

CAREERS IN MATHEMATICS AND ACCOUNTANCY

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The London Mathematical Society



MATHEMATICS CAREERS

- 1. Production Accountant
- 2. Line Producer
- 3. Actuary
- 4. Financial analyst
- 5. Secondary school teacher
- 6. Accountant
- 7. Insurance underwriter
- 8. Banking
- 9. Stock Broker
- 10. Economist



Mathematics degrees have an excellent reputation and are very popular amongst employers because graduates are numerate and logical with good problem solving skills

WHERE TO FIND JOB ADVERTS FOR MATHEMATICS AND ACCOUNTANCY GRADUATES

- Broadsheet daily and Sunday Newspapers, particularly the Financial Times
- Large employers of mathematicians: Government departments, teaching, defence industry, science and engineering companies
- Screenskills has information regarding jobs in TV and Film Production for Production Accountants and Line Producers.

MATHEMATICS AND ACCOUNTANCY DEGREES

Subjects to study at A Level:

Entry requirements for mathematics degrees usually only emphasize an academic background in mathematics. Applicants may be required to have studied some or all of the following: further mathematics, pure mathematics, mechanics and complex numbers. Experience of studying other scientific subjects may also be welcomed, and can help provide an additional dimension to your studies. Some universities in the UK (such as Cambridge and Warwick) require students to take the Sixth Term Examination Papers (known as the STEP exam) or the Advanced Extension Award (AEA).

If you are aiming to work in Film and TV as a Production Accountant or Line Producer, A Levels in Maths combined with Film and/or Media are good choices as both roles also need a very good knowledge of the production process.

Useful websites:

- Screenskills <u>https://www.screenskills.com</u>
- London Mathematical Society <u>www.lms.ac.uk</u>
- Institute of Mathematics and its applications www.ima.org.uk
- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants <u>www.accaglobal.com</u>
- Institute for Chartered Accountants England and Wales <u>www.icaew.com</u>

There are 1807 Mathematics courses offered by 127 Providers. The top 10 Universities for Mathematics according to the Complete University Guide are:		There are 617 Accountancy and Finance courses offered by 130 providers. The top 10 Universities for Accountancy and Finance according to the Complete University Guide are:	
1.	Cambridge University	1.	Warwick University
2.	Oxford University	2.	London School of Economics
3.	Warwick University	3.	Durham University
4.	Durham University	4.	University of Leeds
5.	Imperial College London	5.	University of Bath
6.	University College London	6.	University of Strathclyde
7.	London School of Economics	7.	King's College London
8.	University of Bristol	8.	University of Exeter
9.	University of Bath	9.	Queen's University Belfast
10.	University St. Andrews	10.	University of Manchester

(check UCAS website for entry requirements for these universities: www.ucas.com)

GRADUATE PROSPECTS

According to the Complete University Guide, the average starting salary for a Mathematics graduate was £24,259, ranking 10th (the 1st place was taken by Dentistry with £30,143). They also found that 33% of Mathematics graduates went into a professional occupation and 26% continued in post-graduate education.

Salaries for Finance Graduates wanting to go into TV and Film as a Line Producer or production accountant earn varying amounts depending on the size of the production. Rate Cards can be accessed on the BECTU website http://bit.ly/3TdWkea

Internships and Work Experience

Gumtree recently completed a poll of employers with the results showing that work experience makes you 95% more employable. The good news carries on, two thirds of employers think candidates with work experience were more knowledgeable, 44% think they are more confident and 40% say they are more committed.

Useful websites for Mathematics related work placements and internships:

- 1. www.inspiringinterns.com
- 2. www.milkround.com
- 3. www.ratemyplacement.co.uk
- 4. <u>www.prospects.ac.uk</u>
- 5. https://www.screenskills.com/starting-your-career/

ALTERNATIVES TO UNIVERSITY

APPRENTICESHIPS

There are several types of apprenticeship. At any time there tends to be more vacancies at the lower levels of qualification.

Intermediate: Level 2 (equivalent to 5 GCSEs).

Advanced: Level 3 (equivalent to 2 A-levels).

Higher: Level 4 and above (equivalent to Foundation degree and higher).

Degree apprenticeship: Level 6 or Level 7 (equivalent to Bachelor's or master's degree). As well as working on the job you study for a degree. You earn from day one and your tuition fees are paid by the employer

There are a variety of apprenticeship opportunities for students wishing to work in finance. Students can use their Unifrog account to look up apprenticeships available. Alternatively, using the gov.uk website - https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

Students can access apprenticeship vacancies through their Unifrog account - go to the Apprenticeship section.

DIRECT ENTRY

Students who wish to work in TV and Film in the accountancy department do not always need to have a degree. Some production accountants have a degree in accounting but by no means all. Some get into the accounts department having worked in other roles in the industry. A good route is to start as a <u>cashier</u> and work your way up to an assistant accountant role before becoming the production accountant. See the cashier job profile for details on how to do that. You can apply to ScreenSkills' <u>Trainee Finder</u>.

At school or college:

If you want to go to university, take A-levels or Highers in accounting, business studies or maths. Or you might want to take one of the following Level 3 qualifications:

- OCR Technical Diploma/Extended Diploma in Business
- BTEC National Diploma/Extended Diploma in Business

If you want to go straight into a job as a production accountant, then BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Film and Television Production is recommended. Or you might want to take one of the following Level 3 qualifications:

- AAT Advanced Diploma in Accounting
- IAO Diploma in Accounting