluntary Sector/Charity/NGO vacancies in voluntary sector

www.volunteeringireland.com

www.dochas.ie

Association of non-governmental development organisations

www.comhlamh.org

Volunteering opportunities

www.wheel.ie/directory

Directory of voluntary and community organisations

Unadvertised Jobs

Networking

- Networking who is in my network? classmates, lecturers, alumni, family, neighbours, colleagues, clubs and societies, TU Dublin Career Development Centre, professional bodies
- Informational Interviewing/Shadowing
- College work projects, thesis, placement, guest speakers, student website
- Societies e.g. guest speakers/events
- Attend events, conferences, short courses, trade shows (e.g. professional bodies, etc), National Digital Conference, Dublin, businessandleadership.com (events), Digital Learning Festival May, http://www.gamesfleadh.ie/expo/whats-on, cross industry events, i.e. TechBrew/ISIN events/Dublin start-up Commissioner, DubLUDO (game events), Codess (female coder events for women), Dublin Unity User group, etc.
- Meet up groups, e.g. 'Data Scientists Ireland' and 'Tech for good -
- Join Alumni Association/Linked-in TU Dublin Alumni group//Related groups on linked-in, e.g. digitalmediajobsnetwork
- Find a mentor/keep a job hunting record

Contact companies directly

- Speculative applications + cold calling. Think about your offering.
- Use directories –Kompass.com, Irish Media Contacts Directory, Marketing Services Directory, Creative Ireland Directory, http://www.thedigitalhub.com/companydirectory, www.mediastreet.ie – Irish Media and Creative Business Directory, www.techireland.org – list of tech companies
- Contact companies before holiday times Christmas and Summer
- Get a foot in the door
- Contact companies with ideas of your own to assist their business / save them money

Entrepreneurship

- Freelancing/Work experience/Self-employment/Start-Up
- http://www.dit.ie/careers/studentsgraduates/ interestedinselfemployment/
- TU Dublin Hothouse www.dit.ie/hothouse/
- Local Enterprise Office www.localenterprise.ie
- The Digital Hub www.thedigitalhub.com

Start Ups:

- Start-up companies www.startupdublin.com, dublinstartupjobs.
- FDI and indigenous www.makeitinireland.com, www. itshappeninghere.ie
- https://angel.co/ start up jobs worldwide

Track companies

- Scholarships/Competitions/Blogs / Guest lecturer
- Check out Labour Market trends, www.careersportal.ie, IDA, IBEC www.tudublin.ie/careers (labour market news
- Search newspaper business pages on-line to get success stories on businesses as they are growing – TU Dublin Careers website (labour market news)
- Check out industry award recipients, Digital Media Awards (digitalmedia.ie) http://www.digitalmedia.ie/, IAPI (ADFX) Awards, Media Awards, ICAD awards (creative excellence in advertising), IFTN awards, Irish Magazines Awards, All Ireland Marketing Awards, etc.
- Best Workplaces in Ireland (download on gradireland.com)

Other proactive ideas

- Get Work Experience / internship
- Social networking sites (facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Blog, Discussion Groups)
- Linked-In (set up a profile, link to others, search for companies employees who have
- Linked-in profiles, advertised jobs)
- Follow & target companies on facebook, linked-in, twitter

For more information on how to go about finding a job and job-hunting sites, <u>See www.tudublin.ie/careers</u>

Interviews

For more information on how to perform in interviews, $\underline{\text{See www.tudublin.}}$ $\underline{\text{ie/careers}}$

CVs/Cover letters and applications

For information on how to put together a great CV/Cover Letter or Application, <u>See www.tudublin.ie/careers</u>

Useful links (e.g. Company Databases, Professional Bodies, LinkedIn Groups)

This list contains links to some of the most useful websites for your course including professional bodies and associations, employer directories, information sources and LinkedIn groups.

General websites — useful links

- www.icad.ie Institute of Creative Advertising and Design
- www.mii.ie Marketing Institute of Ireland
- www.creativeireland.com Job desk, directory of web designers, discussion forums
- <u>www.iapi.ie Inst. of Advertising Practitioners in Ireland</u>
- www.aai.ie Association of Advertisers in Ireland
- www.asai.ie Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland
- www.oma.ie Outdoor Media Association
- www.idma.ie Irish Direct Marketing Association
- www.iia.ie Irish Internet Association
- <u>www.publishingireland.ie Publishing Ireland</u>
- www.camfoundation.com Communication, Advertising, Marketing Education Foundation UK
- <u>www.designbusinessireland.org Design Business Ireland</u>
- www.theesa.com Entertainment Software Association (US)
- www.ukie.org.uk Trade Body Games/Entertainment (UK)
- www.tiga.org Games Industry UK
- www.i-cando.ie/ Global Digital Skills Foundation

Others:

IAB Digital Advertising, Irish Internet Association, Irish Computer Society, Institute of Creative Advertising and Design, Illustrators Guild of Ireland, etc.

Forums –

digitalmediaforum.net, creativeireland.com, forums.frontier.co.uk, Irish Games facebook page, http://www.techrepublic.com/forums/, Irish Computer Society forum, technology-ireland.ie forum, etc.

General websites:

- Worldwide Media guide www.mondotimes.com
- Yellow and White pages directories from around the world www. superpages.com/global/
- Specialists in Student Travel www.usit.ie

Careers open to all disciplines (Including 'Paths Into...' Series)

Many graduate vacancies don't require specific degree subjects as possession of a degree is taken as evidence of intellectual ability. What is more important to the potential employer is the range of transferable skills and experience you can demonstrate.

Many graduate training programmes take final year students from a wide range of disciplines, register with the Career Development Centre's Jobsence for a full list of programmes. Here is a range of career areas that are potentially open to graduates of all disciplines. It's important to note that some of these options may require further study either on the job or beforehand.

If you are considering diversifying or changing career direction a postgraduate conversion course may be a viable option.

Some examples of career areas open to students of all disciplines:

- Teaching & Education
- Financial Services & Accounting
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Retail, Sales and Customer Service
- Banking, insurance and financial services
- Charities and voluntary sector
- Fund management / administration and investment banking
- Human resources, recruitment and training
- Management consulting
- Management, business and administration
- Media and publishing
- Public sector and civil service
- Social, community and youth

For further information see: www.gradireland.com/career-sectors

Further Study

Are you considering further study or training? See www.tudublin.ie/careers for comprehensive information

Conversion courses

Some graduates find that their primary degree did not meet their expectations, either vocationally, academically or personally, and seek change career direction. Conversion courses offer the opportunity to diversify into another chosen career area while meeting the necessary entry requirements for that discipline. However, it should be noted that this is not the

case for all disciplines e.g. disciplines such as science and engineering will require an undergraduate degree in that discipline.

Self Employment

Ever thought of being your own boss? Think you have an innovative product or service idea that could have commercial value? Want to commercialise your research? See www.tudublin.ie/careers

Other Options (e.g. Time out, travel etc.)

Volunteering and working with communities with is a great way to gain valuable real world experience, to develop new skills, to meet new people, to do something worthwhile and to improve your employability. For more details, see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Labour Market Information

For information on the latest labour market trends see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Additional Information/Advice

For any query you might have, please do not he sitate to get in touch with us.

Disclaimer: TU Dublin Career Development Centre offers advice in good faith on the basis of the best information available.

The Centre accepts no responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice.