

# COMPUTING FUTURE CAREERS

## Computing at Goldsmiths: Some future career paths

Studying Computing at Goldsmiths incorporates a wide range of topics. Employers are interested in both the technical skills you gain during your degree and the broader transferable skills you will develop.

## Where do Goldsmiths Computing graduates work?

Some graduate-level careers for Computing graduates of 2014 included: <sup>1</sup>

- Website and Marketing Assistant
- Self-Employed Web Developer
- Financial Analyst
- Junior Back End Programmer
- Software Engineer
- Start-Up Developer
- Outlander
- IT Consultant
- Software Developer
- System Developer
- Laboratory Support Assistant

## Employers of 2014 graduates include:<sup>1</sup>

- Fides Financial Advisory
- Opera Mediaworks (mobile advertising agency)
- Ford
- comparethemarket.com

- London Borough of Hackney
- Petronas (oil and gas company)
- Oxfam
- Iminus1 (web design agency)
- Goldsmiths, University of London
- Quindell (software company)
- Betgenius (sports betting software company)

<sup>1</sup>Source: *Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education*. This data is collected six months after graduation and shows where graduates start their careers.

As you can see, Goldsmiths Computing graduates work in a wide variety of related roles but these are not the only options available. You may also choose to apply your knowledge and understanding in IT sales; as an IT trainer, both in applications and software; or you may want to combine your technical understanding of systems and applications with writing - in producing supporting documentation.

## What skills will I gain?

Studying Computing at Goldsmiths will provide you with a variety of technical skills that are in demand and highly sought after. These include:

- designing, developing and applying software
- an in-depth understanding of the fundamentals of computing, i.e. hardware, software, architecture and operating systems
- programming languages
- teamwork
- creative thinking
- report writing
- time management and organisation
- presenting reasoned arguments to a range of audiences
- retrieval of information

## What areas could I work in?

Many graduate entry-level positions can be found within the IT industry itself, and common employers are IT consultancies and IT service providers. The IT departments of major organisations in the following sectors also employ Computing graduates:

- telecommunications
- aerospace and defence
- financial services - including investment banking and e-commerce
- retail
- public sector - including national and local government, NHS, universities
- third sector - including charities and voluntary organisations

## What kinds of graduate employers might be interested in me?

Accenture, IBM, Logica and Microsoft are amongst the biggest names in the IT industry providing expert support and services to other organisations.

Over half of computing professionals find roles outside of the IT industry with companies providing services via hardware and software. Examples of these are Ernst and Young, Deloitte, KPMG and BDO.

Financial services firms such as JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs require highly secure, high quality IT systems for all their global daily banking transactions. There is also some outsourcing of their functions via software development companies such as Scott Logic Ltd.

Information providers like Bloomberg also require secure reliable high quality IT systems for their global information service.

The games development industry has a good UK presence. Many of the larger companies have studios in the UK and include companies such as MGS, Sony, Rockstar and Disney.

The retail industry has business-focused IT jobs available; most of the major retailers such as Sainsbury's and Tesco will use a variety of IT systems to support a whole range of functions. Look out for opportunities via their graduate training schemes.

The telecommunications industry is rapidly expanding, providing mobile services, broadband, land telephony, IPTV and video on-demand services. Key players are BT, EE and Vodafone.

The manufacturing industry is a key user of all aspects of IT and roles exist in multinational engineering companies in the oil, pharmaceutical, automotive parts and energy industries. Key players include GlaxoSmithKline, npower and Amec.

## Where can I find further information?

On the Prospects website, the 'What can I do with my degree?' section is a useful starting point. Here you can access detailed information about IT related careers. [www.prospects.ac.uk/options\\_with\\_your\\_subject.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm)

"I left Goldsmiths being able to program software to a level that is commercially viable, something that has been of great value in my professional life. In my final year at Goldsmiths I received a number of offers for places on graduate schemes with large companies such as IBM, GlaxoSmithKline, Hewlett Packard and Atkins - they were very impressed with the work I had done and I feel it was a real advantage that I attended Goldsmiths. When I left Goldsmiths I joined the Graduate Scheme at Atkins, the largest multi-disciplinary engineering firm in Europe. I'm now working as a Communications Engineer, working on projects for companies and governments. I've been involved in the design of special airport systems for the new Jeddah airport in Saudi Arabia and I am now working on the passenger authentication system that uses biometrics to identify passengers."

Michael, Communications Engineer at Atkins, graduated BSc Computer Science 2012

## Goldsmiths Careers Service

The Careers Service has a full programme of events - you can find out more at [www.gold.ac.uk/careers](http://www.gold.ac.uk/careers)

From the moment you arrive at Goldsmiths you can use us to help you plan your future - pop in and book an appointment with a careers consultant.

<http://learn.gold.ac.uk> (search 'Goldsmiths Careers Service')  
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