

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FINDING WORK IN THE CREATIVE SECTOR

HOW WE CAN HELP



**UNIVERSITY OF
LOOKING
TO THE
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DID YOU KNOW?

WE HAVE THE LARGEST CREATIVE SECTOR IN EUROPE, ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST MUSIC INDUSTRIES AND ONE OF ITS MOST ADVANCED DIGITAL TV AND RADIO MARKETS. THE SECTOR IS FORECAST TO PLAY A BIGGER ROLE IN COMING YEARS.

BUSINESS ISSUES, CBI

What do you know about the Creative Sector?

- The UK publishing industry is the second largest in Europe.
- The design industry employs the highest proportion of ethnic minorities.
- 70% of those employed in broadcast television have at least an undergraduate degree.

Source: Graduate Prospects
prospects.ac.uk

It's not what you know, but who you know

In the creative industries, networking and gaining (and staying in touch with) contacts is very important.

Here are some things to try:

- Get the word out – tell friends and family you're looking for work, as there could be someone you know who could provide a lead to a great opportunity.
- Attend trade shows and events – These give you access to lots of organisations, are a great way to get contacts and find out about what is going on in the sector.
- Join professional organisations – These often feature events, opportunities to improve/update current knowledge and vacancies. For details of this, see the 'Finding Jobs by sector' section on our website:

westminster.ac.uk/study/current-students/support-and-facilities/career-development-centre/finding-work/finding-work

Find out more online

Check creative networking sites – these include:

Creative Choices
ccskills.org.uk/network

Work In Fashion
workinfashion.com

Want to work for yourself?

If you are thinking about self-employment or freelance work, then have a look at our online resources:

westminster.ac.uk/study/current-students/support-and-facilities/career-development-centre/finding-work/enterprise-and-entrepreneurship

RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT 70% OF VACANCIES ARE NEVER ADVERTISED. 99% OF BUSINESSES IN THE UK ARE SMES, BUT THEY OFTEN INVISIBLE TO GRADUATES SEARCHING FOR A WAY INTO THE JOB MARKET. FINDING A WAY TO TAP INTO THIS SECTOR COULD PROVIDE A WEALTH OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

DISCOVERY-GRADUATES.COM, 2014

Finding advertised vacancies

Applying for vacancies advertised may seem the most obvious way to find work and you may feel that you have exhausted this option but don't give up! Remember to check:

- Trade publications, such as Broadcast, The Stage, Televisual, Drapers, The Knowledge and The Journalist (The NUJ's magazine).
- Our vacancy listings on our website and set up email job alerts.
careers.westminster.ac.uk
- Artyfacts – a monthly publication full of jobs, residencies and exhibitions (available from the Harrow Careers Information Room).
- Websites – such as Creative Choices
ccskills.org.uk/careers

A Creative Approach to Creative Job Seeking?

Some companies may not openly advertise, so you will need to approach them.

- Do research on the sorts of companies you'd like to work for and find the name of the best person to target in each company. Send a CV and a covering letter telling them what you can do for them and why they should employ you.
- See the 'Speculative Applications' page on our website, which has information and tips on applying speculatively:
westminster.ac.uk/study/current-students/support-and-facilities/career-development-centre/finding-work/spectulative-approaches-and-networking

Volunteering

Volunteering can be a good way of getting valuable work experience on your CV. Take a look at:

- Community Media Association
www.commedia.org.uk
- Community Service Volunteers (CSV) – Who also run training for media professionals.
www.csv.org.uk/volunteering
- Our volunteering website
westminster.ac.uk/volunteering

Need help with your applications?

Make an appointment with one of our careers consultants. We have 20 minute one to one 'Quick Query' sessions which are perfect for initial application assistance. To book, just call 0207 911 5184 or access the online vacancy and event booking system on the day you'd like to attend.

And finally...

Remember to look at:

- Reference and take-away materials available at 101 New Cavendish Street and at Harrow
- The Career Development Blog
blog.westminster.ac.uk/careers
- The University of the Arts website:
arts.ac.uk/student-jobs-and-careers/resources
- Skillset – has related careers information
skillset.org

T: +44 (0)20 7911 5184
E: careers@westminster.ac.uk

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