JOB OPPORTUNITIES
As Arts and Sciences graduates enter the job market, their career path may not be as linear as that of their technically trained counterparts. For the most part, engineering or computer science majors know exactly where to target their efforts. However, Arts and Sciences majors have a wider array of options to consider, which has both advantages and disadvantages. Often times they have a longer and more arduous job search process; which in the end—if done properly—can always result in meaningful work that matches their skills and interests.

In today’s society, students are no longer necessarily hired just because they have a particular degree. Math and physics majors are accepting engineering jobs and sociology majors are getting finance jobs. The reason new graduates are being hired is because they have specific skills that meet the needs of the employer.

SELF-ASSESSMENT
It is critical to start the job search process with a thorough assessment of your interests, skills, and abilities. What you need to do, explains one career advisor, is to find out what you really want to do—regardless of your major. “Students often ask, ‘What can I do with a major in philosophy?’ But that’s the wrong question. The real questions are, ‘What fascinates me? How can I connect my interests with a job? What do I really want to be doing in 20 years?’”

Once you have answered those questions, look at possibilities for matching your interests with a job. There are more options than you might think. Don’t get stuck on titles. For instance, if you want to be an autonomous problem-solver or use your communication skills, forget about the titles and look at the job descriptions. Management consultants, career specialists, personnel managers, teachers or trainers within organizations and schools are just a few options, but the sky is the limit.

RESEARCH EMPLOYERS
As in any job search, researching different job markets and understanding demand will give you the knowledge you need to succeed in the process. Conduct in-depth research on any companies that appeal to you, and try to match their needs to your wants. However, you must be specific. Being too general, too open and too flexible can often discredit you from opportunities you deserve.

To be successful, you should combine your long-term vision with short-term specificity. Present yourself to your potential employer as someone who both understands the broad goals of the company and has the ability to grow and contribute in the long run. But most importantly, show how you can excel in that specific job. And this, most likely, will involve some specialized skills. If you’ve taken business courses, had relevant work experiences, or have computer or language skills, point out those strengths.

JOB SEARCH PLAN
Once you’ve taken the time to determine your real interests and have set some long-term goals, map out a plan—long and short-term—on how to get there. Resources are plentiful—it is just a matter of utilizing them. Be sure to pick up all the information you need from the Career Services office.

Your Arts and Sciences education has equipped you with valuable research experience and analytical skills. Be sure to use these to make the connection between what you want and what companies need. Once you find job descriptions that match your long-term interests, target your resume for that position and, if need be, pursue any additional training or certification to help you land that first job.

Your first job should be the first step towards your long-term goals. Remember to continually re-assess your interests and skills periodically to ensure that you find a meaningful and fulfilling career path.

(continued on reverse)
POSITIONS ARTS AND SCIENCES GRADUATES HAVE ACCEPTED
A sampling of the wide range of positions filled by Arts and Sciences graduates:

Accountant
Administrative Assistant
Advertising Account Executive
Air Traffic Controller
Artist
Auditor
Bank Manager
Business Systems Analyst
Buyer
Child Support Enforcement Officer
Claims Examiner
Communications Specialist
Computer Specialist
Copywriter
Counselor
Customer Service Representative
Editor
Employee Relations Specialist
Engineering Planner
Financial Consultant
Graphic Designer
Hotel Manager
Human Resource Specialist
Industrial Designer
Interpreter/Translator
Journalist
Librarian
Management Consultant
Marketing Representative
Medical/Dental Assistant
Museum Coordinator
Office Administrator
Outpatient Therapist
Paralegal
Photographer
Probation Officer
Product Specialist
Psychologist
Public Relations Specialist
Quality Engineer
Recreation Administrator
Research Analyst
Restaurant Manager
Retail Manager
Sales Representative
Social Worker
Speech Pathologist
Stockbroker
Systems Analyst
Tax Consultant
Teacher
Technical Writer
Transportation Specialist
Underwriter
Urban Planner
Writer