

## CAREER EXPLORATION RESOURCES

When you're searching for a career, the best thing you can do is cast a wide net. Before choosing, look around for options you never knew existed.

#### Start with self-reflection:

- (1) **Try Focus2**, which offers career assessment quizzes and suggests career matches as well as possible majors at Clark University. To access this tool, visit the career exploration page of <u>our website</u>.
- (2) Take the Strong Interest Explorer. Email any of our career advisors to get started.
- (3) **Use your academic coursework as a means of exploration.** Take a diverse selection of coursework and assess your strengths and skills inside the classroom, while also considering what subjects you enjoy.
- (4) <u>Make an appointment with your career advisor</u> to sort out your thoughts and get helpful self-reflection tips.

#### Generate ideas online:

- (1) **Try our career exploration tools**, FOCUS2 and What Can I Do With This Major? To access these tools, visit the career exploration page of our website.
- (2) O\*Net Online, published by the U.S. Department of Labor, is a database that will help you get a detailed sense of what it's like to work in over 900 jobs.
- (3) <u>The Occupational Outlook Handbook</u> (OOH), published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, offers salary and other useful data on hundreds of occupations.
- (4) <u>National Career Development Association</u> is database of resources, services, and tools to assist with career exploration, planning for the future, searching for employment, and finding additional training.
- (5) **See what is open on job boards today.** Check <u>Handshake</u>, <u>Indeed</u>, <u>Idealist</u>, or check out the job search pages of our website to find the right niche job boards for you.
- (6) **Look at companies you admire.** Browse staff lists what titles do staff have? See what job titles appeal to you, then use O\*Net or the OOH to learn more about them. Use <u>Buzzfile</u> to find organizations.
- (7) **Dig into professional associations.** Conduct a Google search to identify associations in your area(s) of interest; they may have detailed resources to help you identify a career path in your chosen field.

### Generate ideas by talking to others:

- (1) "Interview" someone you already know about their career. This could be a professor, Clark staff member, relative, or supervisor, friend of a family member, etc. Gather information about how they chose their career path and what other options they know about. They have been in your shoes, and are likely interested in helping you. Get a tip sheet for these "informational interviews" on the resources page of our website.
- (2) **Interview Clark alumni.** Find them on <u>ClarkCONNECT</u>, Clark's platform to connect students with Clark alumni who have volunteered to mentor, or <u>LinkedIn</u>.
- (3) **Scan the profiles of professionals on** LinkedIn (alumni and others). What job titles do people in your network have? What are alumni doing with their degrees? What paths have others taken?
- (4) **Dig into professional associations**. Conduct a Google search to identify associations in your area(s) of interest; they may have detailed resources to help you identify a career path in your chosen field. Most professional associations have a free or discounted student membership.
- (5) **Join an on-campus club** that aligns with your interest areas, and engage in conversation with peers about their career interests.

(Sample tracking grid on page two)



# **JOB TITLE TRACKING SHEET**

When you're researching options, keep track of them on a spreadsheet like this one.

Job Idea or Job Title (Include where I found it):	Entry-level salary? Average salary?	Qualifications required:	List pros/cons:	Questions I still have about this job: