MATHEMATICS

Where will your postgraduate degree take you?

Below is an overview of the kinds of employment sectors, organisations and professions that recent mathematics postgraduates have entered, based on responses to ‘Destinations of Leavers’ surveys conducted six months after graduation.

Range of employment sectors
- Accounting, bookkeeping and auditing activities; tax consultancy
- Architectural and engineering activities and related technical consultancy
- Computer programming, consultancy and related activities
- General public administration
- Higher education
- Insurance
- Secondary education
- Support activities for transportation

Range of occupations
- Actuary
- Associate Auditor
- Commercial Analyst
- Lecturer
- Principal Engineer
- Private Bank Executive
- Programmer
- Research Fellow
- Teacher
- Trainee Medical Physicist
- Transport Planner Modeller
- Accountant
- Finance Assistant
- Software Developer

Range of employers
- Actica Consulting Ltd
- Barclays
- Financial Services Authority
- LPW Technology
- King Edward VI School
- Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- Npower
- PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
- Towers Watson (professional services)
- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- Barclays Bank
- Coventry University

In order to have a better career in finance, I decide to study Financial Engineering at the University of Birmingham. Since I studied maths and economics in my undergraduate degree, my knowledge of finance was very limited. After I graduated my undergraduate degree, I started an internship in a hedge-fund company. This experience led me to decide that it would be a good idea to gain a postgraduate degree in order to have a better understanding of the financial world.

I chose Birmingham because it is an esteemed university with a long history. The location is good as well, since Birmingham is a big city, but not too big, which is good for studying and living. Moreover, the modules on my Masters programme are exactly what I want to learn – being both practical and useful. My Masters degree is a stepping stone to my future career, allowing me to seek a job in finance. The MSc is highly practical and gives me skills directly relevant to the industry.

MINGLU ZHAO,
Financial Engineering MSc.