UNIVERSITY OF Southampton

Careers and Employability Service

What can I do with my degree?

Ocean and Earth Science

Introduction

We have developed this recourse pack to help you research specific job sectors which may be of particular interest to OES students.

- **Prospects.ac.uk** - Options with Geology

  The Prospects site includes information and advice covering: Your skills, job options, career areas, further study, what next, case studies, contacts and job search sites.

- **Marine Biology Education Resources** – North American resource site.
- **Sea Grant – Marine Careers** – Marine Biology and Oceanography career resources.

Skills gained through your degree

Many employers value the skills acquired from an OES degree which is widely accepted as a rigorous academic discipline. Within your studies you will develop:

- Critical reasoning and analytical skills of research and field data.
- Communication Skills developed from lab reports and scientific writing to interpersonal communication with a range of people in diverse situations.
- The ability to solve problems and think creatively.
- Laboratory skills working with scientific equipment and in manipulating and analysing data using IT, modelling tools, databases and graphical tools.
- Organisations skills, for example fitting in paid employment, field trips and time out into summer vacations etc.
- Scientific rigour and practical fieldwork creating a valuable combination of knowledge, thinking and practical skills which are highly transferable to a range of technical and business roles, and working environments.

Employers, whether for work experience or graduate jobs, expect you to show a professional approach to learning and employment by providing evidence of your skills and knowledge, and specifically how it matches their requirements. So reflecting on your degree and work experience will enable you to appreciate your strengths and give you a database of evidence to convince employers or higher degree providers.

Throughout your degree programme you have access to a number of tailored presentations and workshops providing you with advice on career planning, CV writing and interview tips.

We also host and advertise a number of career roadshows providing you with direct opportunities for networking with recruiters and develop attributes for a range of employment sectors. Check the **OES Careers Blackboard** site for further details and explore the **OES Career Webpages** for insight in to career options and to browse graduate profiles.

Finding job vacancies

As a graduate from OES you can go into a wide range of occupations, some open to all graduates, and some particularly relevant to your degree. Here's what some of them say:

"Fugro GEOS has employed a number of Southampton oceanographic graduates in recent years. Their employability is characterised by strong mathematical skills and a basic oceanographic grounding, which can be applied to the world of commercial oceanography. The individuals we employ also have an excellent work ethic that includes an essential ability to think for themselves and show initiative. Our employees are offered a number of career paths that include technical, management and engineering."

Mark Calverley, Fugro GEOS Divisional Director

Information and advice about how to find out about employment opportunities can be found on our **Discover… your career webpages** and on the **Prospects** website. When applying for vacancies you may need support in constructing a CV, filling out an Application Form, drafting a Cover Letter or preparing for Interview. We offer support on all of these areas via our **Application advice webpages**.

Links to professional bodies and associations

Taking out student membership of a relevant professional body can offer good networking opportunities, job listings and information, and boost or even register your CV. Many such as the Geology Society have excellent careers and education help on their websites. Becoming a chartered professional can significantly increase your career options. A few are listed below:

- **IMarEST** Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology
- **Geological Society**
- **CIWEM** Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
- **The Marine Biological Association**
- **Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining**
- **Society of Exploration Geologists**
- **Society of Petroleum Engineers**
- **Petroleum Exploration Society of Great Britain**
- **AAPG** American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Industrial Sector Links

Marine Industry:

- **Ocean Business** - Ocean Business runs every two years at the NOC, and includes a special careers day. Ocean Business also publishes an e-newsletter OceanBuzz which can be a good way of finding out new developments and occasionally vacancies.

- **Oceanology International** - Company profiles in marine science and technology - equipment, services and support. Oceanology also has a careers day with speakers and events. There is usually a free bus from the NOCS. A great way to network and find out about jobs.

- **Society of Maritime Industries** Trade organisation with member lists, news and events.

- **Communications and Management for Sustainability**. Links to players in coastal management and some jobs. Subscribe for alerts.

- **marBEF** - EU network of excellence for Marine Diversity and Ecosystem functioning, includes jobs.

- **Marine South East**

- **Wales Environment Link**

- **Irish Sea Conservation**

- **Marine and Coastguard Agency**

- **Marine Conservation Society**

- **Society for Underwater Technology**

- **UK Diving**

Environment:

- **Environment Agency**
- **Natural England** - Responsibilities include coastal and marine conservation and biodiversity.
- **Natural Resources Wales**
- **Ends** - Jobs, directory of consultants and economic analysis of the environmental sector.
- **Environment jobs**
- **Edie** - on-line community with jobs in water related fields, climate change, pollution.
- **Change Agents UK** - Paid project based experience in energy, waste and environmental management.

Oil, Gas & Mining:

- **CA Mining** - Global recruitment within the mining industry covering Africa, Australia, Asia, Europe and the Americas
- **Rigzone**
- **Oil and Gas careers**
- **Oil and Gas Job Search**
- **Kinetica** - Geophysicist roles advertised.
- **Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)**
- **Working Smart**
- **Equinor** -. International energy and exploration company, particularly active in the North Sea.

Exploration and Extraction:

- **Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining**
- **The Geologist's Directory**
- **Infomine** - Mining information, jobs and events.
- **Geology Shop** - World wide websites for geologists including job search.
- **Jobs4Mining**
- **European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers**
- **Society of Exploration Geophysicists**
- **Geology Society**
- **British Geological Survey** - The BGS offer work experience and summer field work.

Surveying and GIS Related:

- **Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists**
- **The Geological Society**
- **The Survey Association**
- **Association for Geographic Information**
- **Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Society** - Includes links to UK and EU research establishments, job listing for members.
- **Geodata Institute** - Research and consultancy group, work experience often available.

Water:

- **British Hydrological Society**
- **UK Groundwater Forum**
- **HR Wallingford**
- **Water Research Centre**

Marine Biology and Fishery:

- Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
- Marine Scotland
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- Aquatic Network
- Marine Life Information Network
- Marine Biological Association
- Aquaculture Talent

Science Related Jobs:

- Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- Met Office
- New Scientist
- Nature
- Science Careers
- ICE Engineering on-line

Research:

- **KTP** – Government information on Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and how to apply

- **Jobs in Academia**

- **Natural Environment Research Council** - Includes listing of research and collaborative centres.

- **Engineering and Physical Science Research Council**

- **British Antarctic Survey** -

- **British Geological Survey** - Based at Keyworth with offices at Wallingford, Exeter, London, Cardiff and Edinburgh

Specialist Recruitment Agencies:

- **Allen & York**
- **Earthworks** - Opportunities in environmental, ocean, MB, GIS/remote sensing, climate and geo
- **Eden Recruitment**
- **Environment Jobs**
- **Greenjobs Online**
- **Groundtechjobs**
- **Hays Specialist Recruitment**
- **Kinetica**
- **Matchtech Group**
- **SRG**

Postgraduate study and research destination examples:

On average 85% of Oceanography and Marine Biology graduates reported being employed and/or engaged in further study. Around 20% take up higher level study or research immediately after graduation. Many careers directly related to Oceanography are enhanced by postgraduate qualifications.

(Data collected from 2004 to 2012 using the Destination survey six months after graduation and alumni information)

PhD

- University of Southampton, University of Bristol, University of East Anglia, University of Liverpool, University of Hull, University of Plymouth, University of Wales, Imperial College, University of Leeds

MSc

- Mining, Quarrying and Drilling Engineering, University of Aberdeen
- Geology, University of Wales, University of Southampton
- Geology/Geophysics, University of Bristol
- Civil Engineering, University of Southampton
- Contaminated Land, University of Portsmouth
- Conservation Heritage and Environmental Protection, Open University
- Biology, University of Southampton
- Biological Science, University of Wales
- Coastal Engineering, University of Southampton
- Acoustic Engineering, Kings College London
- Engineering University of Southampton, University of Manchester
- Remote Sensing, University of Southampton
- Meteorology, University of Reading
- Town Planning, University of Westminster
- Environmental Conservation Management, University of Glamorgan
- Structural Geology & Geophysics, University of Leeds
- Aquatic Biology & Resource Management, University of Exeter
- Volcanology, University of Cardiff
- Medicine, University of Southampton, University of Dundee, University of Warwick
- Veterinary sciences, University of Bristol

Teacher Training

- PGCE – Primary, University of Southampton, University of Warwick
- PGCE – Secondary, University of Southampton, University of Reading, University of Leeds

Law

- PGDL