

Let's Talk Business

For Ted Rogers School Students

These reports describe industry sectors and career paths of interest to Ted Rogers School students and alumni. Each report leverages BCH employment data and the expertise of our staff. This collaborative effort engages staff, students, alumni and the University Business Librarian.

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A Day in the Life of a Senior Consultant

We had a conversation with Alizeh Ali, who graduated from the Business Technology Management program in 2017.

She is currently working as a *Senior Consultant* at Deloitte.

Deloitte is among the “Big Four” professional services firms, alongside PwC, Ernst & Young, and KPMG. The company offers their clients various professional business services, including auditing, human resources consulting, tax and strategy management.



In this report, Alizeh shares a little about the work she does on a day to day basis, the platforms she uses, and some advice for those interested in learning more about this exciting and popular career path.

Q: What do you do on a ‘day-to-day’ basis in your role as a Senior Consultant for Deloitte?

A: My day looks a bit different depending on our project phase. Typically, my day consists of team stand-ups to internally align on daily objectives and identify any risks or issues. I also prepare for and facilitate client workshops to gather requirements and meet with the technical teams to fully understand the complexities of a project before working on the deliverables. Depending on the nature of the project and where in the sprint we are, I will also facilitate demos, retrospectives, and planning sessions. Aside from project work, I dedicate time to other initiatives - such as reviewing resumes and conducting interviews to support the hiring of new staff, participating in coffee chats with leaders within the firm, and working on pursuits to support our pipeline.

Q: What technology platforms do you use?

A: As a non-technical person, I use Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint for the bulk of my deliverables. I use Jira to organize and track project issues and requirements and Miro as a virtual collaboration tool with clients. Depending on the role and project, these platforms can change. For example, a UI designer will likely use a design tool like Figma; a more technical person may use a database program such as MongoDB or PostgreSQL.

Q: How does your industry impact the world?

A: Clients typically hire Consultants to solve or investigate a problem - that means we get the cool (and often complex) opportunity to dig deep, think big, and make an impact. Depending on the client and industry they are in, these impacts can be fulfilling. For example, as someone who works predominantly with Public Sector clients, my projects usually have to do with improving public programs, which means making a positive impact on the lives of Canadians!

Q: Which industry trends should TRSM students be aware of?

A: I think one trend that has lingered in the Consulting sector is a focus on innovation and creativity, such as finding new and innovative ways to solve clients' problems while building long-term relationships. This further extends to offering a wider range of services and building practices/teams that support the type of work in demand.

From a recruitment perspective, firms are increasingly prioritizing candidates who can bring something new and fresh to the table. This does not necessarily mean being an expert in any one area (although being well-informed about the industry is crucial), but instead, using your area of study and prior work experiences (including experiential learning activities) to offer the firm and its clients a new way of thinking.

Q: What advice would you provide a Ted Rogers student who aspires to work in your industry?

A: Start the groundwork early on! This can include industry research, coffee chats with alumni, interview prep, refining your soft skills and building technical skills. These things typically take time and practice and can help you learn if the Consulting sector is right for you. And if you realize it is not for you (which is okay!), you can still take what you have learned and pivot to the area you are more interested in.

A very consulting-specific piece of advice I like to share is to be comfortable with ambiguity. As much as Consultants love to plan, whiteboard and have things in writing, every project has roadblocks and things that need to be clarified. The ability to think through the challenges and use your resources to get your path back on the right track is so critical.



Click [here](#) to increase your technical proficiency via Bootcamps, as Alizeh recommends!

ACE THIS CASE

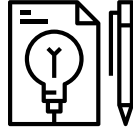
Click [here](#) to register for this Prep Program that is directly related to the Consulting industry!

Want to Learn More for Free?



Can you see yourself as a Consultant?

Learn more about the Consulting industry, and what a typical career path looks like f- also get advice from TRSM Alumni through this [Hub Insights Report](#)



Toronto Metropolitan Consulting Association (TMCA)

TMCA offers a variety of events to help you learn more about the Consulting industry. Check out their IG: [@tmu.consulting](#)



Consulting Magazine

This magazine has everything and anything related to the Consulting industry. Check out their [website](#).



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Career Consultant Contributor Sarah August Devlin

Sarah is a Career Consultant with 5+ years of experience in the human resource, recruitment, and career services industry. She is passionate about helping clients communicate their value using a strengths-based approach to land meaningful work.



Student Contributor Myuri Mohan

Myuri is a Law and Business student in the Ted Rogers Co-op program. She is a member of the Ted Rogers Students' Society and is passionate about learning.