Myths and Facts about Major and Career Choice

As you decide on a major and career, don't fall prey to these common myths:

**MYTH:** "Something is wrong with me if I don't know what I want to do."

**FACT:** Most college students don't have a clear idea of what they want to major in or do for a career. This is normal. With research and support, you can make decisions that are right for you.

**MYTH:** "There is only ONE career for me."

**FACT:** The combination of elements that determine career satisfaction are found in many different careers. For example, if you like helping people in an artistic way, you may be happy as a dance therapist or a high school art teacher.

**MYTH:** "If I choose a major or a career, I'll be stuck with it forever."

**FACT:** Most majors prepare you for a variety of careers. When you combine the skills you'll learn in your major with others you'll gain from full-time work, internships, and other activities, you'll have the ability to move in a variety of...
directions. Most people have multiple careers and jobs during their work lives.

**MYTH:** "I've failed if I make the wrong choice."

**FACT:** You only fail when you do not adapt. If you learn a major or career choice is not right for you, change it.

**MYTH:** "Happiness is impossible without the perfect career."

**FACT:** Career can be a major source of satisfaction in life, but it is not everything. Sometimes a job simply earns money so that other time can be spent on the things that really make you happy.

**MYTH:** "There is a test or an expert that can tell me what to do with the rest of my life."

**FACT:** Only you know what's best for yourself. There are people and resources you can use for support, but in the end you make your own decisions. Counselors and the Career Planning Center can help you clarify information about your interests, skills, personality, or decision-making patterns. Based on your individual situation, counselors may suggest an assessment to help with this. Remember, no test or expert knows you better than you do.

**MYTH:** "I won't be qualified to do anything with a liberal arts degree."

**FACT:** You will be more qualified than most: the skills you develop in a liberal arts curriculum—communication, human interaction, analysis, and flexibility—are those most desired by employers.

**MYTH:** "I just need a little more information before I can make a decision."

**FACT:** Although it's important to make a well-informed decision, sometimes people are paralyzed because they think that no matter how much information they have gathered, it's not enough. They indefinitely put off making a decision. Don't let this happen to you. Collect enough information about your major or career choice. But realize that even after you make a decision, you will still be able to collect more information and evaluate whether it was the right one.

**MYTH:** “You need an exact match between your course of study/major and a future career.”

**FACT:** Though there are some careers that require specific training, such as nursing, engineering, accounting, etc., there are more careers that do not follow from a specific course of study/major. In fact, a recent study by the College Placement Council indicated that the majority of college graduates are successfully in fields not directly related to their academic majors!

**MYTH:** “Once you have a course of study/major, you must stick with it your entire college career.”

**FACT:** More than 70% of college students change their course of study/major at some point during college.

**MYTH:** “Job market demand should be the primary determinant of an academic choice.”

**FACT:** Selecting a course of study/major because it is currently "hot" on the market can
be dangerous. Though it is important to look at the potential for employment, the job market is difficult to predict. What is in demand when you are a freshman may not be in demand by the time you graduate. You are on much firmer ground when you select a course of study/major that truly interests you, and find a way to apply it to a career.

**MYTH:** “You must pursue a certain specific course of study/major in order to prepare adequately for professional schools such as dentistry, law, business, medicine, etc.”

**FACT:** Most professional schools do not require a specific course of study/major, as long as you meet certain academic courses. For example, in recent years, liberal arts majors have had a greater success with acceptance to medical schools than biology majors.

**MYTH:** “Your academic course of study/major is the primary determinant of your future career success.”

**FACT:** A college major alone is not enough to help you prepare adequately for a career. Internships, jobs, extracurricular activities, and volunteer work all contribute to your growth as a well-rounded person, and in developing your skills and abilities. In fact, employers place a very high value on these types of "extra" activities when looking for employees.

**MYTH:** “Your career path will remain fairly stable throughout your adult life.”

**FACT:** Nearly half of all graduates change their career plans after they finish college, and the average person changes careers nearly 8 times in his/her lifetime. Your college course of study/major does not train you for a single, specific job. Instead, it seeks to develop your aptitude and abilities so that you can use them in the broadest variety of careers. That is why it is important to choose a course of study/major that allows your individual talents to flourish. Find a course of study/major that fits YOU, rather than trying to fit yourself into a course of study/major. Undergraduate education is not so much a determinant of what you want to BE, as much as what you are prepared to BECOME.

**SOURCES:** College is Only the Beginning, edited by John N. Gardner and A Jerome Jewler; What Color is Your Parachute, by Richard Nelson Bolles; What Can I Do With a Major In...? by Lawrence R Malnig; Indiana University Bloomington

**The College Major: What It Is and How to Choose One**

A major is a specific subject area that students specialize in. Typically, between one-third and one-half of the courses you’ll take in college will be in your major or related to it.

At some colleges, you can even:

- Major in two fields.
- Have a major and a minor (a specialization that requires fewer courses than a major).
- Create your own major.
**When to Choose a Major**
At most four-year colleges, and in the case of many majors, you won’t have to pick a major until the end of your sophomore year. This gives you plenty of time to check out various subjects and see which ones interest you. Some majors — like areas of engineering — are exceptions to this rule. You have to commit to these fields of study early so you have time to take all the required courses.

If you're earning a two-year degree, you'll probably select a major at the start because the program is much shorter.

**Most students switch their major during college.**

**How to Choose a Major**
Take courses in areas that appeal to you, and then think about which subject truly motivates you. Stephanie Balmer, Dean of Admissions at Dickinson College, suggests you take “classes in which you’re going to be confident, but at the same time, take some risks.” She notes that a class you never planned to take could end up helping you choose your major.

**You Can Change Your Mind**
If you’re not sure about your college major while you’re in high school, don’t worry. Most students switch their major during college. Even students who think they are sure about what they want to major in often change their mind.

Shawna, a college sophomore, began college as a physics major but switched to electrical engineering. During her first semester, she discovered that college physics “was all the things about my physics class in high school that I didn’t like. And my engineering class was all the stuff I actually did like.”

**Majors and Graduate School**
Some colleges offer advising programs — such as premed or prelaw — to students who plan on attending medical school, law school or graduate school. These programs are not the same as majors; you still need to pick a major.

College students who are planning to continue their education in professional or graduate programs often choose a major related to their future field. For example, undergraduates in premed programs often major in biology or chemistry. They don't have to, though — as long as students fulfill the course requirements of the graduate program they want to enter, they can major in any subject they like.

**Majors and Professions**
If you specialize in something like nursing, accounting or engineering, you're learning a specific trade. Many majors, however, prepare you to enter a range of careers once you
graduate. For many students, **picking a college major is not the same as choosing a job**. It will be up to you to pick a career path you like. For example, a degree in English literature might lead you to a job in publishing, teaching, advertising, public relations or law, among other fields.

Remember, you're not alone when choosing a major. Ask academic and peer advisers for help.

**SOURCE:** https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers/college-majors/the-college-major-what-it-is-and-how-to-choose-one

---

**How to Select a College Major You'll Actually Use (Finding Career Bliss, Part 1)**

When someone says she’s going to college, the first thing most people ask is usually, “What’s your major?”

While students have to have a major declared at some point during their college career, they shouldn’t rush into picking a field without first considering their natural abilities and skills.

Here’s why: Young people get so consumed with picking a major. As they progress in their studies, they may find out they no longer want a career in their field. Or, like me, they may not come to that realization until after they graduate and need to pay off all the loans that made that degree possible.

**Pick a major that incorporates your skills—not just an interesting topic**

Prospective students should also consider their skills instead of only looking into a field they like. What are you good at? What activity makes you want to skip meals? Do you like the office environment? Would you rather work for yourself?

Case in point: I had always been good at writing, yet never really knew one could make a viable career out of it. I followed where “they” said the jobs were and majored in environmental science. And the jobs are there—I just have no interest in them.

When I chose the major, I was genuinely interested in the environmental field. I just had no way to know what a day-to-day job in that industry would be like. When I started working for a remediation firm, I finally saw that that it did not appeal to me. Neither did lobbying. Or collecting groundwater samples. Or even writing the technical reports that detailed cleanups.

**How to identify your skills and natural pleasure zones**

If you’re interested in a certain field, that’s great because you’ll want to do something you like. But you should also consider how to incorporate your natural aptitudes and skills into choosing a major. Here are a few ways to do that.
Think day-to-day tasks. The thought of being a doctor may be fascinating for some of us, but the 16-hour days and not-so-glamorous tasks (bedpan, anyone?) may not actually fulfill you in the long run. If you do not like helping others and you’re not patient with them, you may not be the next Meredith Grey. If, however, you like medicine and want to do more reporting on it, you could find a path as the next Sanjay Gupta. The point is to get a feel for what the typical day at a job in a field is like. When I worked for the environmental company, it either involved putting dirt samples in a jar or typing up sample tables for a report—it was nothing like what I envisioned. So in my case, none of the environmental careers were appealing, but I was glad that I explored all of them so I could rule out whether or not I wanted to “use” my degree.

Assess yourself. What kind of job do you want? Do you want a 9-to-5 desk job? Are you better off self-employed? Do you want to travel, work in different locations, or be able to take time off to raise a family? Do you like helping others, or do you prefer to work alone? Do you want to be a dressy or casual environment? Do you like working with others? What do you want your typical workday to look like? Envision it, hour by hour. While no work situation is perfect, being in touch with what you have in mind can help you better align yourself with that goal.

Intern like crazy. Nowadays, most colleges require students to complete an internship, and many do so suffering through coffee runs. Instead, explore a few different fields (especially if you’re undecided) or look at careers within your field. A physical therapist may not want to work in a nursing home, but may be more fulfilled working with children in a school. Ask the people what they like and dislike about their careers. Watch how their workday goes, even if you are just shuffling papers. Soak up as much insight as you can during your internship.

In the next article in this two-part series, I’ll talk about how to leverage your degree—regardless of the subject—into a fulfilling career.


**How to Use Your College Major for Career Success (Finding Career Bliss, Part 2)**

In the first installment of this two-part series, I talked about incorporating your natural skills and talents into choosing a major. In this part, I’ll talk about how to leverage that major to enhance your career—even if you want a career in a different field.
Ievitably, some people will choose a college major that has nothing to do with the career they want. In my experience, finding career bliss has a lot to do with using your innate talents and skills. And that’s why it’s vital to choose a major because it’s viable—not just because it is interesting.

Everyone is different, and you have to go easy on yourself if your interests and goals change after you graduate. I spent a few years mentally beating myself up for getting that environmental degree, until I realized I could use it as part of my platform. Then I did, and then it was all worth it. No experience is ever worthless; you just have to figure out how to use it to your advantage when you finally figure out what field you do want to get into.

Make a natural transition—even between different industries

When I knew that I wanted to write—and that I could make a living from it—I turned my time writing technical reports for an environmental company and some previous journalism experience into a career as a copywriter. Some of my first clients were in the environmental field, and I still have a few in it because that topic continues to interest me. Instead of digging up mud, I now write their marketing collateral.

I made that transition into the copywriting field by leveraging existing connections. I knew that environmental companies not only needed technical people, but that they needed creative people, too. I built up more clients by networking and taking on more assignments, which helped me to build a portfolio. Now, I write for all industries. While some of my gigs don’t necessarily interest me, they financially sustain me so I can do the work that does satisfy me. In many ways, you can probably do the same thing.

Think about your experience in a particular field—draw on the connections or skills you gained there. Then think about how they apply to the career you do want. When you start to connect the dots, you can then market your shift into another career. But if you don’t pick out those selling points, the transition may be really rough and disjointed.

I have a friend who used to work in human resources, and she hated it. She was trapped behind a desk reviewing healthcare policies for most of the day. She liked helping people, though. She wanted to become a career coach, so she used her skills in a different way. Now
she gets to motivate others to find their career bliss—and she loves it.

**Propel any degree into career success**

If you decide to ditch your major, try to use those skills and related experiences to propel your new career just like my friend did.

Let’s say you majored in business but now want to be a nurse. You can play up your contributions not only in the medical arena, but also as an employee who understands the bottom line. You’re probably a great speaker, so you can leverage that to explain procedures to patients.

There are stories all around us of teachers who went into pharmaceutical sales, or lawyers who scrapped their jurist doctor degrees to open photography studios. You can be anything you want to—even if you wind up going into a different field. The key is not to focus only on your college major, but also to use it even if you think it’s unusable. Explore all aspects of life in that field. A writer like me could work from home solo, or could be a beat reporter going out on assignments and darting back and forth from meetings to the office. Writers could also work for a marketing agency creating advertising campaigns, or be employed by a medical firm editing technical documentation. Each field has some flexibility in it, so be sure to explore all of the working arrangements that would be available to you within your field—some may utilize your talents better than others.

And if you find that you simply aren’t interested in “using” your major at all, realize that you don’t have to work in that industry to capitalize on the skills and knowledge you gained studying it. Career bliss is out there, my friends. We just have to be creative enough to find it.

*Kristen Fischer is a journalist and copywriter living at the Jersey Shore. She is the author of *Ramen Noodles, Rent and Resumes: An After-College Guide to Life and When Talent Isn’t Enough: Business Basics for the Creatively Inclined.*

**SOURCE:**

By Kristen Fischer, November 25, 2013

**Why Earning Potential Shouldn’t Drive the College Major Decision**

In high school, students may take an occasional elective course in macroeconomics or anthropology, but graduation requirements make it tough to venture outside of the core curriculum: English, math, science, social studies, and foreign language.
When students move on to college, it’s no wonder, then, that an estimated 80 percent arrive undecided about their major, and 50 percent switch majors that first year. Of those who do declare before arriving on campus, many pick a college major with little insight on today’s ever-growing options, reaching as high as 350 degree programs at some universities (University of California at Berkeley) and hovering around 250 at others (Syracuse University and University of Ohio).

With limited exposure to the working world of the 21st century and experience spanning mostly the core curriculum, how can students weigh the pros and cons of so many options?

A number of things can help, and keep students (and their parents) on the calm side of the anxiety-ridden task of declaring a major.

**Know that money isn’t everything**

With rising tuitions and a wavering economy, many students enter college with a goal to make up for the hefty price tag on the receiving end—and land a high paying job. Consider this year’s top earning college major: petroleum engineering. Not all of us are cut out for petroleum engineering, despite how welcome a salary of $93,500 would feel straight out of college.

While comparative rankings of earning potential (by major) abound on the Internet, a closer look suggests these numbers might not hold value. Daniel Hamermesh, a labor markets expert and economics professor at the University of Texas at Austin, ran the numbers—and learned this from his analysis: “Perceptions of the variations in economic success among graduates in different majors are exaggerated. Our results imply that given a student’s ability, achievement and effort, his or her earnings do not vary all that greatly with the choice of undergraduate major.”

The fact of the matter is, while career possibilities are important (and discussed a few paragraphs down), most studies suggest it’s what students do with what they learn in college that matters more than the actual major. Take English majors, for example. They fall among the bottom earning potential. Yet plenty of successful people studied English in college—and work in fields as diverse as technology, government, business, journalism, medicine, and education. Some, such as Harold Varmus, are even Nobel laureates in medicine.

So remember: just because a major ranks high on a potential earnings list, actual earnings depend more on the person than the degree.

**Let interests lead the way**

If choosing a major based on earnings is ill advised, then what should students consider? Many studies point to individual interests and personality. According to Lawrence K. Jones, Ph.D., a psychologist and professor emeritus at North Carolina State University, research over the past 10 years
indicates that choosing a major based on interests and personality leads to key advantages, including the likelihood of students:

- Earning higher grades
- Sticking with the major
- Graduating on time
- Ending up more satisfied and successful in a career

Jones sums up his advice like this:

Generally, the better you fit with the people, culture, and demands of your major and its environment, the more interested in it you will be; the more time and effort you will put into it; the more confidence you will feel; the better grades you will get; and the better recommendations you will receive from your teachers.

How can students find that right fit? In earlier posts, we’ve discussed the reality that few students start college with a strong sense of self. Most need time and guidance to figure it all out. What helps? On top of advising and career counseling, personality assessments open a window into students’ preferences and personalities—and help immensely when paired with college majors. But Jones warns of the need to be selective: “Most career measures on the Internet are not valid, including those that are top hits in Google. These pseudo measures—quizzes, profilers, sorters, and the like—can actually harm you.”

Only trust those that are scientifically valid, he advises.

Consider career possibilities but broaden your terms of success

Interest level may be a better gauge of a well-matched major than earning potential, but career possibilities still matter. With less than half of recent graduates in good jobs, on top of unprecedented college debt, students need to look closely at the job market—not only when they pick a major but also throughout their college career.

The career landscape is ever changing in the 21st century, and jobs here today may vanish in five years. Why? In part, it’s due to technology. Yet other more intrinsic, less obvious variables contribute, too, especially shifting ideas about success.

“Previously, career development and the definition of career success involved “climbing the ladder,” explains Peter Allen Johnson, a technologist and Ph.D. candidate in management at Macquarie University (Australia). “This has shifted to add factors such as inner satisfaction, life balance,
autonomy, and freedom,” instead of only “the traditional factors of income, rank, and status.”

What does this mean for students? According to Johnson, it means career success has moved “from organizations back to individuals,” putting more onus on each student to define success for themselves—and carve a path to achieve it.

Put differently, this means that no one major leads to one career. Majors are certainly gateways to careers—and a big deal—but ultimately, it’s up to the individual.

By Hal Ashman, August 14, 2013

**Is Your College Major and Career Choice a Good Fit?**
Visit the Career Planning Center to meet with a Career Counselor or enroll in a career class (COUN 141C or COUN 151C) to take valid and reliable career assessments to help you make informed and considered major and career decisions.

(714) 484-7120  
[www.CypressCollege.edu/services/cpc](http://www.CypressCollege.edu/services/cpc)

**The 15 Most Valuable College Majors**
According to PayScale’s massive compensation database and job growth projections through 2020 from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, these 15 college majors are the most valuable in terms of salary and career prospects. They are ranked by median starting pay, median mid-career pay (at least 10 years experience), percentage growth in pay and projected growth of job opportunities.

With rising tuition costs and a rapidly changing job landscape, a student’s college major is more important than ever. It can either set you up for lifetime career success and high earnings or sink you into debt with few avenues to get ahead of it.

“Unless you go to a top-20 brand name school, what matters most to employers is your major,” says Katie Bardaro, lead economist at compensation research firm PayScale. In fact, in a new report by Gen-Y researcher Millennial Branding, a full 69% of managers agreed that relevant coursework is important when considering job candidates.

So which college majors are most likely to land you a well-paying job right out of school? Analysts at PayScale compared its massive compensation database with 120 college majors and job growth projections through 2020 from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to determine the 15 most valuable majors in the current marketplace. Ranked by median starting pay, median mid-career pay (at least 10 years in), growth in salary and wealth of job opportunities, engineering and math reigned supreme.
At No. 1, **biomedical engineering** is the major that is most worth your tuition, time and effort. Biomedical engineers earn a median starting salary of $53,800, which grows an average of 82% to $97,800 by mid-career. Moreover, the BLS projects a whopping 61.7% growth of job opportunities in the field—the most of any other major on the list.

Engineering concentrations comprise one third of the most valuable majors. **Software engineering majors** (No. 4) earn a median of $87,800 after 10 years on the job; **environmental engineering majors** (No. 5) earn a median of $88,600; **civil engineering majors** (No. 6) earn a median of $90,200; and **petroleum engineering majors** (No. 9) earn a median of $155,000—the highest paycheck on the list.

“These aren’t majors that anyone could do. They’re hard, and these programs weed people out,” says Bardaro. “However, there is high demand for them and a low supply of people with the skills, so it drives up the labor market price.”

In the Millennial Branding survey, employers reported engineering and computer information systems majors as their top recruits. Also, nearly half of these employers (47%) said the competition for new science, technology, engineering and math talent is steep. That means while other recent grads fight for jobs, these students will likely field multiple offers.

Math and science concentrations are also well-represented on this list. **Biochemistry** (No. 2), **computer science** (No. 3), **applied mathematics** (No. 10), **mathematics** (No. 11), **physics** (No. 14) and **statistics** (No. 15) majors are increasingly in demand and well-paid.

Bardaro believes that the new data-driven market makes math skills, particularly statistics, more and more valuable to employers. Many companies now collect large datasets on consumer behavior, be it online search patterns or user demographics. Statisticians who understand data and can use it to forecast trends and behavior will do especially well, she says.

Conversely, the worst-paying college majors are child and family studies, elementary education, social work, culinary arts, special education, recreation and leisure studies, religious studies, and athletic training.

**SOURCE:**
http://www.forbes.com/sites/jennagoudreau/2012/05/15/best-top-most-valuable-college-majors-degrees/
Discover 11 Hot College Majors That Lead to Jobs:

*From robotics to cybersecurity, STEM majors are among the hottest for career-seeking college students.*

Students may want to consider STEM fields, such as petroleum engineering, where job growth is expected to rise over the next few years.

Looking for an academic direction with terrific growth potential? Some traditional fields are newly hot at the bachelor’s level; in other cases, enterprising colleges are creating new majors in emerging fields. Here are some hot majors you might want to consider.

1. **Biomedical engineering:** The folks standing at the intersection of the life sciences, engineering and medicine are working on such advances as an artificial kidney to help 2 million people worldwide give up their dependency on dialysis, and "designer" blood clots created from artificial platelets to save wounded soldiers on the battlefield.

   The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the field will see a 62 percent growth in jobs between 2010 and 2020. The Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor boast top 10 programs in the field.

2. **Biometrics:** This field teaches students how to build automated identification devices, such as facial recognition systems. As biometric readers replace photo IDs and passwords in both the public and private sectors, the industry is expected to grow to $363 million by 2018, according to New York-based Transparency Market Research.

   West Virginia University and Davenport University are the pioneers offering undergrad degrees in the discipline, says Bojan Cukic, professor of computer science and electrical engineering at WVU. Grads with a strong foundation in biometrics can pursue careers as security consultants, intelligence analysts or biometric system designers.

3. **Forensic science:** More experts are needed to operate the new, sophisticated tools to prevent and investigate crimes. Forensic science focuses on using technology to analyze evidence. Students should expect "tons of math and science, plus learning to interface with the criminal justice system," says Timothy Palmbach, chair of the forensic science department at the University of New Haven.

   About 15 U.S. bachelor’s degree programs are now accredited by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in forensic science or forensic chemistry, including Pennsylvania State University, Loyola University Chicago and Texas A&M University.
4. **Computer game design:** The global market for video and online games is expected to reach $82 billion by 2017, according to DFC Intelligence, a San Diego-based market research company.

Budding designers must learn skills such as animation, audio design, programming and production management – expertise that can also be employed to create simulated training environments in which, for example, emergency personnel respond to an earthquake.

More than 200 colleges and universities now offer majors in game design, development and programming, including the University of Southern California, University of Utah, George Mason University, Rochester Institute of Technology, Becker College and Drexel University.

5. **Cybersecurity:** Large companies and governments are moving aggressively to protect their computer systems. Between 2014 and 2016, the Pentagon plans to add more than 4,000 experts at its Cyber Command. Specialists in cybersecurity can also expect to find openings in health care, energy and at security services firms.

The National Security Agency is identifying centers of excellence in cyber operations, starting with Dakota State University, the Naval Postgraduate School, Northeastern University and the University of Tulsa.

In one essential course at DSU, "students learn to 'lift the hood' of the software program, see how it works, determine where it is vulnerable and then write code to exploit that vulnerability," says Josh Pauli, associate professor of cybersecurity.

6. **Data science:** The International Data Corp., a Massachusetts-based technology market research firm, says the global volume of computerized data is doubling every two years. This will help create some 4.4 million jobs worldwide by 2015, estimates Connecticut-based technology research firm Gartner Inc. Interested students should consider a major in data science or business analytics (No. 7 below).

The College of Charleston is one of the few institutions to offer an undergraduate degree in data science. By studying statistics, math and programming, graduates learn to help government agencies, consulting firms, scientific organizations and a variety of companies from e-commerce giants to big-box stores to develop strategy, understand customer behavior or predict market trends.
7. **Business analytics**: While closely related to data science, business analytics is primarily a business major, says Kenneth Gilbert, head of the department of statistics, operations and management science at the University of Tennessee, which launched a degree program in 2010. Courses include computer software, math, statistics and communication skills.

Rutgers Business School introduced a business analytics and information technology major for undergrads in 2011. The University of Iowa offers a B.S. in business analytics and information systems, while Old Dominion University features a major in business administration/business analytics.

8. **Petroleum engineering**: New technology has opened up shale formations thought unproductive 10 years ago. A new crop of petroleum engineers will be needed to tap these reserves; half of the current supply is expected to retire in the next decade. Grads, who can expect high starting salaries of more than $100,000 a year, will find employment in three areas, says Robert Chase, chair of the department of petroleum engineering and geology at Marietta College: as drilling engineers who supervise the effort to access oil or gas; as production engineers who design and install the equipment needed to produce it; and as reservoir engineers who analyze how much can be recovered.

Texas A&M, the University of Oklahoma, the University of Wyoming and the University of Alaska—Fairbanks all offer highly regarded programs, and with major oil companies or suppliers nearby, provide opportunities for internships.

9. **Public health**: Two factors give public health majors rosy prospects: the threat of global epidemics, and the part of health reform that focuses on prevention. Students can focus on the scientific aspects of the discipline, the statistical angle or policy, and find work in hospitals, nonprofits and community health centers.

Columbia University’s Summer Public Health Scholars program gives college students from across the country who are going into their junior or senior years, or who have just graduated, the chance to explore public health as a career. Other undergrad programs can be found at Temple University, Brown University, University of California—Berkeley, University of California—Irvine and George Washington University.
10. Robotics: Between 2012 and 2020, robotics could create between 2 million to 3.5 million new jobs, according to Metra Martech, a London-based market research firm – hardly surprising in a field helping to expand human capabilities across every walk of life. Anesthesia bots are assisting in surgery; oceanographers are using underwater robots to map the underside of Arctic ice; and NASA’s robotic rovers are currently surveying the surface of Mars.

"Over the last five years, more and more students were self-designating a major in robotics, so we decided to craft a formal curriculum," says David Barrett, professor of mechanical engineering and design at the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering.

Robotics majors generally study mechanical, electrical and software engineering as well as modeling and entrepreneurship. Other schools with strong robotics programs include Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Lawrence Technological University, University of California—Santa Cruz and Carnegie Mellon University.

11. Sustainability: New and retooled environmental degree programs are placing fresh emphasis on practical problem-solving. The University of Tennessee, which graduated the first students from its sustainability major in May, offers a solution-oriented curriculum that spans law, business, science, resource management and ethics, says Michael McKinney, professor of geology and environmental studies.

Sustainability managers in all sorts of companies and organizations look for ways to make the "institution more efficient and produce less waste and pollution. As a result they tend to save money for their organization, which is one reason why these jobs are becoming popular," says McKinney.

In 2012, at least 17 schools added sustainability majors, including the University of South Dakota, Cornell University and Oregon State University—Cascades.

This story is excerpted from the U.S. News "Best Colleges 2014" guidebook,
which features in-depth articles, rankings and data.

By Cathie Gandel, September 10, 2013

Fewer Students Are Majoring In Computer Science, Education and English

Based on the steady coverage of how humanities are losing their popularity, tales of woe about art and psychology graduates making minuscule salaries, and the drum beat to push students towards STEM degrees, you might think the liberal arts is dying in favor of technical majors.

The truth is a little more complicated.

Ben Schmidt at Northeastern University put together the data in an interactive chart on the trends of college majors over the past few decades. It shows the percentage of students studying most majors has stayed relatively the same since the mid-1960’s, but there have been a few changes.

Engineering, the major most likely to shoot a graduate towards the upper-middle class before their 30th birthday, is holding steady in terms of the proportion of students it attracts.

Despite the possibility of making money off your own app, or launching the next Facebook or Snapchat, computer science majors have actually declined since 1986.

Meanwhile psychology majors increased, and the biggest growth since the 60’s, according to the chart, is in students seeking degrees in business and life sciences. English and literature majors are nothing close to the large proportion of undergraduates they were 30 years ago, and students studying education has declined as well.

The popularity of humanities peaked in the 1970’s, dropped in the 80’s, and although they rebounded in the 90’s, they never returned to their glory days.

Surveys of employers show hiring managers are looking at more than just what someone’s major in college was; they want applicants who are well-rounded with skills in both the liberal arts and from what they could pick up in STEM classes.

Visit the website link to view the charts showing how the popularity of majors like education and business have shifted:

SOURCE:
The Huffington Post, By Tyler Kingkade, 11/04/2013
15 High-Paying Jobs For People Who Don't Like Stress

Want a high-paying job in a low-stress environment?

We reached out to Laurence Shatkin, Ph.D., a career information expert, to find out which jobs fit the bill. Shatkin compared average salaries and stress levels of the 747 occupations identified by the U.S. Department of Labor to identify jobs with that perfect combination of high pay and low stress.

The stress tolerance for each job is a rating on a scale from zero to 100, where a lower rating signals less stress. It measures how frequently workers must accept criticism and deal effectively with high stress on the job. The data was gathered from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Occupational Information Network (O*NET).

Note for each of the following occupations: Stress tolerance is measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Occupational Information Network, with lower scores indicating less stress on the job.

1. **Dental Hygienists**
   - **Stress tolerance:** 71.3
   - **Average annual salary:** $70,210
   - **What they do:** Dental hygienists clean teeth, examine patients for oral diseases such as gingivitis, and provide other preventative dental care.
   - **Education requirements:** An associate's degree in dental hygiene and a license in the state they practice in.

2. **Engineers**
   - **Stress tolerance:** 69.5
   - **Average salary annually:** $92,030
   - **What they do:** Engineers use science and mathematics to come up with economical solutions to technical problems.
   - **Education requirements:** Bachelor's degree

3. **Technical Writers**
   - **Stress tolerance:** 69.3
   - **Average annual salary:** $65,500
   - **What they do:** Technical writers produce instruction manuals and other supporting documents to communicate complex and technical information more easily.
   - **Education requirements:** Bachelor's degree

4. **Urban and Regional Planners**
   - **Stress tolerance:** 69
   - **Average annual salary:** $65,230
   - **What they do:** Urban and regional planners develop plans and programs for the use of land.
   - **Education requirements:** Bachelor's and master's degrees
5. **Art Directors**  
*Stress tolerance: 69*  
*Average annual salary: $80,880*  
*What they do:* Art directors are responsible for the visual style and images in magazines, newspapers, product packaging, and movie and television productions.  
*Education requirements:* Bachelor's degree or previous work experience

6. **Audiologists**  
*Stress tolerance: 67.5*  
*Average annual salary: $69,720*  
*What they do:* Audiologists diagnose and treat a patient’s hearing and balance problems using advanced technology and procedures.  
*Education requirements:* A doctoral degree and must be licensed in practicing state.

7. **Orthodontists**  
*Stress tolerance: 67*  
*Average salary annually: $186,320*  
*What they do:* Examine, diagnose, and treat dental malocclusions and oral cavity anomalies. Design and fabricate appliances to realign teeth and jaws to produce and maintain normal function and to improve appearance.  
*Education requirements:* Bachelor's degree, four-year dental school, and one to two years of residency training

8. **Optometrists**  
*Stress tolerance: 65.5*  
*Average annual salary: $97,820*  
*What they do:* Optometrists perform eye exams to check for vision problems and diseases. They prescribe eyeglasses or contact lenses as needed.  
*Education requirements:* Bachelor’s, four-year Doctor of Optometry program, and a state license

9. **Computer and Information Systems Managers**  
*Stress tolerance: 64.3*  
*Average annual salary: $120,950*  
*What they do:* These workers help determine the information technology goals of an organization and are responsible for implementing the appropriate computer systems to meet those goals.  
*Education requirements:* Bachelor’s degree

10. **Actuaries**  
*Stress tolerance: 63.8*  
*Average annual salary: $93,680*  
*What they do:* Actuaries analyze the financial costs of risk and uncertainty.  
*Education requirements:* Bachelor’s degree and a series of exams to become certified

11. **Economists**  
*Stress tolerance: 63.3*  
*Average annual salary: $91,860*  
*What they do:* Economists study the production and distribution of resources,
goods, and services.

Education requirements: Bachelor's degree

12. Law teachers

Stress tolerance: 62.8
Average annual salary: $99,950

What they do: Teach courses in law.

Education requirements: Bachelor's degree, followed by master's or Ph.D in political science, public administration, or a related field.

13. Astronomers

Stress tolerance: 62
Average annual salary: $96,460

What they do: Observe, research, and interpret astronomical phenomena to increase basic knowledge or apply such information to practical problems.

Education requirements: Bachelor's degree, but most astronomers go on to get a master's and Ph.D.

14. Political Scientists

Stress tolerance: 60.1
Average annual salary: $102,000

What they do: Political scientists study the origin, development, and analyze the structure and operation of political systems and trends.

Education requirements: Bachelor's degree, followed by master's or Ph.D.

15. Mathematicians

Stress tolerance: 57.3
Average annual salary: $101,360

What they do: Conduct research in fundamental mathematics or in application of mathematical techniques to science, management, and other fields. Solve problems in various fields using mathematical methods.

Education requirements: Bachelor's or masters degree for those who want to work in government, and a doctorate may be required to work for private companies.

By Vivian Giang, Nov. 6, 2013

20 Incredible Dream Jobs That Really Do Exist

Is your job a little...dull? Even if you like your boss and have a reasonable schedule, that doesn’t mean that’s all there is to your professional life. In fact, some individuals have the pleasure of showing up to work in the morning to taste ice cream, drive luxury vehicles, and even babysit private islands. Check out our list of 20 incredible dream jobs that really do exist, and you may feel motivated to change up your career.

1. Video Game Tester:
   If you don’t personally spend hours and
hours playing video games every weekend and evening, you probably have a boyfriend, brother, best friend or roommate who does. If they’re not as ambitious about work or school, you may want to direct them to this Indeed page which currently lists pages of results for the job “video game tester,” including some positions in the $100,000 and up salary range.

2. **Professional Traveler:**
   What if your job description was to go on vacation? TheBigTrip.com was looking for candidates to be a travel correspondent, earning $50,000 in salary and all travel expenses paid, plus health insurance. The lucky employee gets to travel the U.S. for 12 weeks while writing a travel blog and hosting webisodes for the site. Unfortunately the site closed applications in November 2009.

3. **Supermodel:**
   Working your way up to becoming a supermodel can be physically and mentally challenging, and even damaging. Models work crazy hours, often diet to extremes, can be faced with sexual harassment, and face cruel rejection and criticism from designers, casting agents and modeling agencies that ridicule their weight or appearance. But if you’ve made it to the top, you can make tens of thousands of dollars a day for shoots, appearances and special events, and get paid to travel for reasons other than photo shoots. Supermodel Coco Rocha has her own blog on which she shares her experiences working as a TV correspondent, spokesperson for healthy modeling standards, and goofing off with friends.

4. **Chocolate Taster:**
   For dessert and chocolate lovers, getting to indulge in the super sweet treat every day is a dream job. Chocolate tastiers can work in-house for chocolate makers or at supermarkets and other shops to test their stock and conduct market research.

5. **Sex columnist or sex blogger:**
   Sex columnists have been around for a long time, but Sex and the City’s Carrie Bradshaw turned it into a dream job. While real-life sex writers probably can’t afford Manolo Blahniks on their salary, the opportunity to write about your and your friends’ sex lives can be pretty liberating and even therapeutic. It affords you a great opening line, and many sex columnists these days are actually bloggers, which means you may be able to work right from bed.

6. **Paradise island caretaker:**
   Escaping to a paradise island is a dream vacation for some, and an actual dream career for others. USA Today highlights a job that paid a man $120,000 for six...
months’ of work as a caretaker and "unofficial ambassador of a tropical Australian island." Over 35,000 people applied to blog about their experiences on the island.

7. **Beer taster:**
   Drinking beer is usually associated with after-hours revelry and relaxation, but for some lucky individuals, it’s a full-time job. In an article in the Daily Mail, England’s only female beer taster explains that she gets to taste 36 beers a day sometimes.

8. **Movie critic:**
   If you love watching movies, then getting a job as a movie critic could be a dream job. You can sit quietly in the dark, watch all the movies you want for free, and sometimes even score free snacks. To be a respected critic, you’ll have to have some sort of education in film history and movie-making, as well as writing, but you’ll also have to have watched tons of movies.

9. **Water Slide Tester:**
   This job could be the ultimate career choice for adults who never grew up. The official title for water slide tester is the "cool pool tester," at least for this position with Choice Holidays resorts, which pays their employee to test speed, landing and other standards at pools around the world.

10. **Car Test Driver:**
    RetirementJobs.com lists BMW Test Driver as a dream job for its readers, but any car fanatic or adventuresome spirit would probably love racing around in a brand new BMW (or other luxury car company with the same position). You’ll have to drive in the city, in suburbia, and of course, on the highway.

11. **Condom tester:**
    This next job trumps sex columnist, unless you’re looking for a stable salary. This gig pays in a pack of free condoms and the opportunity to be chosen in a drawing for a $1,000 bonus prize. The "job" was only open to Australians.

12. **Medical marijuana dispensary reviewer:**
    Not many jobs in the U.S. require you to really know your pot. But in Colorado and other states, some marijuana experts are needed to check the quality of medical marijuana dispensaries — not officially reviewing the pot, but the services. You’ll have to have a certificate that proves you need the drug for medical reasons.

13. **Luxury bed tester:**
    Some people might consider a gig as a sleep study subject a dream job, but being hooked up to all those machines would make it hard to relax. A better choice would be a luxury bed tester. This job paid $1,600 to a college student to try out luxury beds for a month, though she did have to participate in a sleep study as well.
14. **All expenses paid wine tester and blogger:**
What’s better than being a regular old wine tester? An all expenses paid wine tester. Oddee.com shares the story of Hardy Wallace, a social media ambassador for the Murphy-Goode Winery. Wallace got paid $10,000 a month for six months, plus rent.

15. **Food critic:**
There are some downsides to being a food critic: restaurant owners either love you or hate you; you have to work extra hard to keep your figure; and you probably end up critiquing every single thing you ever eat. But there are lots of reasons this job is a dream career, too. You can eat for free, eat at extremely expensive, exclusive and exotic restaurants that you’d otherwise never get into, and often be the first to try a new dish or restaurant.

16. **Personal stylist and shopper:**
Successful personal stylists get paid lucrative salaries to shop for clients, sometimes even high profile celebrities or local personalities. If you love shopping and staying on top of fashion trends, this could be a dream job. In order to make it to the top, however, you’ll have to be able to put aside your own tastes for the sake of the client’s lifestyle, figure and wishes.

17. **Ice Cream Taster:**
Besides chocolate, what other dessert would you love to taste for a living? Ice cream is one of the more popular snacks in America, and it comes in all kinds of flavors which means ice cream testers are very busy at work. Official Dreyer taster John Harrison explains that he samples every single flavor the company makes.

18. **Gadget reviewer:**
Gadget geeks love trying out and even deconstructing new toys as soon as they’re released onto the market, but what if you could fiddle around with them before they’re released to the public? In-house gadget testers and gadget reviewers at media outlets are paid to play for their professional opinion.

19. **Music Critic:**
Besides getting sent free CDs to review, music critics — at least those who work for more mainstream publications or widely read blogs — music critics get backstage access and free concert tickets, often getting the opportunity to interview high profile musicians and performers, too.

20. **Casino or Club Host:**
If you’re into the glamorous, glittery world of casinos and exclusive clubbing, consider being a host for high-profile clients. Depending on your exact job description and the company you work for, the job can
sometimes get a little slimy, but if you stick to your morals, you can have a lot of fun wining and dining your guests at luxurious hotels and restaurants.


10 Jobs That Didn't Exist 10 Years Ago

Employment trend watchers have been pinpointing the sectors where jobs are anticipated to increase forever—every five years the BLS projects its own outlook and sites like our list what’s become old news: that careers in a handful of sectors (most linked to technology, a growing concern about the environment and an aging population) are on the rise while others continue to falter. But are they new occupations or simply new ways of meeting existing needs?

“I don’t believe that new needs have been created,” says Charles Purdy, senior editor for Monster.com. “We’ve just created new ways and adopted new technologies to get them done.”

Still, each year as twenty-somethings leave college campuses in droves, industries on the rise offer something uniquely appealing: the opportunity to seize brand new positions where competition hasn’t reached critical mass. With that in mind, we scoured jobs data and career sites for the most promising positions in on-the-rise sectors that were only created in the past decade. They’re so new that they didn’t even exist a decade ago, which more than puts your parents out of the running.

1. **App Developer** The iPhone was introduced in 2007, the Android shortly after. Since then, more than a million apps have been put up for sale in Apples App Store and Android’s Google Play. Consider this: in 2011, Apple pulled in more than $15 billion in revenues from mobile applications, which shrink programs that used to run only on desktop computers to make them work on mobile devices.

As demand surges for apps to run on iOS, Android and whatever operating system is waiting in the wings, companies are faced with a dearth of talent with the skills to develop for mobile. This means fresh opportunity for programmers and developers to break into a booming market. Currently more than 16,000 listings for mobile app developers are listed on job site indeed.com.
2. **Market Research Data Miner**

As customer information becomes more and more vital to the retail experience, businesses are compiling data in droves—and hiring experts to make sense of it. From different datasets including structured (transaction), semi-structured (user behavior) and unstructured (text) information, data analysts and scientists look for behavioral patterns to help retailers and businesses predict future trends or to build recommendation engines or personalized advertising.

“Library science is a really hot degree right now,” says Purdy, “And data-mining could be one of the reasons. It’s a helpful knowledge set for someone hoping to manage large amounts of data.” Hopeful data-minded candidates can include library science majors, researchers, engineers or applied scientists.

3. **Educational or Admissions Consultants**

When a certain set of affluent parents watch their toddler stack his or her first set of blocks, they’re not lost in a moment of cute, they’re strategizing their child’s likeliness of getting into the right preschool. These moms and dads will stop at nothing to secure the best education for their kids—which for many includes hiring an educational or admissions consultant to help ease the process of interviewing and testing into schools from preschool to college. Admissions consultants can be paid thousands of dollars for their skills—which often include personal connections with school administrators.

4. **Millennial Generational Expert**

Generational consultants help companies better understand the changing workforce—and who better to explain the Millennials than a living, breathing member of Generation Y? Companies in every sector and of every size face the challenge of recruiting and developing young professionals to prepare them to be future executives. Companies can build loyalty in their workforce by engaging in practices that connect directly with their younger employees. All-hands happy hour, anyone?

But this isn’t a role that’s strictly for the young ones. Many generational experts are older employees, who’ve turned their experience with young people into an ability to advise companies on how best to engage, motivate and, yes, placate this often fickle workforce.
5. **Social Media Manager**

Making the most of online communities—what we generally call “social” networks—has become an integral part of businesses from small-town coffee shops to behemoths like Amazon and Microsoft, which both employ social media managers in their marketing and advertising departments. “There has been a great big shift in how companies communicate with their customers,” Purdy says. On job site indeed, for example, there are currently over 11,000 listings for the title. But the term “social media managers” really covers all manner of tasks—from the social-savvy recent grad who mans the Twitter feed to the new wave of marketing strategists who help companies to leverage their social audiences through targeted marketing.

But don’t be fooled that your 10,000 Twitter friends are going to land you a job. “Young people may be more technologically savvy than their older colleagues,” says Purdy, “But technology in the workplace is evolving so quickly that a person can’t think that just because they’re great at Twitter will make them a desirable commodity long-term.”

6. **Chief Listening Officer**

One step up from a “social media manager,” (more on that later) the Chief Listening Officer keeps her ears (and eyes) on social channels and real life conversations to keep the company up to speed on what their customers are saying. “Before social media, business was a one way channel of communication. The company talked, we listened,” Purdy says. “Now we’ve become accustomed to two-way conversations. We expect them to listen, and so we see these kinds of roles.”

Beth LaPierre became the first ever Chief Listening Officer in 2010, and while she’s since moved on to other gigs, she spent her time monitoring the more than 300,000 mentions of Kodak on Facebook, Twitter, message forums, YouTube, blogs, and elsewhere on the Web each day, using software from Radian6 and PeopleBrowsr. Then she moved that information to the relevant department. As more and more companies rely on social streams and online exchanges for customer service reasons, the role of the listener will only increase.

7. **Cloud Computing Services**

In August 2006 Google’s Eric Schmidt described the company’s approach to software as a service as “cloud computing” at a search engine conference, possibly the first high profile usage of the term. Because
it was used in the context of describing Google properties (Gmail, etc. etc.), it became synonymous with online storage and sharing of data. These days, the term has adopted by everyone from Microsoft to start-ups that help moms access coupons in the check-out line. Companies are looking for database managers, engineers and strategists for storing and indexing massive amounts of data—we’re talking petabytes (one quadrillion bytes) of information.

8. Elder Care

As the population ages and baby boomers become grandparents, an increasing amount of attention is being turned to the care of the elderly. Between legal concerns, staffing at residential facilities or consultants hired to facilitate end-of-life issues, jobs in this area are expected to increase. People who have an understanding of the increasingly complex healthcare system in addition to an interest in comfort care are well suited for these roles. Communication skills are also paramount—as elder care service providers are often tasked with communicating end-of-life issues to their client and his or her family members.

9. Sustainability Expert

“There are obviously some very concrete reasons that companies—even those who aren’t in the green or alternative energy space—would be interested in sustainable practices,” says Purdy. Oftentimes hiring someone into an environmentally-conscious role could be a cost-savings issue, he says, both in terms of lowering power bills or to take advantage of increasing tax rebates for companies committing to sustainability.

A degree in environmental science or business management major would prove useful in these new “green” roles as they often require developing new workflows to increase productivity while lowering the carbon footprint of a business, but specific environmental leadership majors are on the rise. Projects can include: recycling and waste reduction, supplier sustainability evaluation. Purdy thinks Millennials are a shoe-in: “Look at the next gen of managers and leaders,” he says. “These young people grew up in a culture that valued recycling, valued being green. They’re far more driven by those concerns because they’ve been hearing about it since they were babies. I think we’ll continue to see growth in this area for young employees.”

10. User Experience Design

What is user experience design? Quite simply, experiences created and shaped through technology and how to make them happen. Case in point: the experience of waking up to an alarm clock is very different from the experience created by the rising sun and chirping birds. A user experience
designer’s concern is how to mimic the birds-sun experience through technology (see the variety of alarm clocks on the market that grow louder and brighter to wake you gently). Would-be designers should be fluent in Photoshop, understand programming languages like CSS and HTML and feel comfortable taking an idea from sketch to prototype. As far as demand goes, things are looking bright: a recent indeed.com search returned 168,219 job listings.

SOURCE: http://www.forbes.com/sites/meghancasserly/2012/05/11/10-jobs-that-didnt-exist-10-years-ago/

Top 10 Job Titles That Didn’t Exist 5 Years Ago

Would you say the state of the workforce has changed greatly since 2008? According to LinkedIn it has. The professional social network explored today’s leading job titles and sought out which didn’t exist just five years ago in 2008. With positions like iOS developer, Zumba instructor, and big data architect leading the pack, it’s easy to see that the technology and fitness worlds have seen big changes in just the last half decade. Below check out LinkedIn’s list of the top 10 job titles that didn’t exist five years ago.

1. **iOS Developer**
   After Apple announced the iPhone in 2007, third party development for iOS apps skyrocketed, especially after iOS 2 and the App Store were launched. In 2013 12,634 people listed the title iOS developer on their LinkedIn profiles, compared to just 89 five years ago – that’s a 142 times growth!

2. **Android Developer**
   Just as Apple announced iOS in 2007, Google announced the Android OS in 2007 and released its first handset in 2008. Since then android developer has become a prevalent job title, with over 10,000 LinkedIn users listing the title in 2013 compared to just 53 in 2008. That’s almost 200 times growth over the past five years.

3. **Zumba Instructor**
   Though Zumba started in the early 2000’s, it wasn’t until 2007 that Zumba fitness centers started popping up all over the States. Compared to just 16 LinkedIn users listing themselves as Zumba instructors in 2008, in 2013 over 6,000 users called themselves Zumba instructors.

4. **Social Media Intern**
   Back in the day companies hired general
marketing interns to assist in daily marketing tasks. Since the early 2000's, though, the popularity of social networks like Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and Pinterest has launched a whole new game called social media marketing. And who better to help a company with social media marketing than the generation who grew up with social media themselves? And so the social media intern was born.

5. **Data Scientist**
As we produce increasingly more data, companies want to make sure someone is charged with making sense of it all. This is where data scientists come in, and why the position has grown 30 times over the past five years!

6. **UI/UX Designer**
Anyone who started using the internet when it was first gaining steam might remember using websites that weren’t very appealing to look at or, even worse, interact with. But as the internet matured so too did digital design conscious. Today a whole fleet of designers, called user interface and user experience designers, dedicate their lives to making websites, gadgets, apps and more intuitive to use.

7. **Big Data Architect**
The internet and now smartphones allow us to be connected 24/7, and that means we constantly produce data. Household and other objects, cars and more are also becoming connected through the internet of things. More data is being produced today than ever before, leading to a new type of scientists who can interpret the big data and distinguish trends as they're happening. Although the idea of big data has existed for at least 20 years, it wasn't until 2008 that the term big data architect really took off. The field has seen over 3,000 times growth in the past five years.

8. **Beachbody Coach**
You read that right – the beachbody coach distributes the products of Beachbody LLC, including P90X. Though in 2008 it wasn't apparent on LinkedIn that Beachbody coaches existed, in 2013 some 3,000 users listed themselves as such.

9. **Cloud Services Specialist**
Salesforce and Amazon both launched cloud services in the early 2000's. Since then the technology has grown to accommodate more information and become much more reliable, and many more companies offer cloud computing services. Likewise, jobs listed as cloud service specialists have grown from 195 on LinkedIn in 2008 to 3,314 users on LinkedIn in 2013.

10. **Digital Marketing Specialist**
Along with the growth of the internet and social media comes the increase in need for digital marketing specialists. These professionals help companies navigate the constantly changing waters of the Web.
INFOGRAPHIC: Top 10 Job Titles That Didn’t Exist 5 Years Ago
http://talent.linkedin.com/blog/index.php/2014/01/top-10-job-titles-that-didnt-exist-5-years-ago-infographic

8 New Jobs People Will Have In 2025

New technologies will change the kinds of jobs people have in the coming years. Don’t be surprised if one day you’ve taken on the position of microbial balancer, corporate disorganizer, or urban shepherd.

New technology will eradicate some jobs, change others, and create whole new categories of employment. Innovation causes a churn in the job market, and this time around the churn is particularly large—from cheap sensors (creating "an Internet of things") to 3-D printing (enabling more distributed manufacturing).

Sparks & Honey, a New York trend-spotting firm, has a wall in its office where staff can post imaginative next-generation jobs. Below are eight of them, with narration from CEO Terry Young (who previously appeared here talking about health care).

1. **DIGITAL DEATH MANAGER**
   "Life-logging" will be a way of life, affecting how we record and remember what we do. Young sees a role for someone who can take the mass of life-logged material, and make stories out of it. That could be useful during our lives (for personal-brand purposes) but also in death. "Today, it happens only with important people. Andy Warhol has a foundation, and so on. We’re imagining this is going to ladder down to other people who want to shape what their legacy means," Young says.

2. **UN-SCHOOLING COUNSELOR**
   The concept of education as a four-year box-ticking exercise will be over. The future will be more diverse. People will plug in a year of education here and there, a month now and again, and un-schooling counselors will guide them the whole way. "We’re seeing the evolution of the traditional counselor to someone who can hack your life together so it’s unique," he says.

3. **ARMCHAIR EXPLORER**
   Machines will be connected, producing tons of data about their performance and surroundings. Communications technology that has been expensive in the past (like satellites) will be widely accessible. This will create opportunities for "armchair explorers" who will travel the world, checking on systems, buildings, and hard-to-reach places. We’ll need people to break through the fog, and give us a clear picture.
4. **3-D PRINTING HANDYMAN**
Today when your handyman fixes something, he usually has to order a spare part from China. One day, he might print it right in your yard. Say you need to replace the pipe under your sink. Why wait for the whole thing to come in from out of the country, when it can be done there and then? We already have 3-D printed shower heads, after all.

5. **MICROBIAL BALANCER**
From the gut to your mouth, the microbial world is a big focus of current research. Young sees a job for a "microbial balancer" who can keep you aligned with your bacteria: "They will understand how to read your genome, your gut, and your mouth bacteria and get you better balanced at a house, school, or individual level. They're the equivalent of the Feng Shui person who sets up your apartment."

6. **CORPORATE DISORGANIZER**
Big companies want to be more like startups, seeing innovation as vital to future profits. Young says they'll want "corporate disorganizers" who can introduce a little "organized chaos." Young says: "The disruptor will be tapping into the new systems of the collaborative economy, creating greater fragmentation and a more distributed ecosystem."

7. **DIGITAL DETOX SPECIALIST**
The digital "overload" will become even more overwhelming. That will open the way for people who can help lead less data-centric lives, or at least find a better balance. In some cases, they will even organize digital rehabs. It's going to get that bad (actually, it already is).

8. **THE URBAN SHEPHERD**
With cities getting greener, we'll need "urban shepherds" to look after the new infrastructure. "You need someone who is going to take care of the urban beehives, who's going to make sure your composting is set up correctly, and who is going to know how to curate all the vertical gardens," Young says.

By Ben Schiller, August 15, 2013
Tools to Help You Research College Majors, Job Titles and Occupational Environments

Listed below are just a few of the Site Licensed programs available through the Career Planning Center to help you explore majors and careers, salary estimates, workplace environments, necessary job skills and what the day-to-day work entails of various job titles:

- Career Cruising
- Choices Explorer and Choices Planner
- Chronicle Career Library
- EUREKA
- Facts on File
- Focus 2
- Vocational Biographies

Go online to our Site Licensed Career Programs page or visit us at the Career Planning Center

http://www.cypresscollege.edu/services/cpc/siteLicensed.aspx