Careers Centre

Options with a Degree in Business

Examples of Career Areas

For a Career in...

Finance

A business degree can lead you to a career in a variety of roles in the financial sector, although some of these, such as Accountancy roles, will require additional training. Other roles within the finance sector include Risk Manager, which involves identifying threats to the financial stability of a company, as well as Insurance Underwriter and Corporate Investment Banker.

Business Support

This area of business covers roles such as Human Resources Officer and Training and Development Officer, which currently sit within the HR department of a business. Lots of organisations also employ Equality and Diversity Officers, and in larger businesses, these roles may specialise further, for example Disability or Race Relations. Another role within this sector that exists in almost all organisations is that of the Office Manager. A good level of leadership and communication skills are required for these roles.

Retail

Within retail there are various roles across the areas of sales, buying, and merchandising. These include Sales Executive, Retail Buyer, and Retail Merchandiser. Buyers source new merchandise and review existing products, while merchandisers predict trends and decide how much stock to order. Other roles include Retail Manager and Retail Banker.

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Some of these roles are typical graduate entry roles, others are more senior, requiring a few years’ experience.

Job titles vary in this sector so read job descriptions fully, not just the title – e.g. a Project Manager and a Business Change Manager can refer to the same role.
The Current Situation

Graduate Schemes are increasingly popular within the business, finance and marketing sectors. These are a great way to learn and progress whilst on-the-job. Business related Graduate Schemes are offered by companies such as Unilever, Barclays, RBS, Network Rail and IBM. Graduate Schemes are famously competitive, so if you decide to apply, we can help you prepare for assessment centres, interviews and psychometric tests.

Despite uncertainty over how Brexit may affect the rules surrounding corporate tax and VAT, there remains a strong demand for skilled and qualified workers to enter the finance profession. Two-thirds of jobs in the financial and professional services are located outside of London, with hotspots including Leeds, Manchester and Birmingham.

You could do pretty much anything with a Business related degree. Many employers take graduates from any subject area. Business graduates in particular are highly valuable as they are: analytical and critical thinking, good at making decisions, have a creative approach to problem solving, and are generally good with numbers and data analysis. These problem-solving and analytical skills are highly transferable and relevant in just about any industry, making business graduates highly desirable for recruitment. Work experience within a business will also add to the list of skills and qualities that make you an employable graduate.

What **graduate salary** can I expect in a Business or Marketing job? Starting salaries generally range from £17,000 to £24,000 – see details [here](#).

Tips and Advice

Work experience will help add to your commercial skills and give you additional knowledge about how organisations operate. [Find out more about work experience](#).

Skills Required

Technical skills are not enough to secure your graduate job. Employers also require:

- Interpersonal skills.
- Commercial Awareness.
- Organisation.
- Time management.
- Problem Solving.
- Adaptability.
- Ability to work under pressure.
- Attention to detail.
What Have Previous Edge Hill Graduates Done?
Recent graduates have secured employment with larger organisations such as AO.com, Arnold Clark, HMRC, Matalan, Shop Direct.

Job titles include:
- Business Liaison Manager.
- Marketing Executive.
- Project Manager.
- Recruitment Coordinator.
- Wetstock Data Analyst.
- Digital Marketing Assistant.
- Financial Analyst.
- HR Graduate Trainee.
- HR Assistant.
- Sales Executive.

After graduating in 2015, 66% of Edge Hill Business School graduates were graduate roles, and a further 17% in further study (who responded to the Destination of Leavers from HE survey).

What Else Can I Do?
Approximately 70% of graduate vacancies are aimed at graduates of any degree subject. You can therefore use your degree to enter a wide range of sectors including:

- Hospitality and Events Management.
- Legal Service Professions.
- Leisure, Sport and Tourism.
- Public Service.
- Research.
- Teaching and Education.

Some will require experience or further study. You can explore these career ideas further on Prospects.

Have a look at Examples of Recent Vacancies to get an idea of what companies are looking for in candidates.
Some careers require a postgraduate qualification e.g. a Masters. Read more about [Further Study](#).

Are you interested in running your own business? Read more about [Self Employment](#).

“I went to The Careers Centre for a CV check, and they helped me realise what my strengths were and how I could put them down on paper. I felt more confident, and decided to apply at places I hadn’t considered before. As a result, I secured a great role in Hewlett Packard Enterprise as a Project Manager.” – Juandre, Marketing Graduate

“I used the Careers Centre’s resources on job hunting, applications, and interview preparation. The services they offer helped me feel confident in getting my ideal role as I had prepared as much as possible. They gave me feedback on my CV, and even did mock interviews with me. I would definitely recommend making use of their help!” – Daisy, Marketing and PR Graduate