Beyond the Professoriate presents

PhD Job Search Success Course

Jumpstart Your Job Search!

at BitesizeBio
Unit 1: Finding Success Beyond the Professoriate

Most PhDs want tenure-track jobs after they graduate. What else is out there? In Unit 1, you'll start the process of finding a meaningful job after a PhD. You'll learn:

- Academic culture makes PhDs want tenure-track jobs.
- There are many reasons to consider jobs and careers beyond the professoriate.
- To successfully transition, you might have to change how you think about yourself.
- Moving on is challenging, but ultimately a positive experience.
- Plus questions to help you get started on your own transition.

Go to Unit 1

Unit 2: "Be the Star of Your Own Reality TV Show"

In this unit you’ll think more deeply about what really matters to you. What you'll learn:

- That your own values might not align with what academic culture tells you to want.
- To acknowledge and respect your own desires.
- Key questions to ask yourself about values, priorities, strengths, and interests.
- What other successful PhDs decided to do when faced with difficult choices.
- That quick assessments probably won't help you figure out your ideal job.
- Two helpful exercises for PhD career changers.

Go to Unit 2
Unit 3: Explore Career Options for PhDs

In this unit you’ll hear from PhDs who work in a variety of jobs and industries, some closely related to their fields of study, others not. What you'll learn:

• There's a lot you don't know about other career options.
• Why reading job ads can be useful and energizing even if you're nowhere near ready to apply for positions.
• Why taking an entry-level position after earning a PhD isn't a bad thing.
• People with PhDs work in a huge variety of interesting, rewarding jobs and careers.
• Plus instructions for getting starting exploring jobs that interest you.

Unit 4: Learn to Talk about What You Do

During your PhD you developed a lot of the skills and competencies employers are looking for. In today's unit, you'll tackle one challenge PhDs face when seeking work beyond the professoriate, namely, learning to talk about their skills instead of their subject-matter expertise. What you'll learn:

• PhDs are used to talking about knowledge, not skills.
• There’s more to your experience than shows up on your academic CV.
• You have many skills and competencies employers are looking for.
• Examples of specific skills needed for different jobs PhDs actually have.
• A long list of skills developed by graduate students while working on their dissertations.
• Plus instructions for creating a skills inventory, with a worksheet you can download and use!
Unit 5: Write Compelling Resumes and Cover Letters

Are your applications materials helping you, or hurting you? Advice from PhDs on how to make sure your documents do what you need them to do. What you'll learn:

- Applications materials for non-academic jobs are more highly tailored than materials for professorial positions.
- The importance of focusing on skills that are most relevant to the job.
- The purpose of cover letters for jobs beyond the professoriate.
- Why you should practice writing cover letters and resumes before you're on the job market.
- How your network can help you write better job documents.
- Plus encouragement to start drafting materials for your next great job!

Unit 6: Network Your Way to PhD Job Search Success

Almost every PhD we interview emphasizes the importance of networking to finding, applying, and interviewing for jobs, and ultimately getting hired. What you'll learn:

- A better, more useful definition of networking.
- A strategy for expanding your network beyond people you already know.
- How networking can lead to jobs, even though that's not its main purpose.
- The best way to conduct an informational interview.
- How your network can help you prepare for job interviews.
- Plus homework and a free handout to help you conduct some informational interviews!
Unit 7: Missing Something? Gain New Skills and Get Hired

Don't have all the skills you need for the job you want? There are lots of ways of picking up new skills, during and after graduate school. What you'll learn:

- How to use your time in graduate school to your non-academic career advantage.
- Ways of gaining experience working in teams that employers will value.
- How one graduate student inadvertently prepared for a career transition -- and how you can too.
- How career exploration during graduate school can help you make more strategic decisions for the academic and non-academic job markets.
- Unexpected benefits of internships, going back to school, and freelancing on the side.
- Plus a free worksheet you can use to help you develop new skills and competencies.

Go to Unit 7

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We hope you enjoyed the course! All the videos are clipped from 2017 Beyond the Professoriate career panels and workshops. We host monthly panels and workshops via webinar. Check out upcoming events and other resources at beyondprof.com.