

Follow Your Passions Pursue Your Calling



BETHEL
UNIVERSITY

At Bethel, we believe college is about more than just checking off course requirements. It's about growing into a whole and holy person, honing your God-given gifts, and becoming who you are called to be. We'll help you do that every step of the way! Here are some things to think about each year as you prepare for what's next.

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Start a list of what you love (and don't love) to do. As you take classes and gain experiences, keep adding to it.
- Connect with the Office of Career Development and Calling to take a few vocational assessments that help you understand your strengths, weaknesses, and areas of interest.
- Set up informational interviews with alumni or others you know who have interesting jobs. Ask a lot of questions!
- Set up a LinkedIn and Handshake account to connect with professionals and showcase any of your prior experiences, which can include jobs, volunteer positions, and campus clubs and activities.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Create your resume. You've likely come into college with experiences that are worth noting, but you can add and remove experiences as you go along.
- Set up a few more informational interviews, more specifically on jobs that interest you. Ask each person what a day is like at their job, what skills or competencies they need, and how you can start preparing for the workforce.
- Seek out a campus job that lines up with your academic interests so you get paid to gain hands-on experience. It's a win-win!
- Summer is also a great time to get valuable experience. Look for opportunities that closely align with your career goals.

JUNIOR YEAR

- Invest in a professional-looking outfit that you can wear to interviews and in career-related settings.
- Find a friend or hire a professional to take a few headshots you can use in your online profiles.
- Bethel offers a number of on-campus and off-campus job fairs and networking events. Check out bethel.edu/events and attend as many as you can.
- Gain industry experience. This can be an internship, part-time job, or even a job shadow—all give you valuable insights into your profession of interest.
- Conduct mock interviews. These are valuable opportunities to practice and refine your interview skills in a supportive environment.
- Find a mentor for guidance and support in your job search. This is someone you look up to, who you can share your experiences with, and someone you can gain insight and advice from.

SENIOR YEAR

- Update your LinkedIn profile, resume, and your Handshake account.
- Apply to graduate, and double-check Degree Works to make sure you have all of your requirements met.
- Plan for post-graduation steps, whether this includes graduate school or job searching. It can be helpful to meet with a career specialist who can help you start an action plan.
- Attend job fairs and networking events sponsored by the Career Development and Calling office or your academic department.
- Look at job sites like Handshake, Indeed, Big Shoes Network, LinkedIn, and individual companies' job boards. Get your resume out there.
- Tailor your resume, cover letter, and professional online profiles to job opportunities.
- Network, network, network. Lean on alumni and other Bethel connections as you think about the possibilities. As they say, "it's not what you know, it's who you know"—and Royals are a great resource.

The Office of Career Development and Calling is a one-stop shop full of resources for you as you navigate what's next. Visit bethel.edu/career-development to get started.