

FOUR-YEAR CAREER PLAN

FIRST YEAR

Explore your interests

- Start to figure out what you enjoy.
- Take different classes that interest you.
- Attend student organization meetings and find a group where you feel like you fit.
- Notice what classes you enjoy: the lectures, the faculty, the reading.
- Keep your grades up; many employers and all graduate/professional schools value high grades.
- Attend the Majors Fair in Spring to talk to faculty and upper-division students.

SECOND YEAR

Explore your interests and prepare for the future

- No major yet? Make an appointment with a career counselor to discuss your options. You may want to play the Majors Game, taking an assessment, or research the undergraduate Bulletin.
- Pursue a leadership position or a more active role in a student organization.
- If you haven't found a way to get involved on campus, continue exploring student organizations.
- Introduce yourself to professionals presenting in your classes or student organizations; collect business cards and follow up with thank-you notes or requests for short informational meetings.
- Volunteer, either through a class with course-based service-learning; USD's Center for Awareness, Service and Action (CASA); or University Ministry.
- Develop a resume. Visit Career Services for guidance.
- Sign up on ToreroLink to look for an interesting summer job or internship.

THIRD YEAR

Prepare for the future

- Meet with a career counselor to develop a career exploration plan: this may include taking interest inventories, researching jobs online, or talking with alumni.
- Discuss your career plans with family and friends. Gather ideas and information.
- Update your resume and learn how to write a cover letter.
- Schedule a practice job interview with a career counselor.
- Get an internship by attending the Internship Fair, exploring ToreroLink, or talking to your contacts.
- If you're considering graduate/professional school, attend the Graduate School Fair, and start researching programs, requirements, and admissions deadlines.
- Find a summer experience (job, internship, volunteer) to try out a field that interests you.

FOURTH YEAR

Finalize your plans and apply for jobs or graduate school

- Meet with a career counselor to make a plan for finding your first job.
- Sign up for On-Campus Interviewing on ToreroLink in the fall semester.
- Schedule information interviews with alumni or other professionals to learn about different positions and industries; access the Torero Network and the Parent Directory.
- Consider different internships that will broaden your experience.
- Update your resume and strengthen your cover letter.
- Buy a suit for job interviews.
- Attend the Career Expo.
- Use Career Services as a resource as you transition into your career.