

CREATIVE CAREER STEPS for Level 5 Illustrators

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Careers Service
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Employability and Careers at UWTSD

- An integral part of your university provision with continuity after graduating
- Promoting development of personal and professional skills in preparation for next steps
- Supporting in curriculum and extra curriculum activities
- Enhancing future planning and student experience
- Broadening horizons

Careers Service at UWTSD

- Part of UWTSD Student Services teams
- One to one service, group work and events
- Assistance in gaining work experience, placements, making applications for jobs and opportunities
- Centered around individual needs of students

Level 5 reflection -Assessing Options and Needs

- What are your priorities now in relation to the future?
- How do your studies and interests relate to future ideas and plans?
- Which key skills do you want to use in the workplace?
- What research needs to be done?
- What are the next steps?

Career Options and Labour Market

- Explore labour market needs linked to your studies – advertised and non advertised roles
- A range of options are not directly related to course, consider transferrable skills
- Broaden horizons, for example diverse work experience opportunities, opportunities abroad during the university vacations and internships
- Range of resources on our 'My Career' UWTSD web pages and available from myself signposting to external creativestudent resources
- www.uwtسد.ac.uk/careers
- Prospects.ac.uk

Work experience and Internships

- Work experience, placements, internships or voluntary work can give you the edge in getting the job you want when you graduate
- Paid and unpaid options
- Bursary can be available from UWTSD through Career Development Fund
- Careers Service has a designated member of staff to support in setting up a work experience placement. Talk to us about your ideas and we will support.

Range of Options for Illustrators, including work experience

- Professional and commercial illustration and design e.g. advertising and marketing, publishers, editorial, packaging, publishing, editorial, branding, digital, surface pattern
- Private commissions/selling own products online and in craft retail outlets or creating artwork for exhibitions or public art
- Concept, character and storyboard artists for film and tv and games industry, or other roles in film and TV Art Depts.
- Arts education/facilitator such as teacher, workshop leader, community arts
- Arts roles in galleries or arts centers or museums such as curator, manager or exhibitions organizer
- Something completely different – why not consider this too!

Considerations in career planning

- Possibility of combining different work roles and trying out some possibilities while still at university, such as selling work online and applying for commissions
- Considering pros and cons of freelance options – free short online courses and start up grants available from UWTSD Enterprise service, for dates of courses contact Dylan.Williams-Evans@uwtsd.ac.uk
- Level 5 is an ideal time to consider range of work experiences and networking opportunities to develop contacts and skills and raise awareness

Applying for Jobs, Training, Opportunities and Work Experience

- Identify methods of application, including speculative applications and networking
- Identifying relevant skills
- Ways to contact employers
- CV's, applications, portfolio
- Networking
- Confidence in interviews and presenting yourself

Presenting Professional Applications

- Creating a professional summary of why you stand out and key skills you have to offer
- Interrelationship of personal Statement/CV/portfolio for jobs and postgraduate courses
- Adaptation to specific job needs
- Practice in making speculative applications to find out more about options of interest
- Different types of CV structure according to opportunity/job/industry

Evidence start identifying evidence of your skills and skills needs

- Demonstrating evidence of employability through
- Your course
- Interests developed while at university
- Social and communication skills
- Work experience and volunteer work
- Additional training and extra curricula activities

Creativity and Employability – asking questions?

- Are you aiming to be in job linked directly to your core course subject? What are the options available?
- What does creative employment mean to you?
- Are you interested in employment outside your core discipline?
- What general skills would you use as an aspect of being creative at work?

General Creative Skills examples

- Imagination and developing ideas
- Using your intuition to devise and develop strategies and plans
- Communicating and presenting in diverse ways
- Problem solving
- Flexibility and adapting
- Multi tasking or combining work tasks

Creative and design roles can be found in all employment sectors

- Arts, Heritage and Culture
- Design, Marketing, Advertising
- Media, Film and TV
- Public Sector, e.g Education or Health
- Business and management
- Third Sector/Charities
- Freelance and self employment

Types of industry applications can include a wide range

- Publishing and editorial
- Design roles in media film and TV
- Design Agencies and Consultancies
- Advertising, Marketing, Branding
- Surface pattern design e.g interiors, greeting cards, posters, packaging
- Art commissions
- Public sector roles e,g community arts and arts for health with NHS
- Can transfer skills in working across different areas

Start to identify your goals

- How do your skills and interests relate to employment you would like?
- Using social media, industry networking, and speculative applications to make contacts to gain employment
- Explore options of freelance work and a portfolio career – working in different types of jobs
- Explore short term goals in relation to longer term ideas

Research and Resources examples

- **Association of Illustrators**
 - <https://theaoi.com/>
 - Key business support for illustrators, including information on pricing, contracts and getting started in the illustration industry
- **If You Could Jobs**
 - <https://ifyoucouldjobs.com/>
 - Illustration and Design vacancies
- **Design Week**
 - <https://jobs.designweek.co.uk/searchjobs/?keywords=illustrator&countrycode=GB&Location=&Discipline=>
 - Illustration, art worker and design vacancies, can sign up for job alerts
- **Directory of Illustration Agencies**
 - <http://www.partfaliaz.com/illustration-agencies-directory/illustration-agencies-in-the-united-kingdom/>
 - Comprehensive listings of illustration agencies in UK
- **Directory of Illustration**
 - <https://www.directoryofillustration.com/>
 - Showcasing and marketing work of Illustrators including early careers illustrators

What are your key Action Points?

Consider your Career Action Plan for the next 3 months

Some Key Priorities

Specific goals and how to reach them

Record activities and next steps

- Decide on 3 concrete things you will do over the next few weeks?

Careers Service Resources

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