

BEYOND INTERNSHIPS

DESIGN A SUMMER PLAN

EDUCATION



1

IDENTIFY INDUSTRY FOCUSED SKILLS

- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork & Collaboration
- Communication
- Research - *Best Practices*
- Creativity
- Leadership

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 various opportunities in the field of education. Gain insight and advice on specific skills to develop and build relationships with professionals.
- **Action:** Identified 10 individuals working in various roles/levels within education - classroom/principals/administration. To build a LinkedIn profile and learn how to use it, enrolled in the online course Students Guide to LinkedIn (provided by the Career Center for free on DoreWays).
- **Result/Skills:** Gained clarity about the various roles and opportunities in the field of education. Built connections and leads to potential mentors and job opportunities. Developed communication, collaboration, and research skills.

COURSEWORK

- **Goal:** Online coursework with emphasis on skills valuable within education.
- **Action:** Completed two courses - 1) Project Management Principle and Practices through Coursera.com 2) Powerful Tools for Teaching and Learning Web2.0 through Coursera.com
- **Result/Skills:** Added the Coursera courses to LinkedIn Profile. Developed interest in how to effectively integrate technologies into classroom practices and create engaging student activities. Gained insights into budgeting, identifying and managing risks, and utilizing Web 2.0 tools (Edmodo, Twitter, Voicethread, and Skype) in K-16 instruction.

CREATED AN INTERNSHIP

- **Goal:** Pitch a project to school or educational organization to get real-world experience.
- **Action:** Connected with a large local school and pitched idea of identifying creative tool/techniques to engage students virtually. Spent 80 hours over the summer researching, analyzing, and recommending a new innovative way to incorporate virtual practices. Presented plan via PPT to the leadership team. Added project to LinkedIn and resume.
- **Result/Skills:** The school is implementing one of the tools and various strategies outlined in plan to better serve their students. Developed research, creativity, communication, and critical thinking.

MICRO-INTERNSHIP

- **Goal:** Explore Micro-Internships as pathway to project-based work.
- **Action:** Created profile at ParkerDewey. Applied for and accepted a virtual New Venture (Department) project creating coaching curriculum (100 Hr).
- **Result/Skills:** Made some money! Developed critical thinking, creativity, and research skills, as well as, meeting deadline with deliverable (training manual).