Brains for Hire: Careers in Consulting
PATHS Seminar

How can you leverage your academic skills to succeed in consulting?

Consulting firms advise leaders of almost all the world’s largest nonprofits, corporations, and governments on their most pressing strategic concerns. As these firms push to develop diverse, innovative perspectives, they hire leading talent from all fields—including PhDs in the humanities and social sciences. Consulting represents an exciting opportunity to gain a wide range of business experience while making world-changing impacts. In this workshop, NELC PhD and former BCG Consultant Brittany Hayden will help you explore whether consulting is the right fit for you. Using a mock business problem, groups of participants will practice the actual day-to-day work of consultants and engage in discussions of how to adapt their humanistic training to this industry. She will also cover practical topics, such as how to get hired and how to build the skills required to succeed on the job.

Brittany Hayden earned her PhD with Honors in Egyptology from UChicago’s NELC department and joined the Chicago office of one of the world’s top consulting firms, the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), in 2017. While at BCG, she advised some of the world’s largest corporations on corporate strategy and operations. Her work spanned the Consumer/Retail, Healthcare, Tech, and Industrial Goods industries. She exited BCG in December 2019 to focus more specifically on tech strategy, joining Microsoft in 2020. Today she lives in Seattle and leads Microsoft’s business strategy planning for Microsoft 365 products as sold to Educational Institutions, Governments, and Nonprofits.