

MATHEMATICS

- *WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MATHEMATICS MAJOR?
- *WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE MYSELF MORE MARKETABLE?
- *WHERE CAN I FIND CAREER INFORMATION?

• CAREER PLANNING • SUNY POTSDAM • 206 SISSON
Web Site: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career TEL: 315-267-2344

WHAT MATHEMATICS MAJORS DO TODAY?

1. Examine problems to determine how mathematics may be used to provide solutions.
2. Construct mathematical models of abstract or physical structures.
3. Identify relevant features of problems in the engineering system.
4. Design surveys and studies by deciding what kinds of data must be collected, how it should be collected, the size of the sample and the method of analysis.

EXAMPLES OF FIELDS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR MATHEMATICS MAJORS:

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|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Government | 8. Banks or Investment Firms |
| 2. Industry/Business | 9. Academia |
| 3. Engineering Firms | 10. Communications |
| 4. Technical Journals | 11. Petroleum Products |
| 5. Actuarial | 12. Computer Companies |
| 6. Utility Companies | 14. Aerospace |
| 7. Insurance/Actuarial Agencies | |

SAMPLE JOB TITLES OF SUNY POTSDAM MATH ALUMNI:

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * Senior Executive Consultant | * Estimator |
| * Rating Technician | * Community Development Coordinator |
| * Financial Manager | * Agriculture Statistician |
| * Systems & Procedure Analyst | * Consultant |
| * Computer Coordinator | * Teacher |
| * Associate Biostatistician | * Instrumental & Control Technician |

SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTIONS:

1. Statistician: designs experiments and studies, collects and analyzes data and interprets findings in order to solve business, economic, social, political and scientific problems.
2. Financial Analyst: develops mathematical models, lists components of the situation and how they relate to the problem. Defines problems in mathematical terms using variables and equations. Develops formulas to characterize regularities in data and writes reports.
3. Actuary: specializes in life, health, or property and casualty insurance. Estimates how much an insurance company will have to pay out in claims, answers questions about future risk, makes pricing decisions, and develops investment strategies.
4. Executive Accountant: works in advertising agencies. Plans and manages advertising campaigns for clients consisting of businesses and organizations. Determine clients' advertising needs, budget limits, and media preferences. Plan and manage market research studies.

ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY:

1. Get involved in the career development process early, *freshman year*.
2. Select minors/elective courses that will demonstrate interest/applicability to your career objective.
3. Get career related experience: internships, summer and/or part-time employment, volunteer. Join a career related association or organization.
4. Develop the following job search and self-marketing skills: resume and cover letter writing, create a portfolio and self-marketing brochure, researching employers, interviewing, networking, and employment searching.
5. Skills to develop: problem solving, researching, mathematical reasoning, teamwork, written and oral communications and precise thinking. Optional skills: processing data, computer programming, finance/economics.

SAMPLE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES:

- * HSBC
 - Ten-week summer internship program.
 - Comprehensive induction will give you a broad understanding of how they operate.
 - You spend nine weeks working fully aligned to one of their business teams, working on a variety of projects and making a real contribution.
 - Preferred formal training, plus a busy calendar of business briefings, workshops and social events.
 - Opportunity to network with people (other interns, graduate trainees and senior business managers) across the business.
- * State Farm Insurance Companies-Pennsylvania Region
 - Markets insurance products.
 - Opportunities in accounting, underwriting, claims, and personnel departments.
 - Receive intensive orientation to insurance industry and State Farm Insurance.

PREPARING FOR THE JOB SEARCH MARKET

- * Write an employer targeted resume and cover letter
- * Learn job search strategies
- * Borrow resources from the SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning Library
- * Develop networking cards
- * Network w/employers at Career/Job Fairs
- * Prepare for an interview
- * Design a portfolio and self-marketing brochure
- * Visit SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning Web Site at: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career
- * Seek advice from faculty

SOME EMPLOYERS OF SUNY POTSDAM MATH ALUMNI:

- * The Executive Insight Group
- * ITT Hartford
- * U.S. West
- * IBM
- * Allstate Insurance Company
- * School Districts
- * Tioga County Data Processing
- * Stratus Computer, Inc.
- * Cooperative Solutions
- * Electronic Data Systems
- * Strategic Resources, Inc.
- * Kodak
- * Hewlett Packard Company

WHERE TO GET INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE:

1. MATHEMATICS DEPT., SUNY Potsdam, 124 MacVicar Hall

- * Talk with Faculty
- * Talk with Students
- * Talk with Alumni

2. CAREER PLANNING OFFICE, SUNY Potsdam, 206 Sisson Hall

- * Individual Career Assistance
- * Workshops/Seminars
- * Employer Literature
- * Career Assessment Programs
- * Career and Job Fairs
- * Networking Assistance
- * Alumni Mentor
- * Job Vacancies
- * Summer Jobs
- * Reference file
- * Career Planning Web Site
- * Career Library
- * A Major Affair
- * Free Handouts Available

WHAT IF I WANT TO GO TO GRADUATE SCHOOL?

RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:

- * On-Campus Graduate School Fair
- * Graduate School handout
- * GRE, GMAT, MCAT, LSAT and MAT forms and bulletins (GRE computerized tests and graduate study books)
- * Graduate books - listings of schools and programs
- * Financial aid information about graduate school
- * Peterson's Graduate Programs (G7F, G, H, I, J, K)
- * Web Site: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/graduate

RESOURCES FOR FINDING EMPLOYERS:

RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE (call's):

- * Career Guide Opportunity Directory (R8GG)
- * Dun's Regional Directories (R8I, R8J, R8K)
- * Summer Jobs Worldwide (S2A)
- * Job Hunter's Sourcebook (R26D)
- * 101 Careers in Mathematics (C29B)
- * Hoover's Profiles of Over 500 Major Corporations (R8H)
- * Directory of Public School Systems in the U.S. (R12A)
- * Federal Jobs for College Graduates (R16A)
- * SUNY Potsdam Mathematics Alumni & Their Careers (C29C)
- * Great Jobs for Math Majors (C29D)
- * Careers in Accounting (C29E)
- * Career Planning Job Search Internet Links: www.potsdam.edu/offices/jobsearch/index.cfm
- * Additional material found by using Career Planning Library Bibliography



OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- * American Mathematical Society
PO Box 6248
Providence, RI 02940
(401) 272-9500
www.ams.org
- * American Statistical Association
1429 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3402
(703) 648-1221
www.amstat.org
- * National Council of Teachers
of Mathematics
1906 Association Drive
Reston, VA 22091-1593
(703) 620-9840
www.nctm.org
- * Society for Industrial & Applied Mathematics
3600 University City Science Center
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2688
(215) 382-9800
www.nctm.org
- * American Academy of Actuaries
1100 17th St., NW, 7th Fl.
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 223-8196
www.actuary.org
- * Mathematical Association of America
1529 18th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036-1358
(202) 387-5200
www.maa.org
- * National Professional Science Master's
Association
100 Institute Drive
Worcester, MA 01609
www.npsma.org
(508) 831-4996
- * Be an Actuary
4350 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 250
Arlington, VA 22203
www.beanactuary.com
(703) 276-3100

