

What do Birmingham postgraduates do?



College of Arts and Law

First destinations of postgraduates

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- Analysis of first employment destinations for the College of Arts and Law
 - Employability data for Arts and Law postgraduates by subject area, 2009–13
 - Illustration of the range of occupations undertaken by our postgraduates

Foreword

I AM DELIGHTED TO INTRODUCE 'WHAT DO BIRMINGHAM POSTGRADUATES DO?' WHICH LOOKS IN DETAIL AT THE FIRST DESTINATIONS OF OUR COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LAW POSTGRADUATES.

In addition to providing accessible information on employment destinations of Arts and Law postgraduates, this publication is also designed to give an insight into the kinds of employment sectors and jobs for which a postgraduate degree in the arts and humanities at Birmingham can prepare you.

Pursuing a postgraduate degree in the College of Arts and Law offers you the opportunity to explore your chosen area of interest in depth, as well as developing your knowledge and understanding in a subject area about

which you are truly passionate. Beyond the transferable skills that you will take with you into the workplace, your postgraduate qualification will give you the chance to engage in critical enquiry, to grow as a scholar and even to become an expert in your field.

Here, we show you how your postgraduate qualification can help you make that knowledge and expertise work for you after graduation. From Art History to Theology and Religion, you will see a snapshot of the achievements of our postgraduates six months after completing their studies. All data is taken from the results of a 'Destinations of Leavers' survey issued to our postgraduates after this time.

You will be able to see, by department, how many of our postgraduates successfully enter employment and/or further study within just six months, along with a range of the diverse and exciting career opportunities that will be open

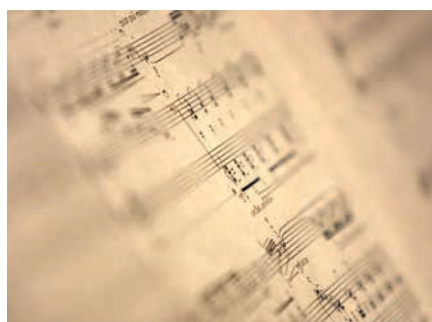
to you after studying for a postgraduate degree in the College of Arts and Law.

Accompanying the data are case studies in which recent postgraduate alumni share their experiences of postgraduate study at Birmingham. Here, our alumni talk about the value inherent in postgraduate study, the knowledge and skills they developed during their degrees and where their qualifications have taken them since graduation.

I hope you find the information presented here useful and our alumni stories inspiring. We very much look forward to welcoming you to our campus soon.



Dr Charlotte Hempel
Director of the College of Arts
and Law Graduate School



College of Arts and Law

Employability

The College of Arts and Law is a vibrant, international community that encourages research to flourish. It offers excellent facilities, a supportive environment, internationally recognised teaching and research and exciting initiatives in new fields of study.

The College is home to world-renowned research centres and is the second largest college on campus in terms of numbers of students. The College of Arts and Law has over 5,000 students from the UK and across the world, and consists of the following subject areas:

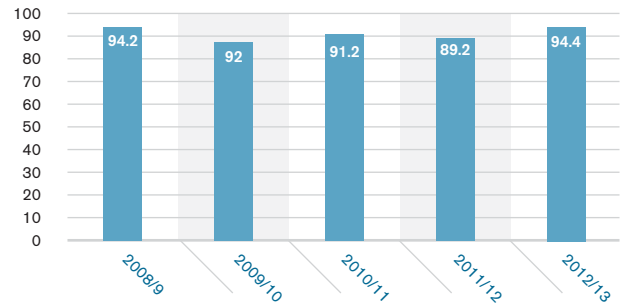
- Birmingham Law School
- English, Drama and American and Canadian Studies (including Film and Creative Writing)
- History and Cultures (including African Studies and Anthropology, Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology, and Cultural Heritage)
- Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music
- Philosophy, Theology and Religion

We also have a College of Arts and Law Graduate School to support all of our postgraduate students.

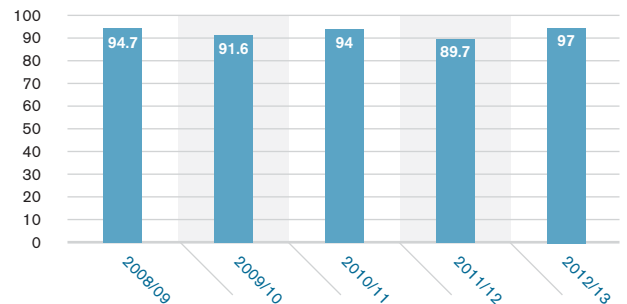
Over the last five years, 92.2% of taught postgraduates and 93.4% of research postgraduates from the College of Arts and Law have been in work and/or further study just six months after graduating.

The two charts to the right show the breakdown of these:

Percentage of Arts and Law taught postgraduates in work and/or further study six months after graduation



Percentage of Arts and Law research postgraduates in work and/or further study six months after graduation



SOURCE: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Institutions, Higher Education Statistics Agency, 2008–13

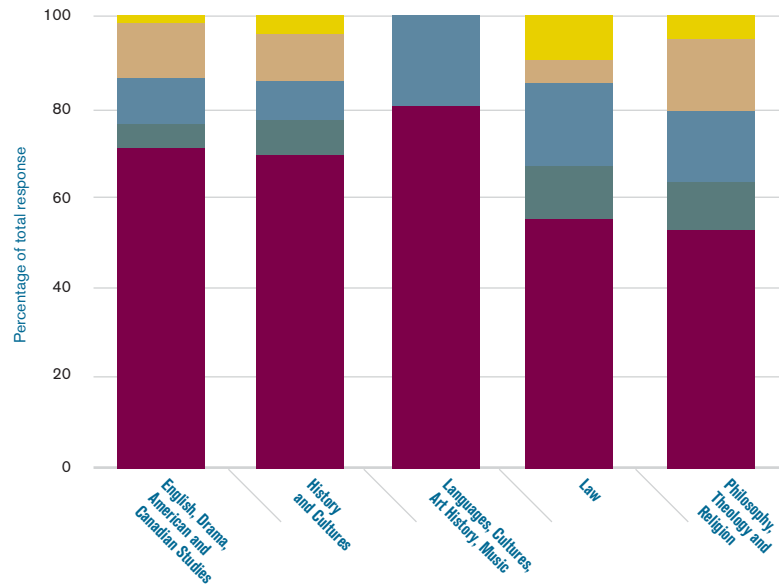


College of Arts and Law

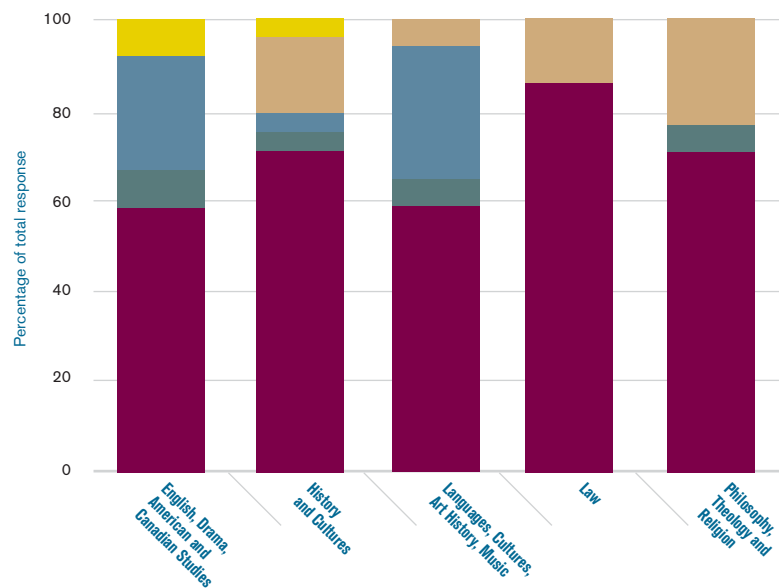
Postgraduate Destinations

The chart to the right summarises the destinations of Arts and Law postgraduates from the 2012/13 academic year, six months after graduation:

Taught postgraduate destinations



Research postgraduate destinations



SOURCE: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Institutions, Higher Education Statistics Agency, 2008–13



Art History, Film and Visual Studies

EMPLOYABILITY

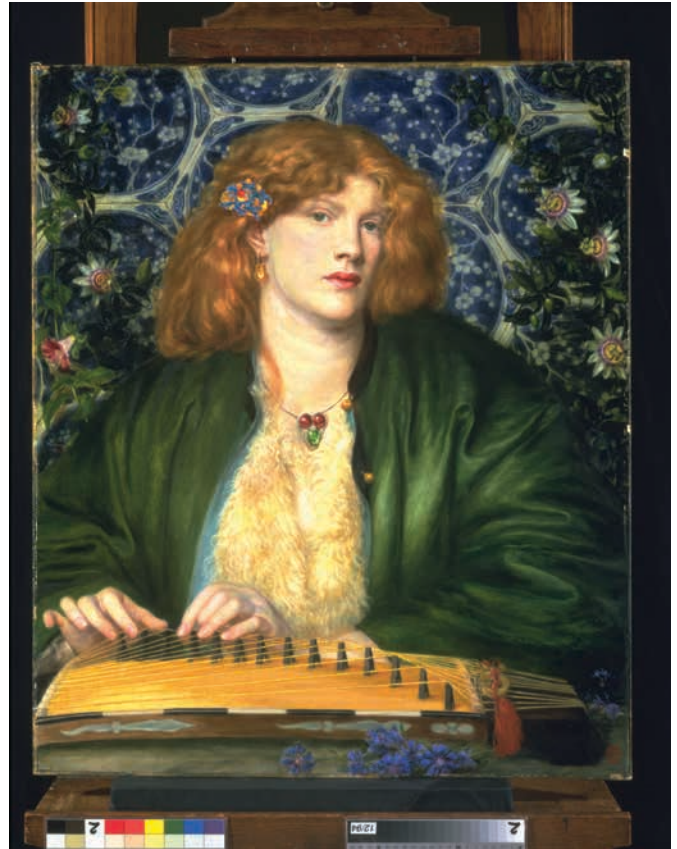
Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 100% of taught postgraduate respondents were in work or further study six months after graduation
- 96% of research postgraduate respondents successfully found work or further study six months after graduating

History of Art graduates develop a broad range of transferable skills, including: familiarity with research methods; the ability to manage large quantities of information from diverse sources; the ability to organise information in a logical and coherent manner; the expertise to write clearly and concisely and to tight deadlines; critical and analytical ability; the capacity for argument, debate and speculation; and the ability to base conclusions on detailed research.

Many graduates choose jobs relating to gallery and museum curatorship, management and research. The job market in these areas is competitive and many graduates undertake junior positions initially and/or undertake further postgraduate study. Many also gain experience by working on a voluntary basis. At the University of Birmingham, Art History postgraduates have the advantage of gaining hands-on experience at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts: the University's on-campus art gallery which is home to the Department of Art History, Film and Visual Studies.



'My studies, I believe, have directly led to where I am today. Without my MA in History of Art, I would never have had the subject knowledge or depth of understanding to do what I have done thus far after university. Without getting involved with the Barber Institute at the University, I would never have had the opportunity to work at the

Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), and without my time at the V&A being spotted on my CV, I might never have been considered for the jobs here at the Press.

'In terms of skills, I have demonstrated that I can synthesise and analyse more complex systems

of thought, that I can articulate argument to a higher level and can deliver distinction-level presentations. Everything I got involved in, particularly with the Barber Institute, I believe was of tremendous benefit. What I missed in reading time, I made up for in practical experience and the general benefits of getting stuck in.'

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www.birmingham.ac.uk/historyofart

Richard Horley, MA History of Art (2009)

Richard completed an MA in History of Art in 2009 and is currently an Online Peer Review Assistant for Cambridge University Press.

Art History, Film and Visual Studies

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

Below is an overview of the kinds of employment sectors, organisations and professions that recent Art History, Film and Visual Studies postgraduates have entered, based on responses to 'Destinations of Leavers' surveys conducted six months after graduation.

Popular employment sectors

- Artistic creation
- Creative, arts and entertainment organisations
- Higher education
- Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural organisations
- Operation of arts facilities
- Secondary education

Range of employers

- Barber Institute of Fine Arts
- Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- Bodleian Library
- Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Technical College
- Historic Royal Palaces
- National Portrait Gallery
- Royal Birmingham Society of Artists
- University of Birmingham
- Victoria and Albert Museum

Typical occupations

- Art Collections Curator
- Collections Assistant
- Curator of Fine Art
- Exhibitions Intern
- Freelance Artist
- Gallery Assistant
- Gallery Coordinator
- Humanities Teacher
- Lecturer in Art and Design
- Research Coordinator



'The support from staff in the Department while I was undertaking my PhD was excellent.

My supervisor was great and all the staff in the Department took an interest in

my work and my development, regardless of whether they were formally involved with me or not. As a doctoral researcher I undertook seminar teaching, and arranged a major two-day

postgraduate conference on a theme relating to my PhD research, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

'The postgraduate research community in the Department was incredibly active, with a very high calibre of students who really supported each other. The postgraduates in the Department formed a close-knit community who regularly came together both academically and socially. After completing my PhD I obtained a position as a Researcher at Birmingham Museum

and Art Gallery for one year. Following this, I took up a post as a Lecturer in Art History at Liverpool Hope University in 2008. It was at the University of Birmingham that I learnt how to research at an advanced level, which I continue now in my role as a research-active and publishing art historian.'

Amelia Yeates, PhD History of Art (2007)

Amelia completed a PhD looking at the artist and masculinity in Edward Burne-Jones's 'Pygmalion and the Image', and is now Lecturer in Art History at Liverpool Hope

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Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

In 2013:

- 92.3% of respondent taught postgraduates were in work and/or further study six months after graduation
- 100% of respondent research postgraduates also found work or further study after six months

Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology includes postgraduates with degrees in Classics, East Mediterranean History, Ancient History and Archaeology. These graduates boast a wide range of skills that can be applied in many types of work and which employers regard very positively. For example, they can contribute an understanding of issues around globalisation, diversity, language, culture and influences on society to most employment sectors.

Birmingham's Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology graduates also develop a broad range of transferable skills including: familiarity with research methods; the ability to manage large quantities of information from diverse sources; the ability to organise information in a logical and coherent manner; the expertise to write clearly and concisely and to tight deadlines; critical and analytical ability; the capacity for argument, debate and speculation; and the ability to base conclusions on statistical research.

Many of our postgraduates enter roles for which their programme has especially prepared them, such as museum and heritage activities and archaeological posts. Elsewhere, a range of graduate professions are undertaken by our graduates, from librarianship and teaching to accountancy.



'My tutors had recommended I join the Egypt Exploration Society (EES) and make use of their library while I was researching for my thesis. A few months after finishing, I got a job as Librarian and Membership Secretary at the EES, and have worked for the Society in a variety of roles ever since, now as Director. With help from my tutors, I also arranged to join a University of Pennsylvania dig in Abydos, Egypt, which the EES encouraged me to do, even though I had already started working for them by the time the dig came around.

Chris Naughton, MPhil(B) in Egyptology (2000)*

Chris completed his BA in Ancient History and Archaeology in 1999 before going on to complete an MPhil in Egyptology. He is currently working as the Director of the Egypt Exploration Society.

'This was the first of five seasons I spent in Egypt, all of which provided me with enormously useful experience. It goes without saying as well that my tutors, and my two Birmingham degrees, gave me a very sound grounding in Egyptology, which has served me well ever since. I love working for an organisation that makes a real difference to public understanding of Egyptian history and archaeology, and that also has a rich (130-year) history of its own.'

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**Note: The MPhil (B) in Egyptology has now been replaced by an MRes, combining taught modules with a 20,000-word research project.*

Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

Below is an overview of the kinds of employment sectors, organisations and professions that recent Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology postgraduates have entered, based on responses to 'Destinations of Leavers' surveys conducted six months after graduation.

Popular employment sectors

- Defence activities
- Fund management activities
- Library and archive activities
- Investigation activities
- Landscape service activities
- Member organisations
- Regulation of activities providing health care, education, cultural and social services
- Tertiary education

Range of employers

- AoC Archaeology group
- Big Heritage (social enterprise)
- Blakesley Hall Museum
- British Army
- City and Borough councils
- English Heritage
- KPMG
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- National Roads Authority
- National Trust
- Sotheby's
- University of Birmingham

Typical occupations

- Ancient Greek Tutor
- Archaeological Advisor
- Conservation Officer
- Cultural Resources Manager
- Curator
- Field Archaeologist
- Heritage Access Officer
- Lecturer
- Library Assistant
- Research Facilitator
- Post-Doctoral Researcher



'I came to Birmingham to study with the world authority on ancient Greek harmonics, Professor Andrew Barker. I benefited not only from his excellent, challenging

supervision, but also from the generosity and expertise of many other members of staff in Classics. I had the opportunity to teach in undergraduate modules and receive expert feedback on my teaching, to present papers both in Birmingham and further afield, and to co-organise a postgraduate conference at the University. I enjoyed living in a city with a vibrant musical scene and studying on a pleasant campus well connected by public transport

'When I began applying for academic jobs, I received detailed, practical and effective advice on my CV and job search. The care, attention and expertise of the Classics staff at Birmingham helped me to complete a publishable thesis and land my first academic job. Now I am doing what I love best: new research and teaching in the field in which I was trained.'

David Creese, PhD Classics (2002)

David's PhD looked at the monochord in Greek harmonic science. He is now Lecturer in Classics at the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Newcastle University.

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Drama and Theatre Arts

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

- 94.1% of all respondent Drama and Theatre Arts postgraduates over the past five years successfully found work and/or further study within just six months of graduating
- 100% of Drama and Theatre Arts MRes students who responded to the survey in 2013 were in work and/or further study six months after graduation

Drama and Theatre Arts postgraduates develop a very wide range of skills and qualities during their degree. Performance develops communication, team working and confidence, while postgraduates also develop time management, critical and analytical skills, the ability to formulate and solve problems, develop opinions and new ideas, and an aptitude for thinking and working creatively with others. Those graduates that enter employment use these transferable skills in a wide variety of occupations ranging from media sales and management to events and arts administration.



'Undertaking doctoral research in the Drama department at Birmingham, I found a great campus with excellent resources. I was offered outstanding supervision and strong opportunities for career development. I was able to do a lot of teaching, especially practice-based theatre teaching, which certainly helped me to prepare for a career in academia. I entered an intellectually stimulating environment and was given the right support to rise to the challenges of postgraduate study.'

'Using teaching and research skills that I developed during my time at Birmingham, I now supervise several PhD students of my own, which I thoroughly enjoy. I've also staged five research performances at a variety of venues and have had three books and numerous academic articles published. There's a clear connection between the skills I was able to develop as a result of the support I received at Birmingham and the extent to which I am able to enjoy developing them even further within my chosen profession.'

Teresa Murjas, PhD Drama and Theatre Arts (2002)

Teresa's doctoral thesis was entitled 'Resurrecting Strindberg: Directing and Facilitating Strindberg on the British Stage'. She is Senior Lecturer in Theatre at the University of Reading, where recent projects include 'Surviving Objects', a devised, multimedia practice-as-research performance written and directed by Teresa based on extensive interviews conducted with her mother, concerning her experience as a child refugee following her deportation by the Soviet Army from Eastern Poland to Siberia (1941).

LEARN MORE www.birmingham.ac.uk/drama

Drama and Theatre Arts

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Advertising agencies
- Artistic creation
- Creative arts and entertainment
- Events
- Higher education
- Operation of arts facilities
- Performing arts
- Secondary education
- Television programming and broadcasting

Range of employers

- Arts Council England
- Imperial College London
- InTuition Languages
- MusicLeader West Midlands
- National Theatre
- North Warwickshire Borough Council
- Really Useful Group
- University of Gloucestershire

Typical occupations

- Drama Teacher
- English Teacher
- Freelance Writer
- Lecturer
- Marketing Coordinator
- Performing Arts Tutor
- Playwright
- Screen Writer
- Theatre Maker
- Writer and Director



'My doctoral research looked into a computer-based programme for theatre script, to envision how IT might be used in the creative process of live theatre. One of the best things about my time in the Drama department was the support I received from my personal tutors. Completing my PhD in the department gave me invaluable experience when it comes to helping students with their essays and assignments: an integral part of my current role as a lecturer for the Open University and WEA. Since completing my PhD, I've written plays for various London theatres and for BBC Radio. My work currently revolves around the challenge of figuring out how best to teach creative writing techniques connected with prose, poetry and drama.'

Thomas Crowe, PhD Drama and Theatre Arts (2006)

After writing his doctoral thesis, entitled 'How might IT be used in the creative process of live theatre?' Thomas took up a position as a Lecturer at the Open University and the Workers' Educational Association.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/drama



English Language and Applied Linguistics

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 92% of taught postgraduate respondents were in work and/or further study just six months after graduation
- 100% of research postgraduate respondents found work and/or further study within six months

Postgraduate study in English Language at Birmingham includes our internationally-renowned MA and PhD programmes in Applied Linguistics, English Language Teaching and Translation Studies. Throughout their postgraduate studies in the Department, students are encouraged to develop a broad range of transferable skills that are highly valued by employers, particularly in relation to verbal and written communication. They also develop crucial skills in organisation, time management, analysis and interpretation of information, and IT skills. These skills can be used in a range of career areas.

Some postgraduates who have gone straight into employment enter professions for which their studies have directly prepared them (for example, translation and interpretation), while others use the range of transferable skills gained from their studies in a wide variety of occupations including teaching, journalism, marketing, publishing and media.



'Both the MA in Applied Linguistics and the PhD in English Language gave me the opportunity to attend the classes of a wide range of lecturers with very different interests and specialisations. I found it fascinating to explore such diverse areas as sociolinguistics, discourse analysis, psycholinguistics and language acquisition, and then relate them back to my primary interest in cognitive linguistics. It was also great to be able to discuss the classes and different aspects of research with such an incredible variety of fellow students.'

'The University of Birmingham truly is an international university, and the international nature of the MA and the PhD also guaranteed a very colourful and enjoyable social life outside of the classroom. Both my MA and PhD were invaluable in securing my current job because I was looking for a position as a University lecturer. I also now work in a country in which I have always wanted to live ever since I was a child. One of the most amazing things about doing a PhD in English Language at Birmingham is that it allows you to put a pin in the map on

just about any country in the world and to think to yourself, "I could probably find a good job there."

Peter Richardson, MA Applied Linguistics (2009), PhD English Language (2013).
Peter is now Associate Professor of English Language in the Media and Communications Department at Hokkaido University, Japan.

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English Language and Applied Linguistics

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

Below is an overview of the kinds of employment sectors, organisations and professions that recent English Language and Applied Linguistics postgraduates have entered, based on responses to 'Destinations of Leavers' surveys conducted six months after graduation.

Popular employment sectors

- Advertising and market research
- Higher education
- Publishing
- Secondary education
- Social work activities
- Translation and interpretation

Range of employers

- Claritas English Tutoring
- Comtec Translations Ltd
- Hoa Sen University (Vietnam)
- Languages Centres
- Malborough School
- The China Post
- Universidad Andrés Bello (Chilean university)
- V3 Productions (narrated virtual tours)

Typical occupations

- Director of English Studies
- English Teacher
- Film Maker
- Foreign Language Teacher
- In-House Translator
- Lecturer
- Marketing and Events Officer
- Public Service Interpreter
- Reporter

'At the University of Birmingham I found a friendly academic atmosphere, top-class library facilities, great friends and excellent professors in the English department: all of my expectations were met to an impressive standard. Birmingham is one of the best research-oriented universities in the world: studying for a PhD here, you will gain more than just a degree. Thanks to the knowledge and experience I gained, I have been well received by a number of scholars in the field. I have been asked to review a number of research papers in the areas of discourse analysis and English language.'

'My Birmingham PhD has allowed me to meet with great scholars and demonstrate my expertise at national and international conferences. It also proves that I am a qualified teacher and researcher, and many institutions have invited me to be a guest speaker on various topics. For example, when asked to present on how to succeed in studying abroad, I always refer to my beloved university, Birmingham, as an example.'

Intisarn Chaiyasuk, PhD English Language and Applied Linguistics (2010)

Intisarn is Assistant to the President for Internationalisation, Mahasarakham University, Maha Sarakham Province, Thailand.



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English Literature

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 90.7% of taught postgraduate respondents were in work and/or further study just six months after graduation
- 92.3% of research postgraduate respondents found work and/or further study within six months of graduation

Postgraduate study in English Literature at the University of Birmingham comprises a range of exciting and focused programmes across both taught and research degrees. The postgraduate programmes have an excellent staff-to-student ratio, which enables students to develop their own research with support and guidance via expert, tailored supervision.

During their postgraduate studies in English Literature, students have the opportunity to develop valuable presentation, communication and analytical skills, as well as time management, the ability to work independently, think critically and develop opinions, and IT skills. These transferable skills can be used in a range of career areas.

Many taught postgraduates in English Literature successfully continue their studies at PhD level, while a number of our postgraduate researchers then go on to lead their own successful academic careers. Others use the range of transferable skills gained from their studies in a wide variety of occupations including accounting, the charity sector, teaching, local government, law, publishing and media.



'I hoped when I started my BA in English Literature at Birmingham in 2002 that one day I would be a lecturer. I was entirely supported in achieving this goal throughout my time in the Department of English, where I was trained to postdoctoral standard by way of two postgraduate qualifications: an MPhil in 2007 and a PhD in 2010. Both postgraduate degrees were supervised by Dr Andrzej Gasiorek, who also oversaw my undergraduate thesis.

'The quality of Birmingham's postgraduate provision can be measured in my instance

by the fact that in September 2012 I was appointed (on a permanent basis) as a lecturer at Nottingham. I've reached the place I've long wanted to be, and I couldn't be happier. The postgraduate experience at Birmingham met and exceeded my expectations in the first instance because I shared most of it with the girl who married me in 2011! Another key aspect of that experience was the superlative supervision I enjoyed within the Department of English. My supervisor supported my ambitions with careful guidance, and my academic career to date has been possible largely due to that backing.

'During my PhD I published my first academic book (*Modern John Buchan*), and since graduating I have published my second (*Modernist Nowheres*). Other books are in the pipeline, one of which I'm co-editing with my former supervisor. All of these projects demonstrate the depth and breadth of the training to which I had access at one of the most invigorating English departments in the UK university sector. Overall, on the grounds of the professional opportunities that my time at Birmingham enabled, I can't recommend it enough as a high-quality destination for future postgraduate students.'

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www.birmingham.ac.uk/english

Nathan Waddell, MPhil English Literature (2007)* PhD English Literature (2010)
Nathan is a Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Literature in the School of English at the University of Nottingham.

*Note: The MPhil has now been replaced by an MA by Research, a research degree culminating in a 40,000-word thesis.

English Literature

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Higher education
- Museum activities
- Operation of historical sites and similar visitor attractions
- Pre-press and pre-media services
- Primary education
- Publishing
- Secondary education

Range of employers

- Birmingham Museums Trust
- Bloomsbury Publishing
- Civil Service
- Coventry Arts and Heritage Trust
- Galerie Dimiourgou (Athens)
- House of Commons
- Lancing College
- University of Birmingham
- University of Kent

Typical occupations

- Admissions and Recruitment Coordinator
- Assistant Professor
- Constituency Assistant
- Deputy Head Teacher
- Lecturer
- Primary School Teacher
- Proof Reader
- Specialist Editorial Intern

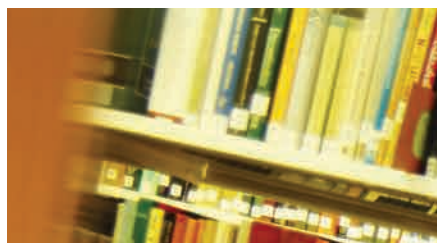


'Moving from sunny Greece to the UK was a shock initially, but the vibrant student life on campus at Birmingham soon became very appealing and immensely enjoyable. I was able to meet a range of researchers, teaching staff, administrative staff, and employees in various departments and offices from a range of backgrounds. During my first year of studies, I worked in catering in various posts, including helping out at evening events at the Vice-Principal's house. This work meant I was able to meet so many different and welcoming people. The skills, abilities and knowledge I acquired in completing a doctoral degree in English Literature and the prestige of the University of Birmingham certainly contributed to me securing jobs in various higher education institutions in London, as well as helping me succeed in getting my monograph proposal accepted by Ashgate publishers.

My advice to prospective students thinking of applying for a PhD in the English Department at Birmingham would be...absolutely go for it!

Katerina Koutsantoni, PhD English Literature (2005) Katerina is now Programmes Manager at Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London

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Film and Creative Writing

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

In 2013:

- 100% of all postgraduate respondents were in work and/or further study just six months after graduation

Film Studies and Creative Writing are situated together in a single department, allowing postgraduates to benefit from synergies between the two fields.

Employability is a central value running through our postgraduate programmes and the University is committed to bringing students into contact with key professional industries through activities such as work placements, visiting guest lectures, festivals and dedicated workshop sessions.

Alongside this, graduates develop a range of skills including: the ability to lead and participate in discussions; critical thinking, and an appreciation of different theoretical contexts; the ability to develop opinions and new ideas; and an aptitude for thinking and working creatively with others. Such skills can be used in a variety of occupations.

Taught postgraduate programmes in film and creative writing include our MA Film and Television: Research and Production; as a result, many of our graduates go on to entry-level jobs in the media (a common route of entry into the sector). Other graduates have made their mark in a wide range of careers, including teaching, performing arts and careers in the heritage and cultural sectors.



Film and Creative Writing

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Advertising agencies
- Architectural activities
- Motion picture, video and television programme production
- Museum activities
- Performing arts
- Primary education
- Public order and safety activities

Range of employers

- Chatsworth House
- Civil Service
- Coventry Arts and Heritage Trust
- Ember Television
- Glancy Nicholls Architects
- Maverick Television
- Shed Theatre Limited

Typical occupations

- Artistic Director
- History Centre Assistant
- Junior Television Researcher
- Primary School Teacher
- News Editor
- UK Border Force Officer
- Video Producer



'Since completing my MA, I've been working on various projects at Wall to Wall, a production company in London that makes programmes including *Who Do You Think You Are?* (BBC1), *The Voice* (BBC1) and *Drugs, Inc.* (National Geographic). After finishing my three month placement, I worked primarily with the development team on proposed factual series and dramas (which I loved), before I was lucky enough to land a role on the ITV series *Long Lost Family*, presented by Davina McCall and Nicky Campbell. The series reunites relatives that have been separated for years, and in some cases, may have never even met. It has been an amazing experience and I couldn't have hoped to work on a better programme for my first TV production role.

'In May 2014, *Long Lost Family* won the BAFTA for the 'Features' category and I was lucky enough to celebrate with the wonderful team at the Grosvenor House Hotel. It was firstly great to get the news that we had won, and even better when we saw some members of our team go up to collect the award while Nicky and Davina made their acceptance speeches. We then of course spent the rest of the night unashamedly taking pictures with the BAFTA heads and celebrities that were still partying away!'

Rosie Pooley, MA Film and Television: Research and Production MA (graduated 2014) Rosie is now a Junior Researcher at Wall to Wall Media.

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History

EMPLOYABILITY

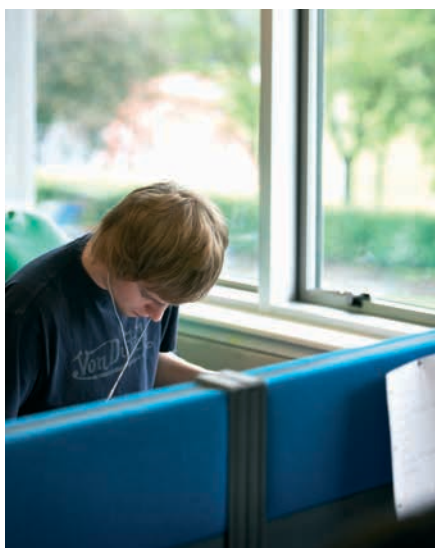
Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 92.9% of all respondent taught postgraduates were in work and/or further study just six months after graduation
- 92.2% of all respondent research postgraduates secured work and/or further study just six months after graduation

History graduates develop a broad range of transferable skills that are highly valued by a range of employers. These skills include: familiarity with research methods; the ability to manage large quantities of information from diverse sources; the ability to organise information in a logical and coherent manner; the expertise to write clearly and concisely and to tight deadlines; critical and analytical ability; the capacity for argument, debate and speculation; and the ability to base conclusions on statistical research.

Some of our History postgraduates go on to use their studies directly, for example in heritage, museum or archivist work. However, due to the non-vocational nature of a postgraduate History degree, many postgraduates choose jobs which may not be directly related to their course of study; as a result, our History postgraduates have made their mark in a particularly wide range of careers.



'My doctoral research looked at the relationship between churches and those who granted them land in Western Europe during the seventh, eighth and ninth centuries. In particular,

this involved studying the charters in which land was granted to churches and trying to understand and contextualise the motivation and incentives that underlay their creation.

'The essential thing that anyone undertaking a PhD has to learn, and does learn, is how to set out upon and control a long-term research project. After starting my PhD, the entire thesis repeatedly changed shape and direction as a result of various findings and inspirations; what I have gained above all is the ability to allow the project to run its course over three years, whilst still keeping my original question in mind. Along the way I have discovered how to research efficiently, how to tackle seemingly insurmountable problems and, above all,

how to read sources, both for information and as a window onto contemporary society.'

Allan McKinley, PhD Medieval History (2003)

After his PhD, entitled 'Church-patron relationships amongst the Anglo-Saxons and Franks, c. 660-850', Alan took up a role as an International Development Officer at the University of Birmingham.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/history

History

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Accounting, auditing and tax consultancy
- Defence
- Museum activities
- Operation of historical sites and visitor attractions
- Secondary education
- Social work
- Primary education

Range of employers

- Alcester Heritage Network
- Birmingham Pen Museum
- British Psychological Society
- Dementia UK (charity)
- HistoGlobe (visualisation and history marketing software)
- HSBC
- KPMG
- Ministry of Defence
- National Trust
- University of Birmingham
- University of Kent
- William Brookes School

Typical occupations

- Accountant
- Aviation Safety Consultant
- Civil Servant
- Content Developer
- Data Analyst
- Director of Policy
- Fundraiser
- Head of Operations
- Military Historian
- Teacher
- Lecturer
- Postgraduate Recruitment Advisor
- Premises and Engineering Intern
- Tour Guide



'The First World War Studies MA course was excellent, extremely well run by Dr Bourne and his colleagues (not least of whom the Department secretary). My colleagues were all

serious students and I learned a great deal from their presentations. I look back on the days I spent in Birmingham with affection. The only down-side of the course was the need to rise very early to catch the plane to Birmingham – I was on the two-year Saturday school course, which meant that by afternoon I was feeling tired. But such was the interest and excitement of the course that it was easy to maintain my attention. Since graduating I have sustained my investigations into the subject of my thesis (with the encouragement of Dr Bourne),

and turned it into a book-length work, which is to be published later this year as *San Fairy Ann: Motorcycles and British Victory 1914–1918* (FireStep Books/Reveille Press). This could not have occurred, of course, but for the University of Birmingham, and its excellent War Studies programme.'

Michael Carragher, MA First World War Studies (2007)

Michael studied for the MA in First World War Studies under Dr John Bourne in the Department of History, graduating in 2007. He is currently employed as a teacher with the County Dublin VEC, Ireland.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/history



Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage (IIICH)

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 93.8% of all postgraduate respondents were in work and/or further study just six months after graduation

Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage (IIICH) is a focal point for cross-disciplinary research, postgraduate teaching and policy engagement. The Institute's courses provide training for those embarking on, or developing careers in, many aspects of heritage.

Over six hundred students have now followed the Institute's Masters and Diploma programmes, many of whom now occupy important positions in museums and conservation agencies. Through a partnership with the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, the Institute works alongside professionals from recording and conservation agencies, from museums, and from the other professions in which our students make their careers.

As well as receiving a unique education in the ways in which cultural heritage is understood, represented, managed and mobilised in different cultures and societies; our students also gain practical training in report-writing, public speaking, using spreadsheet packages, audio-visual and graphic display.



Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage (IIICH)

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Architectural activities
- Advertising agencies
- Museum activities
- Operation of historical sites and similar visitor attractions
- Secondary education

Range of employers

- Arts Council of Wales
- BBC
- Birmingham Museums Trust
- Canal & River Trust
- GVA Property Agents
- Historical Royal Palaces
- Imperial War Museum
- Kingsmead School
- Local Authorities
- National Trust
- Natural History Museum
- Tower of London

Typical occupations

- Architectural Director
- Archivist
- Broadcast Assistant
- Building Conservator
- Business Support Advisor
- Curatorial Assistant
- Heritage Officer
- Learning Officer
- Lecturer
- Project Manager
- Sales and Marketing Manager
- Senior Planning Officer
- Visitor Services Manager



'Having finished my undergraduate degree, I realised that it was necessary to have a postgraduate qualification in order to achieve a career within the competitive heritage sector. The Heritage Management MA at Ironbridge provided the framework and opportunities to meet many people working within the sector, and to learn from their knowledge and

experience, while fostering the relationships necessary for the workplace. This was enhanced by the opportunity to conduct a work placement at a heritage site of your choice. Birmingham was a fantastic base for this course as we're surrounded by a rich industrial heritage, with easy reach to many regional museums and galleries.

'The course helped improve my presenting and analytical skills, and I have become confident in exploring a variety of heritage sites and organisations and using this information to compare and contrast. This ability, alongside the confidence in approaching heritage practitioners with questions, has proved particularly useful for my PhD research.

'Once I finish my PhD, I hope to continue my research into the ways in which individuals and groups continue to use and renegotiate heritage in contemporary cultures, particularly exploring the creation of 'new' heritage. I hope to put this research into practical application through the relationship between heritage and local government.'

Gillian Reynolds, MA Heritage Management (2013) *Gillian is now studying for a PhD in Cultural Heritage at Birmingham*

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/iiich

Modern Languages

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 94.3% of all postgraduate respondents found work or further study within six months of graduating

Our Modern Languages postgraduate programmes cover the areas of French, German, Hispanic and Italian Studies. Postgraduates studying Modern Languages develop excellent communication skills, while cultural awareness and foreign language skills are highly sought after by employers. Postgraduates in Modern Languages also have a range of transferable skills including the ability to gather and interpret information, organisational skills and the ability to work well with others. Such skills can be used in a variety of occupations.

A small percentage of language graduates train to become professional linguists such as translators and interpreters. More commonly, graduates enter employment where their language skills may be advantageous but not central to their role, for example, within international organisations, the Civil Service and in the travel and hospitality industry. Traditionally, University of Birmingham language postgraduates enter a wide range of occupational sectors both in the UK and abroad. In addition to undertaking roles requiring languages, such as teaching roles abroad, we see our graduates entering a range of industries including finance, media, retail and HR.



'The four years of my PhD were among the most stimulating, challenging and enjoyable that I have known. Being part of a large and active postgraduate community was one of the key factors in my experience: family and friends warned me before I began that researching would be a solitary existence, but I found it quite the contrary. Birmingham offers a huge number of opportunities for its doctoral researchers,

including teaching, training in research skills, joining reading groups, acting as postgraduate representatives and organising and attending conferences. I was also part of a group of students who helped design the new Research Skills module, where I felt that my opinions were really valued. I am now working as a teaching fellow at the University of Auckland, New Zealand; I am in no doubt that my time as a doctoral researcher at Birmingham both influenced my choice to continue working in academia and prepared me extremely well for all the challenges of my new role.'

Alex Standen, PhD Italian Studies (2011)

Alex's thesis examined contemporary author Dacia Maraini's political commitment through her engagement with the issue of gender violence.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/languages

Modern Languages

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Accountancy, auditing and tax consultancy
- Creative, arts and entertainment organisations
- Higher education
- Museum activities
- Research and development in social sciences and humanities
- Secondary education

Range of employers

- Arts and Humanities Research Council
- Colgate University
- Deloitte
- South Staffordshire Housing Association

- Tate Britain Gallery
- University of Manchester
- Zamyn (communications agency)

Typical occupations

- Curatorial Intern
- Gallery Coordinator
- Teacher
- Lecturer
- PhD Researcher
- Programme Development Officer
- Research Affiliate
- Spanish Instructor
- Teaching Fellow



'I loved my studies at Birmingham; I felt challenged and rewarded. Being a mature student, I had been worried about fitting in and making friends, but everyone

at Birmingham was welcoming and encouraged me greatly. There was never any doubt in my mind that I wanted to go on to postgraduate study, and was lucky to get Professor Crossley (now an Emeritus Professor) as my supervisor. With his help, and the guidance of my mentor, Professor Birkett, I not only got a studentship from the Arts and Humanities Research Council, but also received the Constance Naden Prize for my MPhil thesis. But I knew there was 'more'

I needed to say, so I went on to do a PhD on Flaubert and Proust, and in fact, received a national award, from the British Fellowship of Women Graduates, for my research. I began lecturing as a postgraduate, and have continued on a part-time basis.'

Rachel Luckman, PhD French Studies (2009)
Rachel graduated with a BA (Hons) degree in French Studies at the University of Birmingham in 2001, then went on to study for an MPhil in 2003 and a PhD in 2009, and is now an Associate Lecturer in French Studies at the University.*

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/languages

**Note: The MPhil has now been replaced with an MA by Research, a research degree culminating in a 40,000-word thesis.*

Music

EMPLOYABILITY

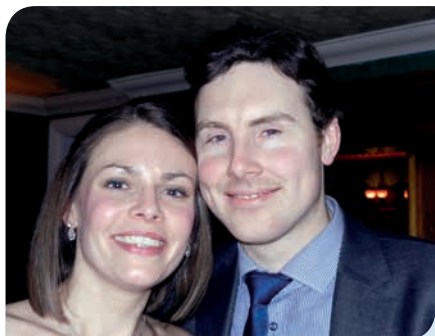
Highlights

- 96% of all postgraduate respondents over the past five years found work or further study within six months of graduating
- 100% of postgraduate respondents from Music in 2013 successfully secured a graduate-level job within six months of graduating

Our Music postgraduates work in a wide range of careers within and beyond the music world. A postgraduate degree in Music develops a broad base of skills including general skills such as communication, problem solving and research, and also specific skills developed by practice and performance such as self-management, team work and presentation.

A large proportion of Music graduates go straight into employment, across a wide range of sectors. While some graduates pursue music-related careers, others choose to use their transferable skills to follow career paths in fields including finance, the media and the public sector. In previous years, occupations have included diverse roles such as music tutor, singing teacher, choral animateur, business analyst and advertising executive.

A smaller, but significant, number of graduates have chosen to undertake further study, with the majority undertaking music-related courses in composition, performance and teaching. For this reason, specialising at postgraduate level is a huge advantage for some music-related careers.



Peter Trethewey with his wife, Katie, who is also a Birmingham Music graduate and a professional freelance classical singer.

'From our offices in the CBSO Centre, Ex Cathedra organises concerts of music from the Renaissance to the twenty-first century, performing in Birmingham, across the UK and abroad. We give historically informed performances, commission new music, make

recordings and engage thousands of people each year in schools, hospitals and community projects. It is a varied and interesting role, which encompasses planning, budgeting, marketing and much more. Over one week in 2012, for example, we took part in the world premiere of Stockhausen's opera *Mittwoch aus Licht* with Birmingham Opera Company for the London 2012 Festival, and the next day travelled to Antwerp to perform a programme of Venetian music by Giovanni Gabrieli (d. 1612). At the same time, we were preparing to deliver our Singing Playgrounds project to nearly 200 Birmingham primary schools as part of Birmingham's Music Education Hub.

'My MPhil in Musicology took the form of an edition of a set of Vespers music from seventeenth-century Italy. While studying, I joined Ex Cathedra as a singer, and began to assist Jeffrey Skidmore, the founding artistic

director and conductor of Ex Cathedra, in the preparation of some editions of music from the Latin American Baroque, which eventually resulted in three extremely popular CDs that have received a lot of airplay on both BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM. From there, my move into the role of General Manager was slightly unexpected. It was a steep learning curve, but extremely rewarding and continues to be very enjoyable. Research underpins all of Ex Cathedra's work, so my MPhil has proved valuable in many ways, and I consider myself very lucky to have a job that I love.'

Peter Trethewey, MPhil Musicology (2003)*
Peter is the General Manager of Ex Cathedra, a leading UK choir and early music ensemble based here in Birmingham.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/music

*Note: The MPhil in Musicology has now been replaced by an MA by Research, a research degree culminating in a 40,000-word thesis.

Music

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Creative, arts and entertainment organisations
- Higher education
- Market research
- Performing arts
- Reproduction of recorded media
- Secondary education
- Sound recording and music publishing

Range of employers

- Arts Council England
- BBC
- Birmingham Conservatoire
- Birmingham Contemporary Music Group
- Coventry City Council Performing Arts Service
- Lancaster University

- National Opera Studio
- National Orchestra
- Raffles Institution
- Royal Northern College of Music
- Royal Welsh Music and Drama

Typical occupations

- Freelance Composer
- Head of Composition
- Instrument Teacher
- Lecturer
- Music Technician
- Musician in Residence
- Performance Music Assistant
- Postdoctoral Fellow
- Sound Recordist



'The thing that attracted me to undertaking doctoral research in Music at Birmingham was a combination of people, facilities and opportunities. For me, these are the essential

ingredients for an exciting research community, and in my current role I have been able to model a great deal of our current provision for postgraduate researchers on my experience as a doctoral student at Birmingham. BEAST (Birmingham ElectroAcoustic Sound Theatre) has now grown to be world leading in terms of research in and performance

of electroacoustic music. The opportunity to perform the compositional outcomes of our research at prestigious festivals and conferences in the UK and abroad under the BEAST banner enhanced my doctoral experience. Without the experience I gained at Birmingham, I would not have been able to create such a vibrant research environment in Electroacoustic Music in my current role at the University of Aberdeen.'

Pete Stollery, PhD Musical Composition (1996)

Pete is now Professor in Composition and Electroacoustic Music at the University of Aberdeen.

'After graduating from my Masters I originally went into arts management, spending three years at the National Opera Studio as the Planning Coordinator. I then spent nine months at the Royal Opera House (ROH) as the Artistic Administrator for the OperaGenesis programme, before being promoted to a Producer in ROH. I was project managing productions of contemporary opera and dance in the Linbury Studio Theatre, Clore Studio and other venues in the Royal Opera House, as well as at external events as far-reaching as Latitude Festival.

'After six years working in the arts, I decided on a career change, and have been teaching music in a senior school in South West London for nearly a year now. I am privileged to be able to enthuse young students about music on a daily basis. I really enjoy being so closely involved in music-making, and seeing young people take a keen interest in the subject. Being able to impart your own knowledge is tremendously exciting.'

Sophie Manners, MPhil Music (2006)*
Sophie works as a music teacher in London and graduated from Birmingham in 2004 with a BMus (Hons) before going on to complete an MPhil.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/music

*Note: The MPhil has now been replaced by an MA by Research, a research degree culminating in a 40,000-word thesis.



Philosophy

EMPLOYABILITY

Highlights

Over the past five years

- 93.5% of taught postgraduate respondents were in work and/or further study just six months after graduating
- 100% of our research postgraduate respondents secured work and/or further study six months after graduation

At Birmingham, we offer PhD programmes in Philosophy and in Global Ethics as well as a range of taught MA programmes and a combined taught and research MRes. Postgraduate study in Philosophy offers the opportunity to develop a range of skills that are highly desirable in the job market, including: articulacy; precise analytical thought; clarity; rigour in formulating complex problems; and the ability to analyse and construct sound arguments. Due to the transferable nature of these skills, Philosophy postgraduates traditionally enter a wide range of employment areas, from the Civil Service to finance.

Those students who go into further study pursue a mixture of vocational courses to convert to a particular career area and non-vocational courses related to their degree programme.



'I chose to study a postgraduate degree as I wanted an opportunity to tackle the topics that I had found most interesting and challenging as an undergraduate. Birmingham's course allowed me to write in depth on ethics and philosophy of language. In particular, it was a privilege to work so closely with a tutor who is a leader in their field and who I had already got to know well as an undergraduate. The degree also included taught study in other topics that I was interested in, giving me a broad knowledge base that helped me understand and contribute to discussions with other students and lecturers in the Department. The Department itself was really supportive. There was a brilliant programme of regular visiting lectures and seminars, alongside regular opportunities for postgraduates to present their research. The postgraduate community was really strong, and we frequently met up socially outside the Department.

'Regular scrutiny of my research in writing and at discussion groups trained me to quickly identify arguments and cut away everything that was irrelevant. Being able to get straight to the point has been a great help, particularly

in politics where the arguments you hear are often inexact or obscured. More than just picking out arguments, this training helps me to make clear, persuasive arguments that don't miss the point. Again, this is helpful in politics where delivering a clear message that speaks directly to an audience is really important.

'I also had the privilege of spending time on a long-running by-election campaign. This allowed me to work alongside campaign experts with decades of experience, and to see how a campaign message gets created and adapted in a rapidly changing environment. Best of all was being able to make a small contribution of my own and feel like I had a part to play in the eventual outcome.'

Callum Hood, MPhil (B) Philosophy (2010)*
Callum is a Researcher for an MP in Parliament.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/philosophy

**Note: The MPhil (B) has now been replaced by an MRes, a combined taught and research degree culminating in a 20,000-word dissertation.*

Philosophy

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Activities of membership organisations
- Computer consultancy
- Higher education
- Hospital activities
- Social work activities
- Performing arts

Range of employers

- Afrikids (child rights organisation)
- Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust
- Muslim Scout Fellowship
- Rights and Humanity
- The Refugee and Migrant Centre, Wolverhampton
- University of Birmingham
- University of Edinburgh

Typical occupations

- Academic Policy Partner
- Business and Systems Analyst
- Development Officer
- Governance Support Officer
- Postgraduate Tutor
- Project Manager
- Representation Coordinator
- Researcher and Bid Proposal Writer
- Teacher



'My doctoral research addressed current limitations with the doctrine of informed consent as used in medical practice, with a view to providing a justification for paternalistic interventions. My PhD was funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

'The University of Birmingham was a highly stimulating environment for continuing my study of Philosophy to postgraduate level. Aside from being supportive of research in a wide variety

of philosophical areas, staff also offered extensive help to doctoral researchers looking to secure funding for further study. This was supplemented by postgraduate teaching assistantships, which are not only an excellent means of earning money, but provide vital experience for students wishing to pursue a career in academia. The Department fosters a friendly atmosphere for pursuing philosophical argument and for socialising too. The city of Birmingham offers a wide range of restaurants, shops, entertainment

venues and cultural activities easily accessible from the University. Overall, studying Philosophy at Birmingham was an outstandingly positive experience.'

Emma Bullock, PhD Philosophy (2012)
Emma is a part-time Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Southampton.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/philosophy

The Shakespeare Institute

EMPLOYABILITY

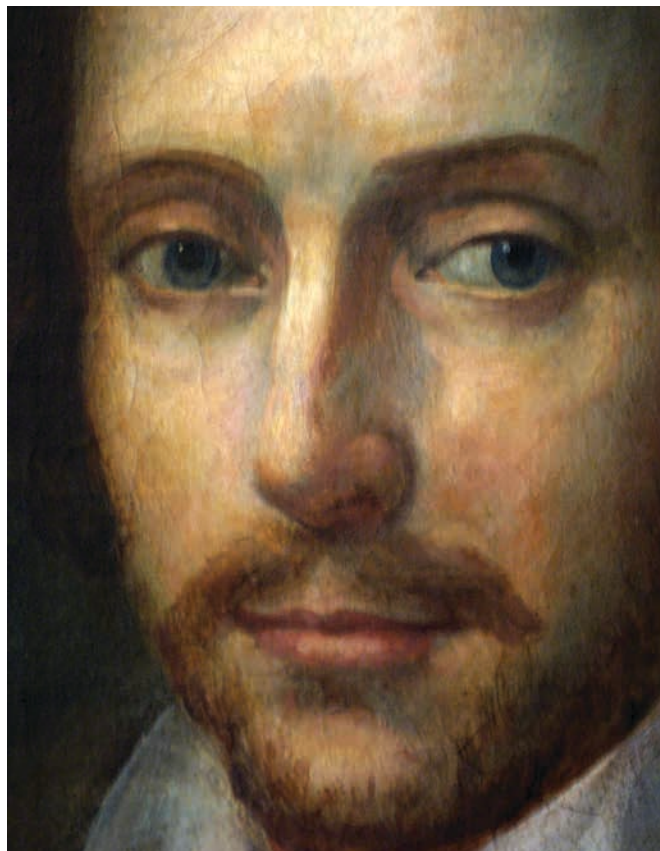
Highlights

- 99% of our taught postgraduate respondents over the past five years found work or further study within six months of graduating
- 100% of respondent research postgraduates in 2013 were in work and/or further study six months after graduation

In the words of its Director, Professor Michael Dobson, the Shakespeare Institute is simply 'the best place on earth in which to explore the impact that Shakespeare's work has had across four centuries of world culture.' With many staff involved in major creative projects, the Institute aims to nurture the directors, actors, writers, arts administrators, teachers and academics of the future.

The Shakespeare Institute enjoys close and developing relations with the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. It plays host to the most prestigious international Shakespeare conference in the world, as well as to the biggest postgraduate conference in Shakespeare studies.

The broad range of creative, research and theatre skills developed by postgraduates at the Shakespeare Institute, as well as the depth of subject knowledge offered through the Institute's programmes, means that postgraduates have successfully entered a variety of sectors from teaching in secondary and higher education to performing arts, publishing, museums and library and archive work.



The Shakespeare Institute

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

- Higher education
- Library and museum activities
- Operation of historical sites, buildings and similar visitor attractions
- Performing arts
- Publishing
- Secondary education
- Tertiary education

Range of employers

- Allied Newspapers Limited
- Honno Welsh Women's Press
- Imperial College London
- National Trust
- Ogilvy4d (Healthcare communications)
- Royal Shakespeare Company
- Sandbach School
- Shakespeare Birthplace Trust
- Solihull College
- The Grove Theatre
- University of Bristol

Typical occupations

- Actor
- Director
- Editor
- Educational Associate Tutor
- Head of Department (in a school)
- Learning Centre Resources Manager
- Lecturer
- Teacher
- Theatre Critic
- Tour Guide



'At the age of 50, I decided that I wanted to do something completely different from everything else I had ever done... I decided to do an MA in Shakespeare and Theatre. Working in an academic environment, I thought it would be both interesting and challenging to take this interest on to a different level.

'I really enjoyed the material covered by the course, the enthusiasm of the academic staff, and the fantastic library at the Shakespeare Institute, where I could happily spend my annual summer vacation!

'Since I finished my MA, I decided to stop being employed full-time and become a self-employed consultant in Higher Education Management. Although on the face of it an MA in Shakespeare and Theatre might not seem immediately applicable to a career in Higher Education Management, the MA gave me confidence in successfully tackling something in a different field and in expressing my opinions in groups, as well as giving me experience of researching and writing documents, which has been of direct benefit to me in producing reports on the consultancy projects I have undertaken.

'Working in higher education is immensely rewarding. HE is all about helping people to do things they couldn't otherwise have done.'

Bob Westway, MA Shakespeare and Theatre (graduated 2008) *Bob is now a freelance consultant working in Higher Education*

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/shakespeare

Theology and Religion

EMPLOYABILITY

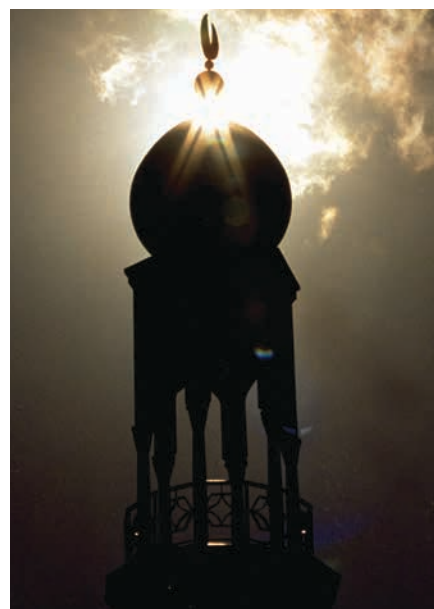
Highlights

Over the past five years:

- 90% of our taught postgraduate respondents found work or further study within six months of graduating
- 94.9% of respondent research postgraduates were in work and/or further study six months after graduation

Theology graduates develop a broad range of transferable skills including: familiarity with research methods; the ability to manage large quantities of information from diverse sources; the ability to organise information in a logical and coherent manner; the expertise to write clearly and concisely and to tight deadlines; critical and analytical ability; the capacity for argument, debate and speculation; and the ability to base conclusions on statistical research.

Many of Birmingham's Theology graduates go into careers in churches of various denominations. For those in further study, teacher training courses remain a popular choice. The interest in teaching careers is also reflected by the high proportion of students working as teaching assistants and in related occupations. Other students use their transferable skills in a range of employment sectors, including local government, education and charities.



'Working as a doctoral researcher in the Department of Theology and Religion at Birmingham gave me access to the best facilities that a UK university can offer and allowed me to study in the company of fellow seekers of knowledge. The experience was beyond

my expectations; the Department treats doctoral researchers with a lot of respect and gives you the space to grow and develop. The city of Birmingham also has a dynamic atmosphere and has so much cultural depth. Studying for a PhD here involves committing yourself to a journey of research and discovery. Mine has really deepened my knowledge of theology as well as making me attractive to employers. As a result, I've been able to secure a job which allows

me to pursue a teaching career for which I am glad to get out of bed!

Chris Jordan, PhD Theology and Religion (2010)

Chris's PhD research was entitled 'The textual tradition of the Gospel of John in Greek gospel lectionaries from the Middle Byzantine period'. He is now a teacher of Classics at Heathfield School, Ascot.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/theology

Theology and Religion

RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS

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

Popular employment sectors

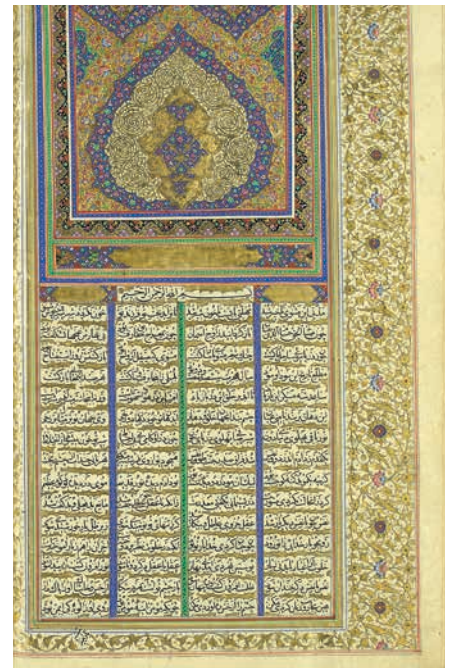
- Activities of religious organisations
- Higher education
- Human health activities
- Publishing
- Secondary education
- Social work activities

Range of employers

- Al-Mahdi Institute
- British Council
- Church of England
- Institute of Education
- International Greek New Testament Project
- Nishkam School Trust
- Quaker Homeless Action
- Queens Ecumenical Theological College
- Swanswell (Alcohol and Drug Support Service)
- University of Birmingham
- Vide-Muwa Publishers

Typical occupations

- Chaplain
- Child Protection Coordinator
- Consultant Psychotherapist
- Editor
- Head of Religious Studies
- Lecturer
- Religious Faith Coordinator
- Research Assistant
- Support Worker



'The best thing about being a doctoral researcher in Theology and Religion at Birmingham was my real enjoyment of the research that I did, as well as meeting friends from different parts of the world and enjoying the multicultural environment. Birmingham is a friendly and diverse city where

you certainly do not feel like a stranger. To prospective doctoral researchers thinking of studying in the Department, I would say prepare yourself well and maximise the benefits of the learning and the fun that you will experience here; the University's reputation can open doors for you with many job opportunities. Since finishing my PhD, my achievements include publishing my thesis in March 2011 with Palgrave Macmillan, and securing a position

as a lecturer, which allows me to continue to carry out research that interests me.'

Ahmed Mohsen Al-Dawoody, PhD Theology and Religion (2009)

Ahmed's PhD thesis was entitled 'War in Islamic law: Justifications and regulations'. He is now a lecturer in Islamic Studies at Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt.

LEARN MORE
www.birmingham.ac.uk/theology