Career Exploration Continued

> Start with IAS and MCS degree learning objectives
  What knowledge and skills are you gaining?

> Add specific skills & experiences from your classes, jobs, internships

> Consider what you’re good at and what you enjoy

> These skills and interests can be the foundation of your job search, application and interview prep!
Exploration Resources

> UW Bothell subscriptions:
  – What Can I Do With This Major?
  – WOIS
  – GoinGlobal

> Handshake and LinkedIn are research and job search tools “all in one”

> UWB International Student LinkedIn Group
  Research and follow employers
  Search for jobs
  Connect with alumni
Networking

> Developing and maintaining relationships
> Exchanging information - reciprocation
> Making connections
> Networking is not about getting a job (directly)
Networking is Critical

> 80% of job positions are in the “hidden job market” and never advertised – these positions are filled by word of mouth

> Employers are more likely to bring in someone they know vs. those that they don’t
Networking Resources

> Handshake + LinkedIn
  – Find employers & alumni to connect with

> Professional Organizations

> Career Fairs & Networking Events

Career Conversations:
  – Learn from someone who has the job
  – Ask for advice, not a job!
  – 1 of 12 results in a job offer
Career Conversations

> Also called “informational interviews”

Think of it as a conversation...
- About a career field you are considering
- Usually about 20 to 30 minutes
- Ask for advice. It is an opportunity to learn from someone who is in a role or organization that interests you.
Interviews

> Employers want to know, “How can you be valuable to me?”
  > Interviews are about being a good “fit” or “match” for the company, team, position

> Self-presentation is key
  > Practice, practice, practice - schedule a mock interview appointment with Career Services!
  > Explore your strengths. Match them to the job qualifications and think of stories/examples to provide evidence
The Value of International Experience

Your experience studying in the U.S. helps develop highly valuable skills:

> International perspective
> Tolerance for other opinions
> Ability to see more than one perspective
> Greater self-reliance and self-confidence
> Ability to cope with ambiguous situations
> Foreign language skills
> Multicultural sensitivity and awareness
> Learn quickly
> Adaptable & flexible
Possible Employer Perception(s)

- Perceived lack of commitment to the job
  - May only be in the US for a short time

- Hiring Complexities
  - Processing CPT, OPT, H1-B

- Communication
  - Lack of English speaking and writing skills

- Animosity
  - Think you may be taking a job from a US citizen
Overcoming Employer Perceptions

> Know your value to the employer
  – Education, experience, strengths, enthusiasm, attitude

> Polish and customize your application materials
  – Resumes, CV’s, cover letters, etc.

> Articulate your qualifications learned through:
  – Education, work/volunteer/internship experience, strengths & abilities

> Be knowledgeable about the work authorization process
The First Question

“Tell me about yourself.”

> Opportunity to speak to your value
> Focus on the job description and skills
> Confidence, Enthusiasm and Passion
> Demonstrate self-awareness and self-esteem
Know Your Stories

Behavioral Questions:
> “Tell me about a time when...”
> • Past actions predict future behavior
> • Share examples, stories & scenarios

Situational Questions:
• Relate to actual situations using the STAR approach:
  Situation – the context of what happened
  Task – what you were supposed to do
  Action – what you did to accomplish your task
  Result – what you accomplished
Closing an Interview

> Always prepare questions
  – Show that you’ve done your research
  – Demonstrate your interest in the position
  – Find out the next steps in the hiring process

> After the interview: remember to send thank you notes!
Visit Career Services

> Make an appointment:
> https://www.uwb.edu/careers/appointments
>
> NEW! Drop-ins:
> Monday-Friday, 3:30-4:30pm in the SSC
> Monday-Tuesday, 1:00-2:00pm in the Diversity Center
Q&A

Questions?

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THANK YOU

CAREER SERVICES

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