



Job market **perspective**

Your path to finding your dream job



**Universiteit
Leiden**
Humanities

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jobperspectives.nl



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Humanities is a good start

The job market survey for Leiden University's Humanities alumni who graduated between 2016 and 2020 shows that our graduates have done well over the past years.

On average, 70% of our master's alumni found a job within two months, of which 83% at academic or Dutch hbo level* (which was 74% in 2016). They usually found their first job (50%) via their network of family, friends and lecturers. But also through social media and by building work experience during their studies via an internship or part-time job. For more than half of those alumni (59%), their first job fit their expectations.



Website/job vacancy website

Other 15%

- 4% Open application
- 3% Employment agency
- 2% Recruitment agency
- 1% Started own business
- 1% Advert in newspaper/magazine
- 4% Other

Great choice

Most students are (very) satisfied with their chosen study programme. Almost three quarters of the alumni with a bachelor's and/or master's degree (72%) would choose the same study programme at the same university again.

Good preparation pays off

You acquire many relevant skills during your studies in addition to subject knowledge, such as the ability to work independently, to communicate verbally and in writing, being able to motivate yourself, and to solve problems. Building experience through an internship, part-time job and extra-curricular activities, also contributes to finding a job. Alumni with relevant work experience are able to find a job more quickly directly after graduating (60% as opposed to 46%). Moreover, they find a job at Dutch hbo or academic level more often (85%) than alumni without this experience (81%).

Even more alumni completed an internship during their studies (44%), had a relevant part-time job (64%) or were a board member (59%).

Finding out what you want

An internship creates a better understanding of what your qualities are and what you like to do. In total, 20% of the alumni found their first job directly after their internship: 13% of all alumni were able to stay at their internship organization, and 7% found a job directly via the network they built during their internship.

'It provides many possibilities'

'I want to tell stories. I was given many opportunities to do so during my studies and my internship at Kidsweek, a weekly paper for kids. I liked the practical side of things a lot and still make grateful use of this. I would like to make a podcast at BarentsKrans for example. My degree and internship laid the foundation of my career. It provides many possibilities!'

Anne Wielenga

Degree: Bachelor's in Linguistics, Master's in Journalism and New Media
Job title: Communications officer at BarentsKrans



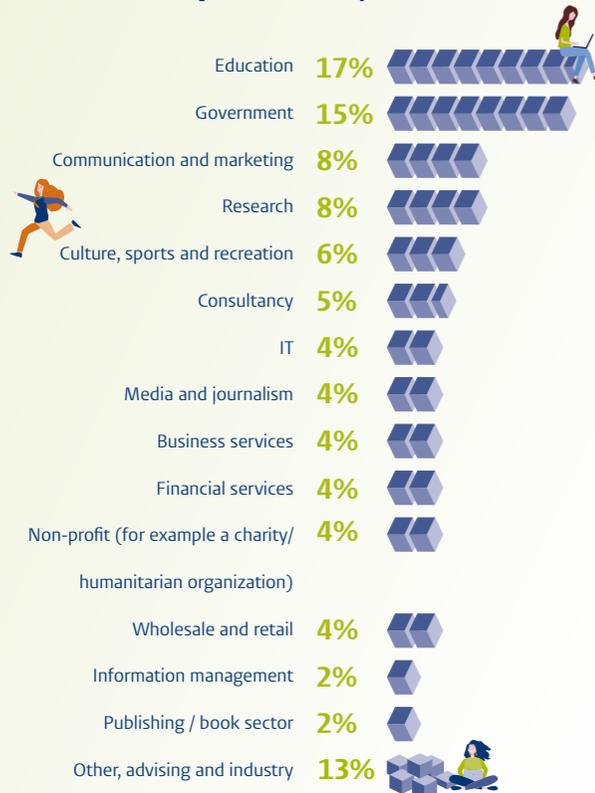
Skills that distinguish our alumni



At work

You've graduated! So where do you end up working? Most of the bachelor's alumni don't enter the labour market yet. 68% enrol in a master's programme first. When you've completed your master's degree, chances are that you will find work at the government or in the semi-public sector, education, research or marketing and communication.

Sector: your first job



41% of the master alumni work in the profit sector, 55% in the non-profit sector and 4% have their own company or work as a freelancer.

The numbers differ for bachelor's alumni: 72% work in the profit sector, 21% in the non-profit sector. Also 4% of the bachelor's alumni have their own company or are self-employed.

Income security

For more than half the alumni (59%) their first job was the job they were looking for. If not, then income security was the most important reason to take the job anyway. Alumni who started a job below their desired entry level, often experienced interesting and challenging tasks in this position.

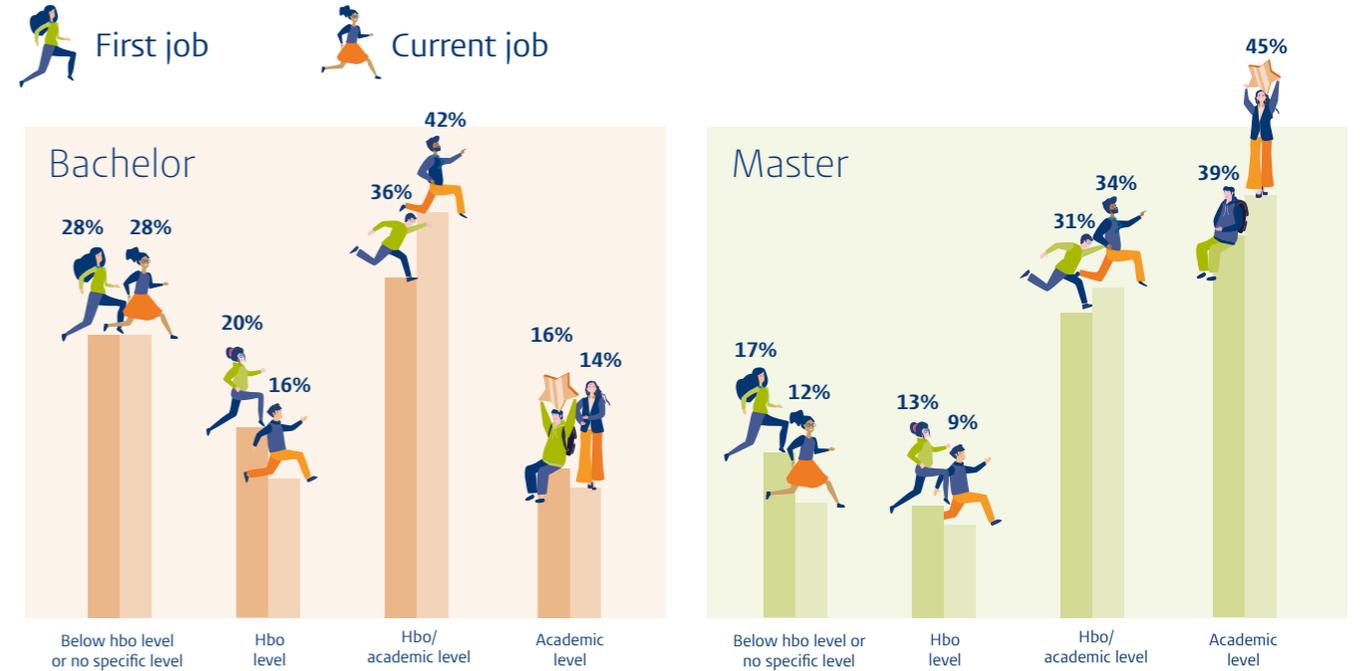
Striving for more

Do you want to continue studying after your bachelor's? It pays off. Alumni with a master's degree are able to secure a higher-levelled position more often than alumni with a bachelor's degree. The first job of 72% of the bachelor's alumni is at academic or Dutch hbo level, as opposed to 83% of the master's alumni.

After your first job

Master's alumni also find it easier to move up to a job at a higher level than bachelor's alumni. After two years of work experience 88% of the master's alumni has a job at Dutch hbo or academic level.

How job levels improve for BA and MA graduates (first and current job)



On average master's alumni have 23 months of work experience in their current job and bachelor's alumni 20 months.

Want to know what skills jaino's manager is looking for in an employee? Read the online magazine at jobperspectives.nl

'Put yourself in someone else's shoes'

'Don't consider things to be black-and-white, but look for the grey area and put yourself in someone else's shoes. This helps to get to the core of the issue. I learned this during my studies and I now use it for my job at the municipality of Rotterdam. My job and I are a good match.'

jaino Mohammedamin

Degree: Bachelor's in History, Master's in Theology and Religious Studies
Job title: Project manager and advisor undermining, Tactical Centre for Enforcement at the municipality of Rotterdam.



Main task



Going international

Many international students study at Leiden's Faculty of Humanities. Their job prospects differ slightly from Dutch alumni. It takes them a bit longer to find a job. Regardless, 58% find a job within two months and almost at the same level as Dutch alumni (70%).

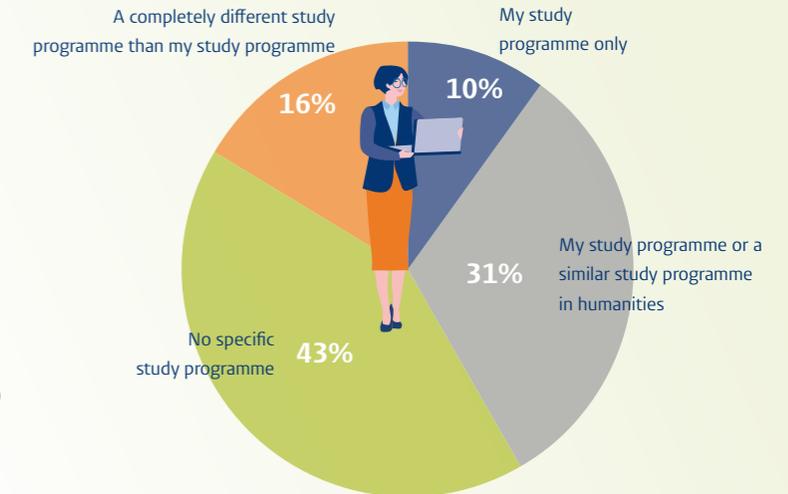
International alumni are more likely to find a job in the non-profit sector and to have a permanent contract than Dutch alumni. On average they earn the same. They say they stand out especially because of their intercultural skills and ability to form an opinion.

How much do Humanities graduates earn?

Number of years work experience and average gross salary (middle income)



Study programme requested by employer



Working abroad

11% of the Dutch alumni packed their bags to go work abroad after graduating (6% work in Europe, 3% in Asia, 1% in North America and 1% in South America). Whereas 28% of the international alumni stay to work in the Netherlands. Alumni often have jobs in which they are in contact with international business relations (45%).

The job market survey

In spring of 2020 we conducted the job market survey for Leiden University's Humanities alumni who graduated between 2016 and 2020. The survey consisted of an online questionnaire for desktop and mobile. We approached 4,843 alumni of which 1,222 completed the questionnaire (25.2%). A non-response analysis was also conducted.

'My internship helped me take my next step'

'My internship in Tanzania taught me more about the culture, language and the political situation in a foreign country. It made me understand what it's really like to work abroad. This helped me take my next step: I went to Egypt. When I started working for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) it was easier to get used to the work environment.'

Alba Medina Bermejo

Degree: Bachelor's in International Studies

Internship: Centre for Women, Children and Youth Development in Tanzania

Job title: Staff member at the Policy, Governance and Liaison Unit of the International Organization for Migration in Cairo.



Colophon

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Read Thomas's story at jobperspectives.nl

Your path to a dream job

Would you like advice on how to find a job? Do you have questions about arranging an internship? Don't hesitate to contact the Humanities Career Service. We're here to help.

Our services include:

- Individual advice on internships and career
- Information on internships
- Help with the Faculty's internship procedure
- Workshops and webinars career skills
- Personal career tests
- Employer and alumni contacts
- Job market information
- Vacancies (jobs and internships)
- CV, cover letter and LinkedIn profile check

Contact

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