What can I do with an Economics Degree?

Giles Doy, Department of Health
20th November 2014
My career

• Graduated from RHUL in 2008; joined Government Economic Service later that year
  – Largest recruiter of economists in the UK, around 1600-1800 in central government.

• Started at Department of Health, as an Assistant Economist

• Promotion to Economic Adviser in January 2013

• Economists are in demand in the civil service.
  – Ministers value the contribution of analysts – through the use of evidence and analysis.
  – Two of last three Heads of the Civil Service are economists by academic background.
Regulating GP practices

Royal Holloway Health Centre

We have not inspected this service yet

CQC have not inspected this service yet

Registered on 1 April 2013

This service was registered by CQC on 1 April 2013. New services are assessed to check they are likely to be safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led.

These assessments can include:
- site visits
- criminal record checks
- interviews with key managers
- a detailed review of how the service will be run
Bowel Cancer Screening Capacity
Comparing hospital performance

25 years old; Typical weight Non-smoker

85 years old; Heart disease Smokes 20 a day
Seasonal Flu Immunisation

CATCH IT
Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.

BIN IT
Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.

KILL IT
Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.

You wouldn’t put off picking up your medicine.
So why put off the flu jab?

IF YOU KNEW ABOUT FLU YOU’D GET THE JAB.
The flu is not a severe cold. It’s clever. It continually evolves and mutates, so this year’s virus may be different from last year’s. If you suffer from certain chronic illnesses or you are 65 or over, you are especially at risk. Contact your local GP for this year’s free flu jab.
What I’ve done with my degree

• Some of the concepts applied:
  – cost-benefit analysis,
  – market failure and government intervention,
  – regression analysis and testing

• No macroeconomics used, but other Government departments (e.g. HM Treasury) will use it heavily
What’s best to focus on for your career?

• Get the basics right; know your Micro, Macro and Quantitative Methods

• Do a dissertation

• Communication is key

• Do topics you like doing

• Take opportunities when they come.
Becoming a Government Economist

• Search for the “Government Economics Service”

• Full time graduate scheme: Assistant Economist (applications open in January)

• 12 month sandwich placement – between 2\textsuperscript{nd} & 3\textsuperscript{rd} year

• 3 month summer placement – usually between 2\textsuperscript{nd} & 3\textsuperscript{rd} year