

# Getting into Further Education or Higher Education



## Key responsibilities as an HE lecturer

As an HE lecturer, you'll need expertise in your subject area in order to teach students.

You'll also pursue your own research to contribute to the wider research activities of your department or institution.

Administrative tasks take up a significant part of the working day.

Many lecturers also take on a pastoral role with their students.



# What do you need to become a lecturer?

A good degree in a subject that's relevant to what you want to lecture in. You may also need a PhD

In creative industries, often professional experience is hugely valued

Many institutions ask for lecturers to have or to be working towards a teaching qualification.

Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCHE) and Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education.

Some institutions will support lecturers through doing an HE Fellowship



# Things to consider

- How much do you enjoy research?
- Are you ready to commit a year to PG study and then 3 years full time and 5-7 years part time for a PhD?
- Do you enjoy independent study away from the classroom?
- Do you prefer to work alone on a project (or with a very small team)?
- Are you happy to stay at university while your friends leave and acquire graduate jobs?
- Along side research / study skills you'll need bags of resilience and self motivation to do your work
- Make sure you are doing it for the right reasons



# It's competitive!

- Permanent contracts in HE at the start of your career are hard to find
- You need to be flexible on location and hours
- Get experience! - While doing your degree or masters ask for opportunities to assist lecturers with research or tutoring
- Technical demonstrator can be a way in
- Get involved in activities related to your field – eg. At AUB you could get involved in BEAF, Collectives, collaborate with charities or arts organisations



# Opportunities in creative academia

Within Creative Subjects most lecturers have industry experience

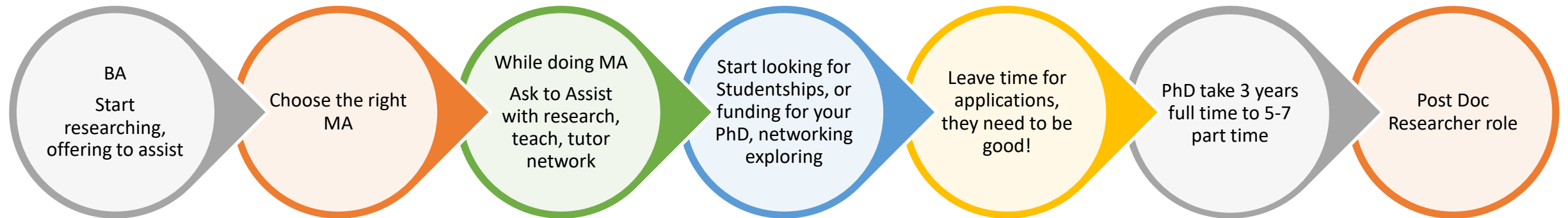
There are more traditional academic roles within Creative too – Art History, Creative Writing, Design History, Critical Theory, Contextual Study etc.

A PhD may be needed for these roles (or be working towards one)

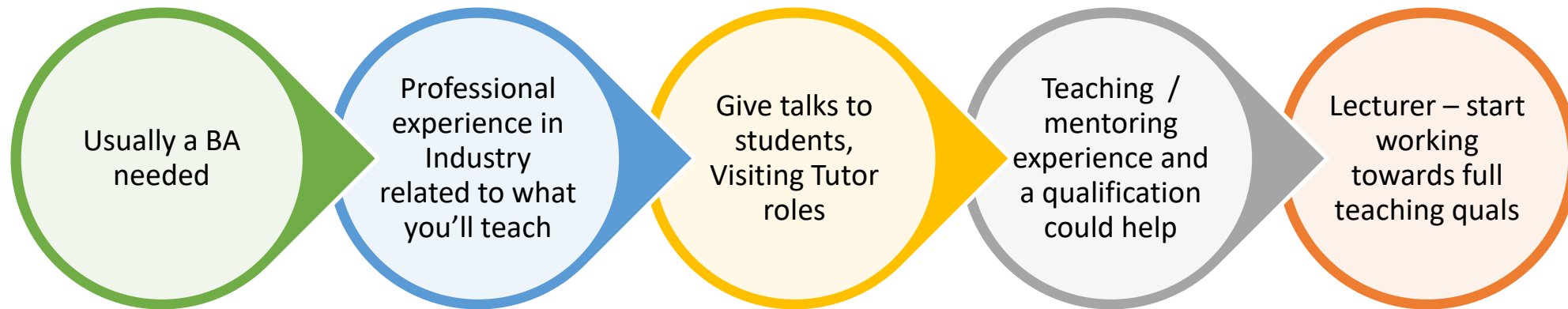
Depending on your focus you may be expected to do research and publish in academic journals and present at conferences/



# Traditional route into academia (example)



# Industry experience route (example)





## If you haven't started a Master's be strategic in your choice of course

- Choose a master's which is most likely to lead you onto a PhD in the subject area you are most interested in.
- When researching master's courses, have a look at the areas of specialism offered by the department – are there academics there working on projects in areas of interest to you?
- What are the current PhD students researching?
- Does the university offer many studentships annually?
- How highly is the quality of the research at the university in your subject area rated by the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF)?

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jobs.ac.uk

Great jobs for bright people

## **A Practical Guide to Planning an Academic or Research Career**

**An ebook explaining typical routes, funding sources and  
how to gain experience**

## If you are already on your masters and considering a PhD

- Make sure that your subject area of interest is covered by someone in the particular department of the university.
- Check University department websites for info on staff, their research interests and published work.
- You may want to look for a PhD studentship. This is a [funded](#) opportunity which is linked either to a specific research project (as in, it is only available to those PhD students working on that specific project) or one that is open to any applicants in a specified field or school
- It covers the tuition fee and gives a maintenance stipend
- Check <https://www.jobs.ac.uk/phd> for Studentships and also university websites.

\*Information taken from jobs.ac.uk

# F.E Lecturer

**Vocational training (including apprenticeships)** - preparing students for work and making sure they have up-to-date skills

**Academic teaching** - teaching a range of academic qualifications, mainly at GCSE, BETEC, A-level

**English and maths** - teaching basic skills in areas such as numeracy, literacy and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages).

You may also teach recreational courses that support personal interests, such as local history or watercolours.



# Post compulsory education

- Subjects at all levels, from entry level to A levels, to practical and vocational qualifications
- Not compulsory to have a qualification but helps! - Two routes:
- **College based qualifications** - Level 3 Award, Level 4 Certificate or Level 5 Diploma in Education and training
- **University courses** - PCET - “Post Compulsory Education and Training” specific preparation for work in FE
- PGCE tends to be very common
- Pros and cons of College led vs University led courses
- <https://www.fecareers.co.uk/>
- <https://www.aocjobs.com/>
- <https://www.fejobs.com/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the FE advice website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'FE advice' logo, contact information (Call: 0300 303 1877, feadviceline@etfoundation.co.uk), and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a main content area with a heading 'Home' and a sub-heading 'Becoming a further education teacher'. The main content area contains a search bar, a paragraph of introductory text, and a section titled 'Choose a pathway' with five numbered icons representing different user roles: 1. I want to work in the sector, 2. I already work in the sector, 3. I am a sector employer / manager, 4. I am an ITE provider, and 5. I am a school teacher. On the right side of the page, there is a purple box with the text 'The Education & Training Foundation' and 'All about excellence in teaching and learning.'

FE advice Call: 0300 303 1877 feadviceline@etfoundation.co.uk

Home | Want to work in the sector | Already work in the sector | Employer/HR/manager | School teacher | I am an ITE provider

Home

Becoming a further education teacher

Search

This is the website for information about the FE and Skills sector in England. Here you will find information about becoming a teacher, incentives for training, qualifications, the Society for Education and Training (SET), the variety of the sector and most of what you need to know as a new entrant or an existing worker.

If there is anything you do not understand and want some more information and advice, just get in touch: we are here to help – 0300 303 1877 or email [feadviceline@etfoundation.co.uk](mailto:feadviceline@etfoundation.co.uk)

This site is organised according to the enquirer type to ease your path to the most relevant information. Click below on the most appropriate icon.

Choose a pathway

- 1 I want to work in the sector
- 2 I already work in the sector
- 3 I am a sector employer / manager
- 4 I am an ITE provider
- 5 I am a school teacher

The Education & Training Foundation  
All about excellence in teaching and learning.

# Useful links

- **An Academic Career** – useful information and advice with videos of academics & researchers  
– <http://www.academiccareer.manchester.ac.uk/about/phdandbeyond/chances/>
- **Careers in Academia – careers advice and job site for HE roles**  
– <https://career-advice.jobs.ac.uk/studentship-advice/i-have-my-phd-where-do-i-go-from-here/>
- **Find and Fund a masters information**  
– [https://www.findamasters.com/?gclid=CjwKCAiAv4n9BRA9EiwA30WND\\_SDfswK3cw4M5APxOHI6yo6gBZa1mwHYWoTxjzVRZiypvwsIBmLNROcQ-cQAVD\\_BwE](https://www.findamasters.com/?gclid=CjwKCAiAv4n9BRA9EiwA30WND_SDfswK3cw4M5APxOHI6yo6gBZa1mwHYWoTxjzVRZiypvwsIBmLNROcQ-cQAVD_BwE)
- **Find and Fund a PhD** <https://www.findaphd.com/funding/guides/phd-funding-guide.aspx>



# Careers & Employability Service

- 1:1 appointments bookable via [aub.jobteaser.com](http://aub.jobteaser.com)
- CVs, Masters Applications, LinkedIn, freelancing, Mock Interviews & Career advice & guidance
- **Lunchtime webinars** – Covering letters, CVs, interviews, LinkedIn, career planning etc.
- Employer & Alumni events – including Freelancing courses for students

## AUB Advantage Career Hub

- Access to jobs, internships
  - sign up to events,
  - careers information
- [aub.jobteaser.com](http://aub.jobteaser.com) or download the app**  
**[careers@aub.ac.uk](mailto:careers@aub.ac.uk)**



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