

FINDING A CAREER WITH A MASTER'S IN HISTORY



WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO...

WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT...

WHAT TO EXPECT WITH YOUR CAREER...

Jobs directly connected to your degree:

- Archivist
- Heritage manager
- Historic buildings inspector or conservation officer
- Museum education officer
- Museum/gallery curator
- Museum/gallery exhibitions officer
- Secondary school teacher

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

- Academic librarian
- Archaeologist
- Broadcast journalist
- Civil Service administrator
- Editorial assistant
- Human resources officer
- Information officer
- Marketing executive
- Policy officer
- Politician's assistant
- Solicitor

*<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/history>

Some tips to help you get started:

- Get involved in an internship
- Find a student club
- Get advisement on the right course choices
- Look for applicable courses outside of history
- Apply for part-time work in your field
- Start reviewing job possibilities
- Connect and remain in contact with the history department's faculty and staff
- Look into the American Historical Association for tips and advice
- If possible, join the Cal State Fullerton's historical honor society- Phi Alpha Theta

Manage your career:

- Make a list of your career goals
- Keep an open mind and look out for long term potential
- Show you are a leader even if you are not in a leadership
- Show you are a leader even if you are not in a leadership role

Become an expert:

- Continue your education to stay up to date with industry trends and learn new techniques

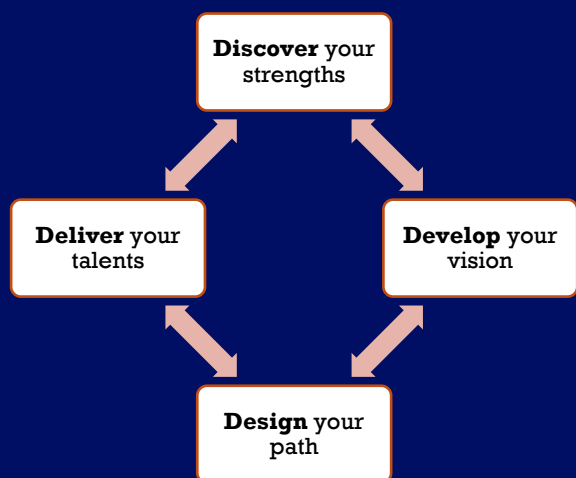
Continue to build your professional network:

- Join professional associations and be active within them
- Participate in cross-functional teams outside of your department when the opportunity arises

*Cal State Fullerton Career Guide: Eighth Edition

10 THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND FOR YOUR CAREER

1. Schedule “job search” time
2. Don’t be afraid to ask acquaintances, faculty, or staff for employment opportunities
3. Emphasize your strengths to employers
4. There is always room for improvement
5. Practice and research interview questions
6. Build your network
7. Do not get discouraged if something goes wrong
8. Have patience
9. Your degree is fluid—your job does not have to be in academia
10. Take time to look into the non-academic hiring process



*Katharine Brooks, *You Majored in What?: Designing Your Path from College to Career* (New York: Plume, 2009), 14.



The Chaos Theory helps people understand that too many variables in a complex system, which makes it difficult to predict the outcome. You can connect this model with career planning.

Chaos Theory Tenet

1. Assess what you know, cannot know, and can learn.
2. Decisions are complex: don't base them on one single factor.
3. Change is constant. Allow for the butterfly effect.
4. Situations may appear chaotic, but an order will appear.
5. Attractors will help to focus your attention.

Career Applications

1. By assessing what you know about yourself, the job market, and the opportunities you have, you can make better decisions. It's also important to identify what you don't know and what you need to learn to fulfill the requirements of possible fields.
2. A successful career choice is based on several factors, including the job market, your interests, your skills, your family, your education, and what is meaningful to you. It's not just "my major determines my career."
3. Unexpected and unpredictable elements will emerge. Your career is more improvisational than scripted. Be ready to handle the changes that come along. And say "yes!" You never know when one small interaction, event, or experience will propel you in a whole new direction.
4. The job search process seems chaotic and stressful but patterns do emerge, and when you look back, you will see the order to everything. You can't predict what experiences will be valuable or lead to a career.
5. Notice what grabs your attention in the process. What makes your energy level increase? What excites you about the future? When considering two options, which one do you feel pulled to? Why? Look for clues in your energy and interests.

*Katharine Brooks, *You Majored in What?: Designing Your Path from College to Career* (New York: Plume, 2009), 11.