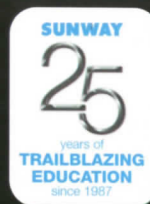


Graduation 2012 Edition

JUMPSTART

YOUR CAREER!

PP 175 29/09/2012 (030807)



graduate with an EDGE

POWERED BY
EMPLOYERS

INSIDE: Great advice from employers
PLUS look out for our special
segment of JOBscope!

INSIDE

All the advice you need.
From the Employers themselves.

7 Roadmap to Your First Job

8 Interview: Preparing. Winning

11 Resume Blunders



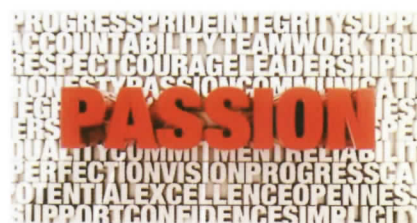
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SPECIAL SEGMENT

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forensic accountant



investment banker



international trade



business development



game designer



research psychologist



food stylist



graduate with an **EDGE**

Congratulations

(soon-to-be graduates of Sunway)

You have reached a milestone in this journey as you begin to reflect and embark in the next chapter of your life.

From the whole bunch of us at PREPARE Career Services we would like to say 'CONGRATULATIONS' on your success thus far and wish you a great future ahead.

We hope that we have served you well over the years with the many initiatives through our LEAP program, career fairs, forums, talks, etc. ... AND it's not over yet as we have lined up a great deal of events this September with more career related happenings for you to be part of.

As the highlight of our Jumpstart Graduation edition, we have for you contributions from employers who have taken the time to furnish you with important tips, as they too would like to see you **Graduate with an Edge**.

As your career mentors, we just want to leave you with these 3 pointers:

- NOT everything is what you think it is. So be prepared to face the challenges and tackle differences you see in your working environment with an open mind and a positive attitude.
- YOUR aptitude can take you only so far, but your attitude will make all the difference. As Zig Ziglar says "Your attitude, not your aptitude, will determine your altitude".
- NEVER stop learning and discovering. In everything that you do; do it in entirety and ensure give your best at all times.

So, congratulations once again and if you need assistance, we will be happy to help you in any way we can.

Come visit us if not for the last time.... But just so we have a chance to wish you well before you say Bon Voyage.

Catch you soon ...

PREPARE Career Services

this is
Leap
MONTH!
4TH - 27TH SEPT 2012

TALKS

**INDUSTRY
FORUMS**

**COMPANY
VISITS**



Leap

WHAT'S

IN THE

NAME?

WHAT IS L.E.A.P TO YOU?
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AND THIS
COULD BE YOURS!

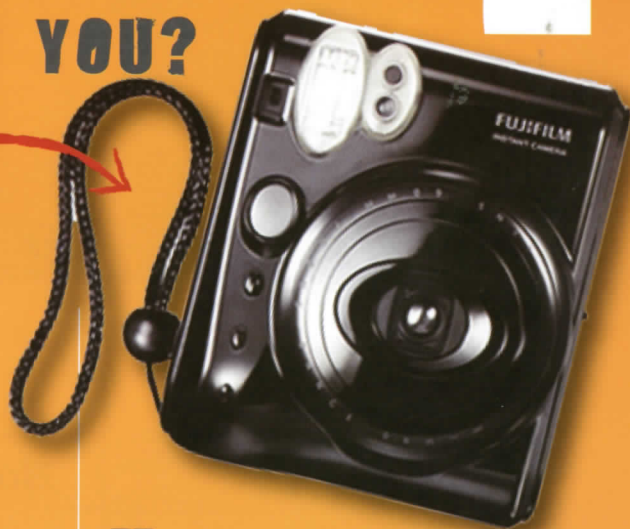
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FUJIFILM
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or

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How to enter:

1. Only for Leap members (degree).
2. Up to 3 entries per member. Each entry MUST BE IN ACRONYM FORM.
3. Entries can only be submitted beginning 4 September 2012.
4. Entries MUST only be submitted via email to the email stated.
5. Each entry MUST include Name, iMail, Course, Student ID.
6. Entries MUST be received by 21 September at 12.00 midnight.
7. Winning entry will be chosen based on creativity, cleverness & sensibility as well as relevance to the LEAP employability programme.
 Eg:
 L - Learning
 E - Educational
 A - Attitude
 P - Professional

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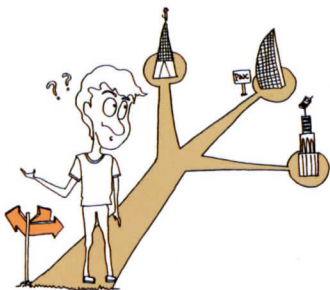
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* Malaysia's graduate employer of the year (2011, 2009),

* Ranked No. 1 in the Consulting Sector (2011),

* Ranked No. 1 in the Accounting and Professional Services Sector (2010, 2009, 2008)

ROADMAP TO YOUR FIRST JOB



1. DETERMINE YOUR DESTINATION

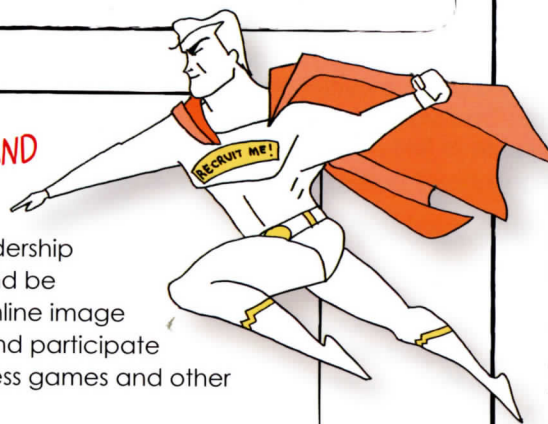
Understand yourself first - identify your strengths and find out what you like or dislike. Next, explore opportunities out there. Find out more about potential employers. Then narrow down your options to a few organisations.

2. RESEARCH YOUR DESTINATION



3. BUILD YOUR PERSONAL BRAND

Stand out from the crowd and enhance your resume - take on leadership roles, go for internships, volunteer and be active on campus. Enhance your online image by building a network on LinkedIn and participate in forums, leadership summits, business games and other employer-led initiatives.



Speak to potential employers at career fairs and info sessions; organise or sign up for office visits; 'like' them on Facebook and 'follow' them on Twitter. You could also get a first hand experience through an internship. Be sure to understand the selection process, when they recruit and how to apply (write in or apply online?).



4. CUSTOMISE YOUR RESUME

Ensure that you have a concise, well-formatted resume. You must accurately list your name and contact details and highlight your internship and work experience. Remember, don't oversell or list irrelevant details, e.g. if you are applying to a professional services organisation, don't list your vital statistics.

HAVE AN EXCITING JOURNEY AHEAD!

5. PREPARE FOR THE INTERVIEW

First impressions count, so dress professionally. Arrive early, find out where the company is located and how to get there. Speak up - think through some real-life experiences to share during your interview and prepare a few questions for the interviewer. Let them know you're interested to find out more about them. Lastly, be yourself and speak with sincerity.



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INTERVIEW



DRESSING FOR SUCCESS is the most important non-verbal communication you can have. You only have the first few minutes to make an impression as the interviewer is already visualising if you can fit into the working environment. Remember in most scenarios, being comfortable in what you wear is the best option. Suit Up!

PUNCTUALITY is another area in which you will get to create a lasting impression. Plan to be there on time. In fact, it's good to be there early. Find out beforehand or days earlier on the location and parking arrangements. You wouldn't want the hassle of getting lost or not being able to find parking on your big day!

HOMEWORK done prior to the interview shows your commitment and interest in the job. It is a prerequisite for you to know certain information about the company. Research the company's business areas, key projects, office location, corporate mission, vision and values, product lines, programmes, and so forth. You may refer to various sources such as web sites, annual reports, journals, etc. You can go one step further by reading up about your interviewer on Google or LinkedIn. This allows you to have that 'personal connection' during the session.

The **INTERVIEW** session is your opportunity to shine. Maintain a confident yet natural and humble disposition to create a comfortable session. Be upbeat and show energy in the interview. Remember that the interview is a two-way process. You are entitled to ask intelligent and inquisitive questions about the job as well as the company and the challenges that lie ahead. Tie those challenges to what you can contribute and bring to the table. Remind yourself that you need to be the star for you to shine among the others.

CONCLUSION is the part where the interview has come to an end. Leave in a professional manner and thank the interviewer for the time given and always maintain eye contact as you say your farewell. You want to be remembered for the right reasons. Leave a thank-you note after a day or two to reinforce your interest in the role and company.

The most important aspect for you to remember always is that there is only so much you can do to prepare as you seek to ace an interview session. You can only do your best as the rest is up to those making the hiring decisions. So don't be downbeat if you don't get a particular job. Remember each interview is a lesson learnt and with as much practice as possible, you can only get better and more confident.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Tell me about yourself.

A. It's usually the first question asked, so pre-plan your answer here. Have a good mix of your personal qualities as well as college/university interests and achievements.

Q. What do you know about this company and why do you want to work for us?

A. Be prepared with as much information about the company as possible, especially its products or services. If you've done some research, this should be easy. The interviewer can see right through you if you haven't prepared this portion and then your integrity drops.

Q. Describe your time in your university and the activities you have been involved in.

A. Refer to your resume and your accomplishments. Contain your emotions as you speak about your past achievements while also focusing on what goals you want to achieve in the future.

Q. What do you like best about the job we are interviewing you for?

A. Pre-plan your answer because this question is often asked as well. Remember you should always be mindful of what is 'pulling' you to join the new company. Do not speak about salary or benefits. As a fresh graduate/entry-level candidate should always keep in mind about what they want to learn and achieve first.

Q. Why should we hire you?

A. Keep in mind at all times that you have to give them strong and valid reasons why you should be hired. You need to display that you are being hired for both your 'actual' and your potential'.

Contributed by – Arvind Singh Sidhu (Talent Acquisition Specialist, GE Malaysia)

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If you have any questions regarding job openings, you may reach out to our Talent Acquisition Specialist, Arvind Singh Sidhu at arvind.singh1@ge.com. You should receive a response within 1-3 business days. Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing from you.

Check out our job openings:



<http://www.ge.com/careers/index.html>



<http://www.facebook.com/GEASEANCareers>

<http://sg.linkedin.com/pub/ge-talent-acquisition-asean/52/2b9/17b>

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RESUME blunders



LANGUAGE & GRAMMAR

Too many resumes go out with inaccuracies or poor grammar. Remember, your resume is the first introduction a person has of you.

For this reason, if your language skills are poorly demonstrated throughout your resume, including grammar, spelling, punctuation and correct use of words, you demonstrate that you do not meet the basic standards of literacy.

If you have poor written-language skills, ask someone to help you in editing the document. Otherwise, this could give the recruiter reason not to consider your application.

If you aren't paying attention to this important document, how much attention will you pay when you are employed? So, use strong and quantifiable language to demonstrate your unique skills and abilities.

Besides that, make sure you proofread your resume. Always keep in mind that most hiring managers discard applications if they find typos or grammatical errors.

CAREER OBJECTIVES

Your career objective is important to demonstrate to the reader why they have received your document. Ensure that your career objective is related to the position you are applying to.

If your reader does not understand the reason for your application, they may use this to eliminate you from the application process.

CONTACT DETAILS

Many people do not proofread their resumes, and many individuals get their own contact details incorrect. Ensure that you triple-check that the phone number or email address provided on your resume is correct.

A recruiter will not email you to ask you the correct phone number if they cannot get a hold of you!

IMPORTANT:

To ensure a successful resume, basic points to focus on include:

- Clear and concise resume
- Ensure your career objective is tailored to your position or industry
- Define your key strengths and personality
- Highlight desirable professional qualities about yourself
- Keep a reasonable page limit

Contributed by – Yew Weng, Accenture Campus Recruitment





how to make a great impression in your first 12 months



The transition

from student life to full-time employment for many people is the most significant change they will encounter in their lives. Academic endeavours are swapped for professional pursuits as graduates scramble to kick-start their careers while grappling with unfamiliar concepts such as key performance indicators (KPIs), multilayered reporting hierarchies, and team based deliverables.

The ex-student will have to adapt to the shift from theoretical to practical; from observational methods to an execution-based approach; and from once-a-semester exams to daily assessments. Above all, he or she has to somehow make an impact in a world populated by equally ambitious graduates and more experienced co-workers.

The first 12 months of this transition will make all the difference. Get it right, and you will gain credibility, be labelled as a “promising” candidate, and receive opportunities to take on more responsibilities – the most reliable way of getting promoted. Get it wrong, and you will fade into mediocrity, with the “fast track” becoming ever more elusive. The aim of this article is to list down a few qualities which Management typically look for – qualities which will get you noticed, for the right reasons.

1. show initiative

Aside from working diligently on your assigned tasks, take some time to think about what you can do to address an unfulfilled need or to improve an existing process/product, even if it falls beyond your job scope. Going the extra mile requires drive, energy, and resourcefulness – attributes which employers value highly.

2. be sociable

Make as many friends as you can by being helpful and humble. Do not be afraid of introducing yourself to everyone, and try to give them something to cement a favourable impression. You being IT savvy can be useful to the old-timer who just bought his first iPhone, or your insight into the latest consumer trends could be the fresh perspective which your bosses need.

3. build credibility

Start by performing your duties to the best of your ability. Reinforce this by venturing your opinions and suggestions on areas familiar to you. Always do your homework to understand the larger picture, key strengths and weaknesses, and identify initiatives which have succeeded or failed in the past. Your bosses will not welcome poorly researched proposals, while new, workable solutions are always appreciated.

4. be consistent

While flashes of brilliance will reflect well on you, there is no substitute for good old fashioned dependability, especially in the early stages of your career. Dependability builds faith and confidence, fundamentals which employers need to see before they entrust you with greater responsibility. Ensure that you deliver 100%; 100% all the time.

5. integrity is everything

The steps above will help you make a favourable first impression, but nothing destroys it faster than a breach in trust. Contrary to popular belief, integrity is not only about being honest and truthful. Integrity is also about honouring your commitments, i.e. never over-promise or under-deliver. Always evaluate if you have the capability, time, and resources to complete a task in the specified timeframe before you take it on.

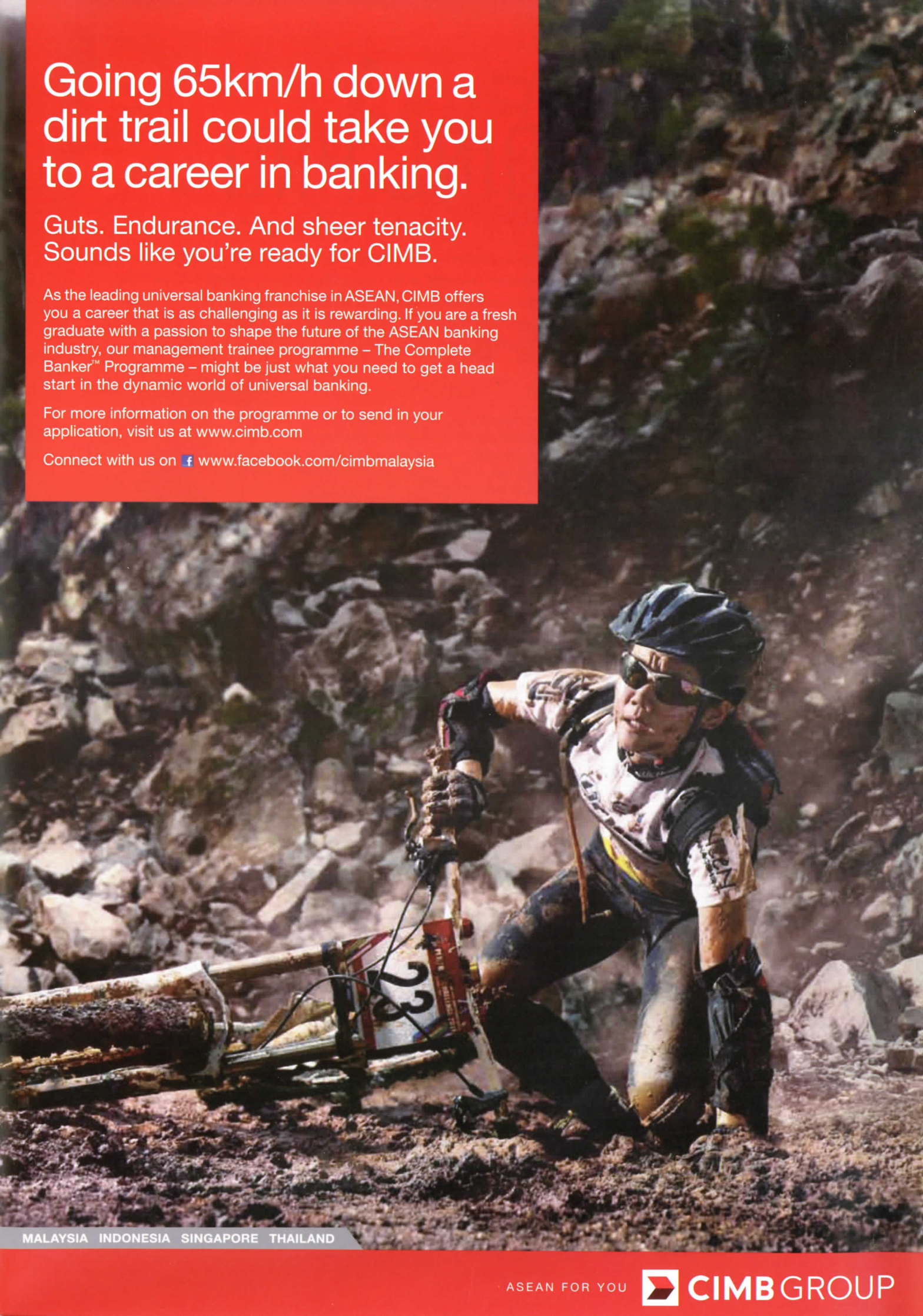
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GOING PRO

Upgrade
to go
Up!

In today's dynamic corporate world, it has become essential to upgrade oneself with the relevant professional qualification or postgraduate education. With special regard to Accounting and Finance, having a professional qualification is increasingly becoming a prerequisite to enhancing one's employability.

OPPORTUNITIES

Professional qualifications can offer a firm foundation for a successful career and are standard requirements for some positions where a level of expertise in technical, ethical and professional standards is mandatory. Though not compulsory in all professions, professional qualifications are highly sought after because they teach industry-specific skills. While an academic qualification teaches broad, transferable skills that can be brought to bear in many careers, a professional qualification aims to take it further by imparting specific abilities and aptitudes tailored to the respective career path.

GETTING STARTED

Before settling on a professional qualification, it is important to assess individual needs and how the qualification can contribute to career growth – all these while factoring in the cost and workload of undertaking the qualification.

The next question is where the qualification can take you. Taking accountancy as an example, a common misconception of accountants is that their task is simply 'balancing books' which is far from the truth. To illustrate, ICAEW Chartered Accountants' work in auditing, financial services and industries ranging from technology companies to fashion retailers and football clubs.

The skills gained from an accountancy qualification are in demand in all industries, so the opportunities are endless for a qualified accountant. There is a wide variety of professional qualifications available and in many professions they are more than just a resume enhancer, they also act as a prerequisite for promotion. Assess your needs and then explore the range of subjects available; ranging from Accountancy, Management, Human Resource, Aviation, Insurance, Computers, Public Relations, Languages, Supply Chain Management and Marketing.

WHAT ARE MY STUDY OPTIONS?

Aside from an obvious translation to better job prospects and potentially better earning potential as one moves up the career ladder, another great aspect of acquiring a professional qualification is the flexibility that comes with the course. Many professional qualifications offer the

option of part-time day, evening or even distance learning courses. This can be particularly useful in enabling students to plan their study and assessment to suit any commitments and needs.

Although many may choose to study for professional qualifications after leaving university, there is usually no restriction on when exactly to study for a course. However, it is useful to note that not all professional qualifications have work experience built into the course and the ideal route will be to undertake courses that include compulsory work experience to increase employability.

In circumstances where you are looking to build work experience whilst studying, it helps to research which companies are members of the institution of the professional qualification you are looking to embark on. With many companies now offering their employees additional incentives to expand their skills and knowledge for a highly skilled workforce, this can be another option when looking to pursue any professional qualification – sometimes with partial funding depending on the organisation.

WHAT'S NEXT

On successful completion, aside from gaining formal recognition of your achievement, graduates will automatically become a member of the professional organisation they studied with. Membership of professional organisations is exclusively for an individual that has demonstrated the required level of training and experience in their chosen industry sector, and can open many doors for high-profile networking opportunities and career possibilities.

Finally, professional qualifications make it easier to enter the top echelons of business. For example, 86 of the 100 most valuable companies listed on the London Stock Exchange have an ICAEW Chartered Accountant on their board of directors.

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IT'S A 2-YEAR TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

FEATURING:

- COMPETENCY-BASED WORKSHOPS
- SIMULATIONS / CHALLENGES
- NETWORKING EVENTS

CHECK
Your Eligibility

Are You in your 2nd year of study?

- LU programme semester 4
- VU programme semester 3

What's your Academic standing?

- LU programme 2nd Class Upper (average of 60% and above)
- VU programme (average Distinction & above)
- Others CGPA 3.0



CONTACT
Ms. Soo Ee Sarn
Student Services
Department
(Mon - Fri
9am - 5pm)

Some involvement in Extra-Curricular Activities (secondary/High School or University) will be helpful!



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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A TOP BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL?

Choosing the right career option is one of the most important decisions in life. Many of us are often faced with a dilemma at this juncture, pondering all the options that lead to the different career paths.

According to the 2010 compilation of Malaysia's leading graduate employers, three of the Big 4 accounting firms ranks as the most popular employers among graduates. As accountancy will remain a growth industry for many years to come and with Malaysia transitioning into a high income economy, opportunities for advancement will definitely be available to those with the right qualifications.

ICAEW works with many leading companies around the world to provide training for our ACA students, and we are proud that 11 of our 34 Authorised Training Employers (ATEs) are ranked among the top 100 graduate employers of Malaysia*. Students are trained both in leading accountancy firms as well as within the management and finance divisions of businesses, offering them a career path that is unparalleled by any other qualification.

MISPERCEPTION ABOUT ACCOUNTING

The accounting profession has always been misunderstood by many. It is generally perceived by some as just bookkeeping, with accountants assumed having to be stuck in offices, hovering over calculators and tabulating numbers all day.

However, accountancy, particularly as an individual advances in seniority, becomes less about numbers and more about decision support, business strategy, and communicating with senior business leaders.

ICAEW understands this, with many of our members being senior business leaders as well as heads of accountancy firms. That is why our renowned pedagogy consists of a well-rounded approach that lays the groundwork for our candidates to excel in careers, in whichever function or industry they choose.

ICAEW HELPS CHART YOUR CAREER PATH

If you are considering a career in accounting, it is time to ask yourself these questions:

- Want to start a professional qualification that has higher pass rates than any other UK based professional accountancy qualification?
- Want to be in demand and have your salary reflect this?
- Want to have the opportunity to double your salary by the time you qualify?
- Want to reach senior positions in multinational corporations, accountancy firms, banks or government bodies?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the ACA is the professional qualification for you. ACA gives you the skills to reach high levels in your business career, which is why more CEO/CFO/Chairs are ACA qualified, more than other accounting qualification. And why there are more ACAs than MBAs in the UK.

ACA OPENS DOORS TO THE BUSINESS WORLD

Attaining the ACA means that you will be eligible to become an ICAEW Chartered Accountant, join a prestigious institute with over 134,000 members who work in over 160 countries, 1,800 of whom are based in South East Asia.

Since launching the ACA in Malaysia in 2004, the ICAEW has welcomed top graduates to the world of international accountancy and finance. Notable members in the region include Malaysian business giants such as Tan Sri Dato' Mohamed Hassan Marican, Past-Chairman of Petronas, Johan Mahmood Merican, CEO of TalentCorp and Tan Sri Dato Seri Tony Fernandes, CEO of Air Asia.

To find out more about the qualification, which employers are authorised training employers in Malaysia or have any other queries, email pat.aw@icaew.com, call +6 03-2171 6022 or visit www.icaew.com/southeastasia for further information.

follow the money trail

For many, the word 'forensic' conjures up images of people in white coveralls and surgical masks, painstakingly collecting evidence from a crime scene. So, it would not be an illogical step to entertain the thought of a forensic accountant, also in white, at the said crime scene, sifting the evidence for, well, numbers.



Robert G Roche, a retired chief of the US Inland Revenue Service (IRS), described a forensic accountant as: 'someone who can look behind the façade – not accept the records at their face value; someone who has a suspicious mind that the documents he or she is looking at may not be what they purport to be; and someone who has the expertise to go out and conduct very detailed interviews of individuals to develop the truth, especially if some are presumed to be lying.'

With financial systems becoming more complex, forensic accountants need to stay on top of the game. The global economy means that a party in dispute may have money or assets anywhere around the world, which must be accounted for.

In recent years, international 'blue-chip' corporations have been involved in high-profile and spectacular falls from grace. The Enron, Madoff, Lehmann Brothers and Stanford cases have all highlighted the ongoing need for detailed forensic analysis of company accounts, which – in these cases – stretched into the tens of billions of dollars.

According to Julian Glass, Managing Director of FTI Consulting in London, forensic accountancy remains a small part of the global finance industry, but one that is in constant demand.

'Forensic accountancy is very important in the current situation,' Glass commented, 'as any major financial issue can involve forensic accountants. We do not instigate events but do change how they are resolved.' The phrase 'money laundering' is relatively new, yet the principle has been around since monetary systems existed. The general idea is to 'clean' illegally obtained money or avoid taxes by filtering the money through legitimate business enterprises.

Money laundering is a crime in most developed countries around the world, including Malaysia, although the precise definition varies according to a nation's legal system. In basic terms, white-collar crime is essentially a

crime committed by someone of a high social status in the course of his or her occupation, through sheer greed or a need to cover up corporate financial mismanagement.



Glass highlighted that to be a forensic accountant requires 'the right sort of person, as you need an enquiring mind, persistence, attention to detail, good accountancy skills and an ability to communicate well. It is also a specialisation that a lot of people have come to after working in other areas such as auditing or even in business.

Glass noted that forensic accountants are well paid for their work and, unlike other areas of finance, you get a real sense of contribution to an end result and a feeling that you do make a difference. Two other key factors are the variety, as every job is different, and the opportunity to travel.

What all this tallies up to in the final column is a need for forensic accountants. For those who want something more than simply crunching numbers, and to see the fruits of their labour, this may be something to consider. You only need pick up the paper and read about corruption charges being levelled at one individual or another and you know forensic accountants will be involved.

SOURCE: GTI Media. For more information on undergraduate courses and graduate careers, please visit www.doctorjob.com.my

the investment specialist

The banking world grows more complicated every day with the provision of new financial products and services



As an investment banker, you have to keep up with the trends and help companies and governments issue securities; help investors purchase securities; manage financial assets, trade securities; and provide financial advice.

Investment bankers also specialise in raising the capital that businesses require for long-term growth and advise firms on strategic matters involving mergers, acquisitions and other transactions.

In settling on a particular method of financing, you will have to consider general economic conditions, the market environment on the stock exchange and a company's financial condition, earnings history and prospects of success.



You also work to guide a company into the public marketplace and generally help in its dealings with the investment community.

Specialisations:

Investment bankers can specialise in various sectors from natural resources, energy and utilities, corporate finance and life sciences to mining.

Academic and other requirements:

You need a degree in a relevant business-related course. Being an MBA holder specialising in quantitative and analytical coursework gives you a better opportunity to excel in this area.

Personal skills and attributes:

Do I have strong analytical and interpersonal skills?
Can I handle stress and the long hours in a high-risk, high-rewards area of work?

Employers:

Investment bankers work in companies dealing with the business functions described above. Some of these firms specialise in certain areas like government debt, leveraged buyouts, and so on.

SOURCE: GTI Media. For more information on undergraduate courses and graduate careers, please visit www.doctorjob.com.my



beyond borders

Global financial markets centre around the trading and distribution of financial assets and instruments. In this field, you might offer investors analysis and solutions, including the facility to trade in and out of securities and other assets, and also provide them with liquidity.

Businesses in markets make money through trading margins, fees and proprietary speculation. It's crucial to maintain and develop relationships with clients: this gives an insight into what they're up to and may lead to fee income or provide traders with profitable transactions.



Growth areas:

Within the sector, commodities have been a growth area with rising prices caused by China's increasing involvement in the global market. There has also been massive expansion in derivatives and the emergence of credit derivatives.

Markets are very innovative by nature and new business may develop overnight. Thus it is very important for those in this sector to constantly build their knowledge and make sure that they are always abreast of the latest financial news and developments.

Rewards and caveats:

Many are attracted to trading because of the high salaries, but keep in mind that this is because jobs in trading are intense, hard work, so make sure that this

is right for you. Internships can give you an idea of what the work is like, as well as help to give you a view of the many different areas within trading. Many trading firms recruit through internships, so an internship can also serve as your gateway to a permanent placement.

Skills required:

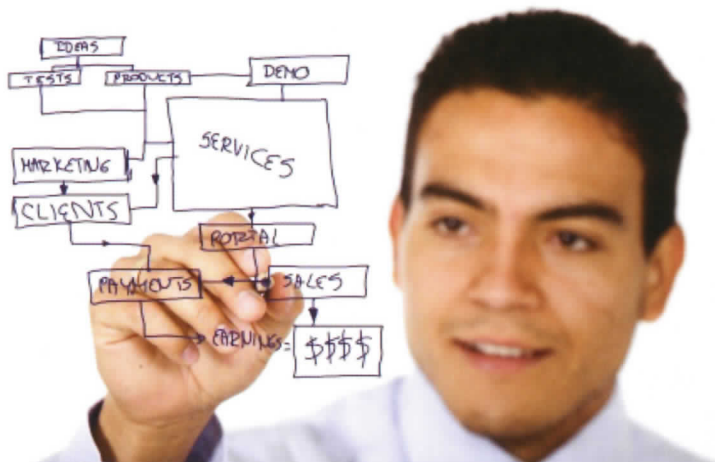
- Numeracy – You must be good with numbers, although mathematics or a science degree isn't necessary.
- Analytical skills – These will allow you to form a mental map of the markets that helps you spot opportunities and problems.
- Integrity – As we've seen in recent years, an analyst can destroy a bank if they make mistakes but don't tell anyone.



It's important to be able to work well under pressure as trading is an intense, fast-moving environment. Being able to multitask is essential, and good communication skills are crucial for building relationships with clients and colleagues.

SOURCE: GTI Media. For more information on undergraduate courses and graduate careers, please visit www.doctorjob.com.my

growing the business



Main responsibilities:

The job of a business development executive is often challenging, varied, and exciting. Your work is basically in the marketing and sales sector, where you help to develop business for certain products or services. Your goals are translated into sales growth and profitability figures. It is your responsibility to ensure an increasing demand for your products and services.

Your job responsibilities include cultivating and building relationships with clients who have existing accounts with your company as well as grooming new partnerships resulting in additional sales. You also need to identify potential markets or business opportunities, meet monthly sales targets and the like.

You also work closely with senior managers or management to chart and develop the company's marketing strategies that will affect the direction your company takes.

Specialisations:

Some of the specialisations include market assessment, gathering of insights, finding new markets or opportunities to increase sales, keeping track of sales, etc.

Academic and other requirements:

It is advantageous for you to have a degree in business or a related field.

Personal skills and attributes:

If you have skills such as negotiating, influencing and building rapport, you have the basic elements to help you succeed in this field. The best news is: almost every industry and business (public and private) requires business development personnel.



Do I have a strong understanding of the various aspects of the chosen industry e.g. the competition, the technology and the trends? Do I have good presentation skills? Am I articulate, persuasive and personable?

Employers:

You can work for any organisation such as manufacturing companies, pharmaceutical companies, software companies, etc.

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working on the main game

The video game industry is on the move. With ever-more sophisticated computers, smart phones and game consoles coming out every year, game makers with skills to match are increasingly in demand.

The first videogames appeared in the early 1970s, led by the simple two-dimensional (2D) game Pong. Within 40 years, video games have evolved to the point where millions of people around the world are able to play together in a three-dimensional (3D) digital environment.



Game designers are professionals who are paid to create video games for different platforms such as PCs, consoles, mobile phones or the Internet. The designer is responsible for what people most commonly associate with the game – the plot, theme, graphics, characters, environment and rules.

Game designers are part of a large team of professionals who work together to design and develop a single video game. They include graphic artists, writers, musicians and programmers. Traditionally, and on small simple projects, the designer and programmer can be the same person, but as games become more complex and budgets are increased, more specialised people are recruited.

There are several careers for video game designers, including level designers, game designers and senior game designers. Game designers may also choose to specialise in areas such as character conceptualisation, design and mapping, or in game genres (e.g. first-person shooter, simulation, strategy, role-playing, etc).

A game designer's duties may include:

- Brainstorming ideas to create new games or upgrade existing ones
- Making presentations to management to convince them that a game is worth developing
- Creating a detailed design document containing all aspects of an electronic game
- Testing a completed video game to ensure it is working properly
- Tracking the progress of the team to ensure they are able to meet deadlines.

Typical Employers:

- Game software development studios
- Game publishing companies

Qualifications:

A diploma or degree in graphic design, computer graphics and animation, or digital multimedia will be beneficial. Although game designers are not normally involved in the actual technical work of programming, qualifications in computer science or programming will be an advantage.

Key Skills:

- Strong in spatial reasoning
- Ability to work well in a team
- Good analytical skills

Not all fun and games....

It's important to remember that working in the video game programming industry often involves long hours, unpredictable workloads and a great deal of frustration.

Success will depend greatly upon your own attitude, adaptability and most importantly, your passion for your work.

SOURCE: GTI Media. For more information on undergraduate courses and graduate careers, please visit www.doctorjob.com.my

a focus on research

Psychologists study behaviour, conducting research and applying findings in order to minimise stress, behavioural and psychological problems.

Ppsychologists focusing on research may study psychological aspects of topics such as motivation, skills development, occupational behaviour, working conditions and organisational structures.

Other research work includes designing and conducting tests to assess and predict mental and emotional states.

Research psychologists may specialise in:

- Neuropsychology (brain impairment and its effects);
- Clinical psychology (mental and psychological illnesses);
- Educational and development psychology (specialising in disabilities, learning problems, career and family development etc);
- Forensic psychology (specialising in criminal behaviour); and others.

Psychologists can also specialise in animal behaviour and work for zoos, wildlife habitats and wildlife conservation organisations.

Typical Employers:

- Hospitals and psychiatric units
- Counselling centres
- Mental health services
- Social services departments
- Academic institutions

Qualifications:

A degree in psychology is a minimum qualification for most psychologist professions. Postgraduate qualifications – preferably a PhD based on three years of research training – will often be required for research psychologists. Unlike psychiatrists, medical qualifications are usually not required.

Key Skills:

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Highly observant and objective
- Inquisitive and perceptive
- Strong numeracy skills

Is it right for me?

You need to be well-organised, you need to be determined and perseverant, and you need to be patient. Working with people who have mental disabilities and their caretakers can be challenging.

You need to be technically able in order to administer assessment tests. You must be able to quickly learn how to operate technology used in measuring patient responses, such as eye-tracking devices.

You also need to be good at mathematics and to have a flair for writing technical reports.

SOURCE: GTI Media. For more information on undergraduate courses and graduate careers, please visit www.doctorjob.com.my



all about food looking good

Have you ever drooled over photographs of dishes in cookbooks and recipe websites? Have you ever been tempted to try a new restaurant just by how its food looks in its advertisements? If so, then you have just proved how effective a food stylist can be.

The job of a food stylist is to create the food and dishes that appear in magazines, cookbooks, advertisements, food packaging, television commercials, and sometimes even feature films.

Food stylists play an essential part in the presentation of food and beverages by enhancing the food's visual appeal. By carefully and artfully arranging and 'touching up' food, a two-dimensional image will be able to transmit the perception of taste, aroma and appeal of the actual dish.

Unlike chefs, food stylists do not prepare the food for eating – they act as 'make-up' artists who add more life and colour to food before presenting them to photographers. Thus, a food stylist must be skilled in selecting and combining edible and inedible items to show off the best characteristics of the food.

Although they are not chefs, qualifications in culinary arts and home economics will be advantageous for food stylists as they need to be familiar with how the appearance and texture of food changes while it is being prepared. For example, when preparing meat for photography, the meat is usually undercooked, or its surface is browned with a blowtorch to prevent it from shrivelling or shrinking.

To get a grilled appearance, grill marks may be branded onto the meat's surface using red-hot skewers. To finish off the perfectly roasted look, the meat may be brushed with gravy colouring or soy sauce, and then glossed with a light spray of oil or water.



Similarly, vegetables are undercooked and kept in cold water to retain their colour until just before photography.

A food stylist must also be creative in finding substitutes for foods that just don't look good when they're photographed. Milk, for example, is not a good option to use in food styling as it becomes translucent when it heats up under hot studio lights, which also makes it look diluted and unappetising. Instead– for photographing breakfast cereal ads for example – white liquid glue or even hair conditioner is used instead of milk.

To be a successful, one must have an eye for detail and a lot of creativity to come up with creative layouts and compositions that show off the best side of the food. A food stylist must also have excellent communication and teamwork skills as he or she often works as part of a larger team comprising a photographer, an art director, a food stylist, prop stylist and assistants.

Food styling is still a relatively young industry in Malaysia, but with diligence, discipline, hard work and above all, a love and respect for food, you will be able to go very far.

SOURCE: GTI Media. For more information on undergraduate courses and graduate careers, please visit www.doctorjob.com.my

opportunities for **INTERNATIONAL** students in Malaysia

The Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) calls for a massive infusion of skilled and knowledge workers. A special issue of the Malaysia Economic Monitor (April 2011) by the World Bank highlighted the fact that human capital is the bedrock of a high-income economy, which Malaysia intends to reach. Hence, Malaysia is looking forward to increasing its talent pool to support and ensure that human capital requirements of the ETP are met, which is crucial to attaining its goals.

Supply of talents appears to be the crux of the challenge. If the ETP were to succeed, then recruitment of new skills and talent needs to be facilitated and recruited. The ETP recognises the issue of skills shortage and the Government is serious about building the capabilities of talent, which also includes foreign talents with the right critical skills to work in Malaysia.

Talent Corporation Malaysia Berhad

(TalentCorp) was established in January 2011 under the Prime Minister's Department to formulate and facilitate initiatives to address the availability of talent in line with the needs of the country's economic transformation. Collaborating closely with relevant Government agencies and employers in priority economic sectors, TalentCorp develops demand-driven initiatives focused on three strategic thrusts, specifically to optimise Malaysian talent, attract and facilitate global talent, and build networks of top talent.

A country's best asset is its people. That is why TalentCorp believes in grooming and

nurturing Malaysians as well as retaining top foreign talent. In April 2011, TalentCorp announced the launch of the Residence Pass – Talent (RP-T). The Pass aims to attract and retain top talent in the country with a range of benefits. The RP-T will be offered to highly qualified expatriates seeking to continue living and working in Malaysia on a long-term basis.

Malaysia recognises the potential contribution of young professionals and top foreign students, particularly postgraduates in critical sectors. Malaysia already hosts a large number of young foreign professionals and undergraduates pursuing post-tertiary and tertiary education in local institutions of higher learning. Upon successful completion of tertiary education in Malaysia, one has the option to pursue employment in the country.

Criteria

- * Eligibility for foreign graduates to be employed in Malaysia:
 - 1) Pursuing degree / postgraduate in SETARA Tier-5 institutions
 - 2) Top scorers with at least a second upper achievement
 - 3) Successful in the graduate selection process of a reputable firm
- * Eligible companies to hire bright foreign graduates:
 - 1) Credible : MNCs, GLCs, strong Malaysian companies
 - 2) Limited to higher value-added job descriptions
 - 3) Employment contract of at least 2 years with a minimum gross salary of RM2,500.00

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.talentcorp.com.my>



now that I've got a job...

WHAT'S NEXT?



Congratulations!

You've got yourself a job after all the hard work and effort. The anxiety getting a job has evaporated and you can now look forward to an exciting journey ahead. So what's next before you start your job?

Before you start to prepare, (and prepare you must!) take some time to celebrate your accomplishment of landing a job. Whether it's a party with hundreds of guests or a cozy dinner with loved ones, it's always good to add sugar to your morale before entering the next phase.

With every change which is significant in our life, there has to be a transition to ensure a smooth and strong start. As you start your job and head towards building your career, here are **six things to do** to get you started.

1 Get in touch with the company before starting

It's always good to break the ice before joining. You should seek to understand the company culture or general guidelines in preparation for your start.

2 Get to know yourself even better

Be clear on your work style and what management style you would expect from your manager & working style you would want with your peers. Take some time to also understand the variants or working/management styles either via articles online or picking up a book. This will help when you prepare to adapt in your new and unique environment.

3 Prepare for your role

If you are heading to a role which requires a direct application of your technical knowledge, it serves well to have a refresher on the knowledge you've accumulated through your years of studying or other relevant experience. If it is new waters you are venturing into, there is an abundance of materials for you to leverage on in having a quick start.

4 Reach out on Day 1

As you start your role, proactively set up a meeting/chat with your new manager if it was not scheduled. You will want to get a better understanding on:

Your responsibilities and priorities

Performance expectations

Working styles – yours and your manager's

Your primary contacts or resources

Key events, deadlines, meetings etc.

All this information may not come to you from your manager, and may be part of your training/on-boarding, but it is essential for you to know this information early.

5 Build relationships with your resources and the general organisation

This should include the administrators or secretaries – they will know everything and everyone. Getting to understand how your role interacts with other functions is critical and these relationships will help build that understanding. Forming strong relationships will prove helpful over the long haul.

6 Seek feedback- early and frequently

As you begin taking on responsibilities and producing results, seek out your manager or peers for their feedback on the work you have been carrying out. As you integrate into your team and work, there will be a grace period that you should approach as a window for you to learn by practice. You will then adjust accordingly, meeting or exceeding expectations in your role. You will only know this if you ask.

With all these, you should also remember to have **fun**. You don't want to be the company jester but you are in this to enjoy. Socialise with your colleagues, lighten up and bust the hard stuff with a great and strong attitude.

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PASSION @WORK

Gen Y-ers are known for their brimming energy and enthusiasm. Having secured your first job, no doubt you are determined to demonstrate to your employers those quintessential Gen-Y traits. However, after a few months into the job, you realise that all is not as rosy as you initially pictured. There are times you might have to stay back late to rush assignments. Over time, you might even lose sight of that initial effervescing enthusiasm for your work. To help you restore your spirits, we would like to share with you some useful tips to generate, and more importantly, sustain **PASSION @ WORK**.

Drawing the unicorn on the pizza box

Have you ever noticed pizza guys going the extra mile to enhance customer satisfaction by drawing something eccentric, challenging or funny on the pizza box? Whether you are working in F&B, hospitality or meeting with clients, people appreciate it when you do that little extra that leaves them with a positive impression. So, strive to make the people you encounter at work happy.



Do that extra!

The curve never ends

Continuous learning and sharpening of your skills increases your competency. It empowers you to be more efficient and productive. Start understanding the industry your company is involved in, whether it is healthcare, construction, IT, etc. Interest tends to increase with knowledge. When you have a more thorough understanding, you are stoking that fire of interest and increasing your passion at work.

Mentorship

In an office full of colleagues with more work experience under their belt than you, it's not hard to identify someone to be your role model. Take the first step and approach them to be your mentor at work. New to the workforce, it is natural that you would be interested to know how they progressed through

their careers and what aspects of their job motivated them to stay on. Do something to reciprocate their guidance; usually your tech-savvy skills will be useful.

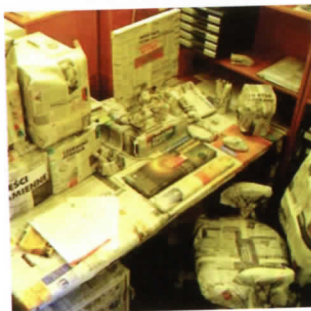
Get involved!

Working life is not limited to your job scope. If there are other activities your company or department is involved in, such as a CSR project to help disadvantaged children or organising a teambuilding trip, by all means volunteer your assistance. You will be surprised how many opportunities are out there. Select projects that resonate with you so that you have the drive to sustain the excitement. Indirectly, you get to collaborate with people you seldom work with, which will help you build rapport and enhance your network.

Adding spice to life

You could play a practical joke to add humour to the day. Wrapping up everything on a colleague's workstation (phone, computer screen, mouse, stapler, etc) as an April Fool's joke is harmless fun. Of course, know your boundaries, exercise discretion and be

aware of the unspoken rules and company culture. So, let your passion for work ignite, spread and impact yourself, your colleagues, business partners, clients, customers and everyone you meet along the way.



Office wrap!

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for more information, email prepare@sunway.edu.my

ALUMNI

ALUMNI.

alum•ni \ə -'ləm-nī\ plural of alumnus

:: a person who has attended or has graduated from a particular school, college, or university

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Where are we

Student Services Department
Student Centre
Ground Floor, North Building
No. 5, Jalan Universiti
Bandar Sunway,
46150 Petaling Jaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan

When are we open

Mondays to Fridays
8.30am – 5.30pm

How to contact us

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