



Career Opportunities with a Degree in French

SPD
Careers
Service

Choosing a career involves more than just finding out what is open to you. Knowledge about yourself is vital to the process of making a career choice. It is useful to start by examining your strengths, weaknesses, interests, abilities and skills in order to relate career options to you. The Careers Service has resources to help students in their self-assessment and career planning, including psychometric tests and paper and online resources on www.spd.dcu.ie/careers

Your skills and qualities in the employment market

Language graduates have excellent communication skills and cultural awareness and a broad perspective – this is usually backed up with experience gained if students have spent time abroad on Erasmus or other exchange scheme. Language skills are particularly useful when combined with expertise in another field. A recent survey of Irish employers of language graduates listed the following transferable skills in order of importance: oral communication, team work, customer service, time management, written communication, coping with multiple tasks, problem-solving, managing one's own learning, planning, decision-making, presentation skills, IT skills, numeracy, information management, analytical ability, critical thinking, project management, leadership, research skills and career management.

Source: "Transferable Skills in Third-Level Modern Languages Curricula" (2003)- a HEA funded project.

The types of company to seek employment in are charities and international organisations, PR companies, advertising and marketing, Civil Service, Market Research companies, Management Consultants, Publishers, Hotels, Financial Services, Schools. Source: Doctorjob.com

Possible Career options

Overseas Sales Representative	Civil Service	Tour Guide	Localisation in IT
Marketing	Teacher	Translator	Customer Support
Interpreter	Diplomat	Bi-lingual secretary	EU Commission
Academic			

Many of the positions listed above would require additional qualifications, the list can be extended to include the legal profession, business and the civil service, amongst others. Specific career information is available on <http://www.careerdirections.ie/>

Sample Job/Internships Advertisements

Below are some jobs advertised recently that may interest language graduates/students (note, these jobs are not currently available and are shown for illustration purposes only).

EU Traineeships

Each year the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe offers approximately 85 paid traineeships lasting 5 months on average. There are two intakes a year: in March and October with two deadlines. Applicants must have completed their degree by the deadline for the lodgement of applications. Trainees are attached to a department, where they work as part of a team to which they have been assigned. Further information is available on http://ec.europa.eu/stages/index_en.htm

Financial Services Administrator - French

Dept for a leading Insurance company located in Dublin City which is setting up a new team to focus on the French market.

Further Study Opportunities-Taught

Ireland

MA French Translation Studies UCC & TCD

MA Translation Studies: QUB, DCU, NUIG

MA Linguistics, TCD, UCD, UCC, QUB

MA Language Education,

IT Blanchardstown

MA Language and Intercultural studies

DCU

M.Sc. Global Computing and Localisation

UL, Comparative Literature & Cultural

Studies.

MA French and Francophone studies UCD

For other options check out:

www.postgradireland.com

www.qualifax.ie

Prospects UK

<http://www.prospects.ac.uk>

Eurograduate

A resource for graduates who wish to work or study in Europe

<http://www.eurograduate.com>

Postgrad. Courses SPD BA French graduates 1996-2010

Below is a list of postgraduate courses taken by previous SPD French graduates.

Course	No
PGDE Post-primary Irl	14
PGCE Prim UK	13
PGCE Post-primary UK	1
PGCE primary SPD	10
MA Business Studies	1
MA/Dip. Marketing PR	3
Dip. Arts/Culture/Tourism	1
Grad.Dip. IT	1
MA/Dip. Library & Information Studies	1
MA Intercultural Studies	1
MA English Literature	1
MA French	1
Grad. Dip. Translation Studies	1
M.A. Equality Studies	1

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Useful websites

Ireland

Irish Association of Translators and Interpreters

<http://www.translatorsassociation.ie>

Institute of Translation and Interpreting

<http://www.iti.org.uk>

Irish Association for Applied Linguistics

<http://www.iraal.ie>

Language Advantage

<http://www.languageadvantage.com>

UK

Institute of Linguists

<http://www.iol.org.uk>

CILT National Centre for Languages

<http://www.cilt.org.uk>

Europe

European Union

http://europa.eu/index_en.htm

European Parliament

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/en/>

EURES (European Employment Services)

<http://ec.europa.eu/eures/home.jsp?lang=en>

European Movement (formerly The Irish Council for the European Movement)

<http://www.europeanmovement.ie/>

European Commission: traineeships

http://ec.europa.eu/stages/index_en.htm

EU Commission: temporary and permanent employment opportunities

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/home.jsp?langId=en>

Ecole de Traduction et d'Interpretation :
Universite de Geneva

<http://www.unige.ch/eti/index.html>

College of Europe

<http://www.coleurop.com/>

European University: Florence

<http://www.eui.eu/Home.aspx>

Centre Culturel Paris

<http://www.centreculturelirlandais.com>

Worldwide

IBEC Export Orientation programme

<http://www.ibec.ie/eop>

Check out Gradireland Graduate Careers in Languages on:

<http://gradireland.com/career-sectors/languages-and-culture>

