



VANDY IN Exploration

The Vandy in Exploration career community is dedicated to providing you with the fundamental knowledge and skills you need to navigate the competitive job market with confidence and to empowering you to align your passions with meaningful careers. Join our community to access resources and events, to tap into a unique network of alumni and employers and to find opportunities in any industry.

Get ready to unlock a world of opportunities as you embark on your path to a rewarding career!

Interested in the Exploration Community?

Join the Vandy in Exploration Newsletter

Be in the know for all events and programs, including treks and recruiting events.

Complete Handshake Profile

Identify interests and learn more about jobs and internship opportunities.

Visit Our Website



Get Vandy Ready to explore your career path.

DISCOVERY & FIRST STEPS

Self-Assessment

A self-assessment is a process by which you evaluate your skills, interests, values and personality traits to understand your career goals and personal development needs. In the context of a job search, it can be an invaluable tool for identifying types of roles, industries and work environments that most closely align with your strengths and preferences.

Career Research

Analyzing different industries involves studying trends, growth patterns, stability and the competitive landscape of various sectors. It also includes understanding the demand for specific roles, skills and qualifications within these industries.

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning is acquiring knowledge and skills through direct, hands-on experiences. It can take various forms: internships, fieldwork, projects or volunteering, where you apply theoretical concepts to real-world situations. This learning approach fosters critical thinking, problem-solving and adaptability, enhancing your practical understanding of the field. In the job search, experiential learning provides tangible evidence of your capabilities to potential employers.

Brand and Strategy

Building a professional brand is crucial as it serves as your unique identity in the workforce, setting you apart in the competitive job market. It reflects your skills, experiences, values and personality, influencing how employers perceive you. A strong professional brand can enhance credibility, increase visibility to relevant opportunities and impact your career progression.

DISCOVERING OPPORTUNITIES



Handshake is the No. 1 way college students find jobs. Log in with your Vanderbilt credentials to explore job/internship openings, connect with the Career Center and more!



LinkedIn is a professional networking platform that allows users to create a professional profile, connect with others and explore job opportunities. It serves as a digital resume, a job search tool and a space for sharing industry news and professional content.



CareerShift was founded to help job seekers access the 70% of jobs that are never published on public job boards. Recognizing that who you know is crucial and many job seekers have limited networks, it also serves as a networking tool. You will need to create an account to access.

The "Group or School Identifier" is Vanderbilt.



TIPS & INSIGHTS

Take time to really think about what matters to you about your career interest(s) and where you might end up working. Ask yourself why you are interested in this career—and really dig deep with this question. And try not to compare yourself to others you know - this is your journey.

Brenda McKenzie

Associate Professor, Peabody College of Education and Human Development

Hands-on experiences, such as internships, research projects and volunteering, have provided me with practical skills and insights into various careers. It's been a great way to experience what different jobs look like and envision my life after graduation. I believe that any hands-on experience is valuable, whether it directly relates to your current interests or not!

Stella Lee

Class of 2026 Human and Organizational Development Major, Computer Science Minor

As an undergraduate, I could not have pinpointed the type of job I wanted to have, but now I realize that by following my passion I have been able to create a career that is fulfilling and challenges me to grow. A linear path directed towards fulfilling course requirements would not have led me here, but rather, required exploration, a willingness to try new things, and an openness to possibilities.

Avery Dickins De Giron,

BA'90, PhD'08, Executive Director, Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies ,Vanderbilt University

