

BEYOND INTERNSHIPS

DESIGN A SUMMER PLAN

FINANCE



1

IDENTIFY INDUSTRY FOCUSED SKILLS

- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork & Collaboration
- Decisiveness
- Quantitative Analysis
- Strategic Mindset
- Resilience & Comfort with Risk

2

COMBINE MULTIPLE EXPERIENCES

- Informational Interviews
- Job Shadow
- Coursework
- Volunteer/Service
- Micro-Internship
- Part-time / Temp Work
- Professional Conferences
- Workshops/Trainings/Competitions
- Create Your Own Internship
- Individual Project: Create Something
- Start a Business
- Research

3

DEMONSTRATE AND ARTICULATE

- Think creatively about how you can develop/demonstrate skills. Be proactive and intentional in all of your experiences.
- Find and cultivate mentors.
- Schedule sessions with your Vandy Career Coach to develop your plan and discuss how to "tell the story" of your summer.

SAMPLE PLAN

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWS

- **Goal:** Explore the finance and banking industry, gain advice on specific skills to develop and build relationships with professionals.
- **Action:** Set up brief phone conversations with 10 analysts at different sized firms. To improve LinkedIn profile, enrolled in Student's Guide to LinkedIn Online Class (provided free by Career Center).
- **Result/Skills:** Gained clarity about differences in the firms and the overall interview process. More confident going into fall recruitment. Found an analyst who is willing to serve as a mentor.

PART TIME WORK

- **Goal:** Work part-time as administrative intern for a local start-up firm to earn money and gain experience. Propose a project to gain business skills.
- **Action:** Pitched working on an in-depth finance funding report for the organization. Set SMART goals and created a "deadline". Spent numerous hours over the summer researching, analyzing, and recommending a business strategy.
- **Result/Skills:** Delivered a comprehensive report detailing how to build a stronger funding pipeline with PPT to the team. Enhanced ability to synthesize business research data and deliver a project under a deadline to key stakeholders.

TARGETED COURSEWORK

- **Goal:** Enroll in online coursework with emphasis on skills valuable within finance and banking.
- **Action:** Completed two courses - 1) Banking Industry Modules through WallStreetMojo.com 2) Finance & Quantitative Modeling for Analysts Specialization through Coursera.com
- **Result/Skills:** Added the Coursera course to LinkedIn profile and now have a strong grasp of different type of financial modeling methods. Intermediate Excel with understanding of how it integrates with modeling methods at financial institutions.

VOLUNTEER/SERVICE

- **Goal:** Pitch a project to an organization or cause to get real-world business experience.
- **Action:** Connected with a local non-profit and pitched idea of working on a business problem which was accepted. Completed extensive data overhaul from one system to the other. Developed suggestions for efficiency improvements based on the data compiled.
- **Result/Skills:** Organization is implementing one of the ideas. Business analysis and using data to strategize new company objectives and goals.

MICRO-INTERNSHIP

- **Goal:** Explore Micro-Internships as pathway to project-based work.
- **Action:** Created profile at ParkerDewey. Applied for and accepted a virtual project (30 Hr) for a Fortune 1000 company.
- **Result/Skills:** Made \$\$! Developed remote business research skills and meeting deadline with deliverable. Had to learn how to use a new database quickly to do the research.