

# A GUIDE TO BECOMING A

# UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

Being a university professor doesn't come without its challenges. However, it is a rewarding job that allows you to shape our future students and society as well as be able to learn and grow forever! The following infographic will give you all the necessary information that you'll need to decide whether this career is for you!

## What does a Professor Do?

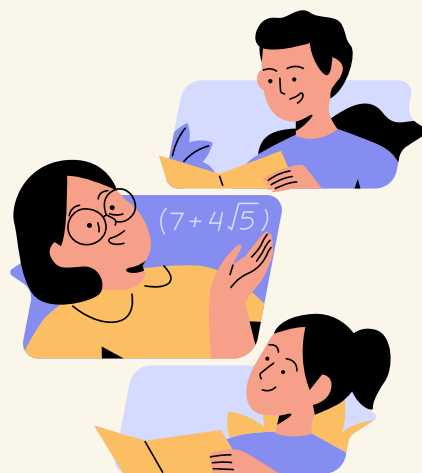
- Teach students a variety of academic and vocational subjects, based on their specialization
- Develop a curriculum for their courses and plan lessons
- Evaluate student's work and progress by grading assignments and tests/exams



- Ensure that teaching methods meet the curriculum and university standards
- Mentor and encourage teaching assistants
- Conduct and publish their own research to continue to show proficiency in their field or area of specialization



- Stay informed about any changes or new developments to their field of study and be able to revise lesson plans and materials
- Supervise graduate students doing any research



- Offer accommodations and mental health support to students
- Collaborate with colleagues, faculty staff and administrators to help with student recruitment, course design, and more

# Step-By-Step Journey

## 1 Get a Bachelors Degree

Getting a bachelor's degree in a chosen subject area is the first step to becoming a university professor. Figure out what it is that you would want to spend your whole life continuing to learn about. For example, if you have a passion for learning math, you might want to do an undergrad in a math related program.



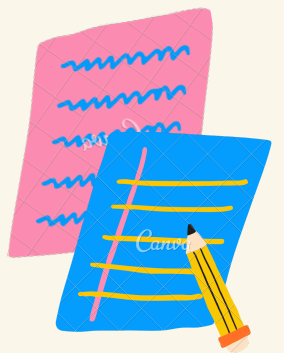
## 2 Get Work Experience as a Student

During your graduate years, participate in any assistantships that your university allows you to. This could be a research opportunity which allows you to get work experience and volunteer hours or it could be a teaching assistantship, where you help grade tests/exams and assignments. Experience is great for aspiring professors!



## 3 Get a Masters Degree

Getting a graduate degree is the next step for aspiring professors. Choose a subject area that you would like to specialize in and excel in it.



## 4 Get a Ph.D.

Getting a Ph.D. is the next step to becoming a university professor. You will need to complete coursework as well as write thesis on a topic of your choice and present your research to a committee to receive your Ph.D. Having a Ph.D. shows your expertise in a subject area.



## 5 APPLY!

After completing all the necessary educational requirements, it's time to start applying for teaching positions!



# What **Skills** Do You Need?

Being a university professor is more than just having academic qualifications and being able to teach. A great college professor is able to create a classroom that is conducive to learning, sparks curiosity, and motivates students. The following characteristics will help you determine if you are ready to be a university professor!



Excellent communication skills for lecturing students and communicating with colleagues



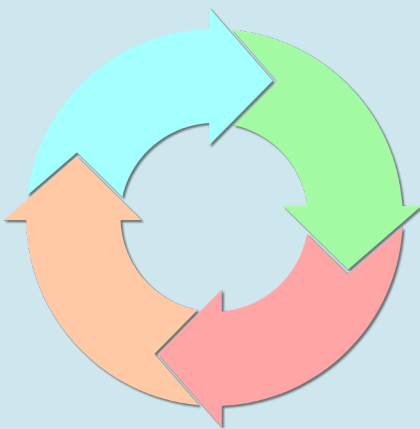
Time management skills to balance work and personal life



Excellent organizational skills



An effective teaching style that is inspiring, interesting, and enthusiastic



Being able to adapt and adjust to student's different learning styles. Being able adjust teaching methods based on changes to curriculum & technology



Exceptional writing skills for research purposes

Have the **desire** and **passion** to teach!

