

CAREER DEVELOPMENT 4-YEAR PLAN

	ACADEMIC	CAREER	PERSONAL/SOCIAL
FIRST-YEAR - IMAGINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with your faculty advisor regarding majors and future goals. • Take introductory courses to sample majors of interest. • Get to know your professors, actively participate in class. • Develop solid study habits and a good GPA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Login to Handshake to peruse open jobs and internships, connect with students beyond NWU with similar career interests, and schedule career coaching appointments. • Set up an appointment with a career coach in the Career Center to explore academic majors and career opportunities. • Browse the resources in the Handshake resource library and on the Career Center website at career.nebrwesleyan.edu. • Attend A MAJOR Event in the fall to learn about NWU majors from each department. • Use the Career Assistance Network to connect with alumni working in your areas of interest. Access the network online at career.nebrwesleyan.edu. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join at least one NWU student organization. • Set aside time for exciting volunteer experiences or part-time jobs. • Meet new friends and build campus relationships. • Make time for friends and family.
SOPHOMORE - INVESTIGATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about career options for academic majors through faculty members. • Begin to solidify your major, declare by your second semester. • Develop an academic plan with your advisor according to degree requirements. • Apply good study habits, maintain a strong GPA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to think about possible internship opportunities. Check out the Gaining Experience handouts in the Career Center for ideas and suggestions. • Use the Career Assistance Network to shadow or do an informational interview with an alum in your field of interest. • Develop and improve your resume with assistance from the Career Center. If seeking an internship, consider uploading your resume to Handshake for employers to view. • Begin looking at seasonal/part-time employment related to your interests. • Attend the Backpack to Briefcase Student/Employer Reception in the spring to explore potential employers and opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join a professional organization related to your major. • Seek leadership roles on campus. • Look into studying abroad. • Review and reaffirm your values, interests, personality and abilities. • Participate in volunteer opportunities on campus or within the community.
JUNIOR - INTERACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk with your advisor to make sure you're meeting academic requirements for graduation and discuss career options. • Look into prestigious scholarship opportunities if continuing your education. • Consider the possibility of an advanced degree. • Class topic sparked an interest? Talk to professors regarding research opportunities. • Maintain a solid GPA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research companies and work environments. • Discuss career concerns with a career coach. • Think about taking a practice graduate/professional school entrance exam. • Meet NWU alumni through the Career Assistance Network to discuss transitioning to the workplace or to graduate school. • Continue to hone your resume and have it critiqued by a career coach. • Obtain an internship to explore a career field and gain practical experience. See internship listings in Handshake. • Attend the Backpack to Briefcase Student/Employer Reception. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore post-college options. • Develop a list of professional references and keep in close contact. • Begin the application process for graduate or professional school and take entrance exams. • Continue to gain practical experience through activities, employment and community involvement.
SENIOR - IMPLEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet regularly with your advisor, confirm graduation status. • Fill out necessary graduation forms. • Request letters of recommendation from faculty members. • Maintain a solid GPA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure your resume and profile are updated in Handshake and use the platform to search for full-time job listings. • Continue meeting with a career coach regarding your job search or graduate school application. • Attend the Backpack to Briefcase Student/Employer Reception as well as other local career fairs. • Have your resume, cover letter and/or graduate school essays critiqued by a career coach in the Career Center. • Access employer information, graduate school resources and other job vacancy boards online. • Ask alumni in the Career Assistance Network about prospective employers, job hunting and relocating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set aside specific time for your job search or your graduate school application process. • Continue to network and tell others about your plans. • Relocating? Visit cities of interest. • Tell others of your after-graduation plans, seek advice and contacts. • Let the Career Center know how it's going!