**UK UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH VIRTUAL FAIR – MARCH 2021**

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**CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY webinar**

**(Presented by Ruth Boyce, University of Winchester)**

**What is a career? - a profession / an occupation / a trade / a vocation**

**A career refers to progress / activities taken throughout the working years of your life**

**It is now a fact that the typical working life is now 4 years longer than it was!**

**What is employability? - having a set of skills / knowledge / understanding / personal attributes – which makes a person more likely to choose a career in which they can be happy and successful**

**Where to start?**

* **Review and reflect on what you already know – think about the skills gained, the experiences in and out of school you have gained, your interests...have you spoken to employers, maybe? Watched any careers based videos?**
* **Think about what you need to find out more about...careers, job roles, the job market...**
* **How will you get there? – check out qualifications, alternative options....**

**VERY INTERESTING FACT!**

**In the Annual Student Recruitment survey (2019), The Guardian included some interesting data with one being 86% of employers now do not mind what degree subject/s a student has studied! This has been around 70% so this is a clear rise in those careers now open to graduates.**

**Students who think flexibly will generally fare better**

**LMI – Labour Market Information**

* **Careers are changing – and will continually change**
* **Research actual jobs and the demand for different skills**
* **Covid 19 has turbo charged hiring in some sectors, whilst others have gone into reverse such as the leisure industry...there has been a big increase in digital technologies, digital marketing, for example, online branding, logistics and more...**
* **Global challenges on the horizon – population growth / increase of artificial intelligence (AI) / global economic shift to emerging economies...**
* **It will be important to make positive environmental impact and contributing to a sustainable future**

**It is not easy, even for experts, to predict the future! It will, therefore, be very important to constantly undertake continuous, life long learning...the development of knowledge and skills means you are going to be ready for the future...**

**Research is so important – look out for:-**

* **Career prospects from degree**
* **Industry organised events**
* **UCAS website – including subject guides and, currently, the many virtual events such as Open Days on offer (there were 450 events last week, apparently!)**
* **National Careers Service website –** [**www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk**](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)
* **Accreditation of degree**
* **Placements offered in degree**
* **Employer links in degree**
* **University specific schemes**
* **Study abroad opportunities in degree**
* **The study of additional qualifications during a degree – could be a new language? Sign Language? Many others!**
* **The use of specialist equipment during a degree – laboratories and other facilities**

**Careers Services at Universities – not just for individual careers consultations but also help with, for example:-**

* **Part time work**
* **Volunteering services**
* **Leadership courses**
* **Workshops / seminars and other events/activities – to enhance your skills and employability**

**Careers ownership is YOUR responsibility!**

**Security lies in employability (your ability to obtain and maintain employment) rather than in employment (a specific job)!**

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**CAREERS ADVISER**

**MARCH 2021**