

FOLLOW YOUR PASSIONS PURSUE YOUR CALLING



BETHEL
UNIVERSITY

At Bethel, we believe college is about a lot more than checking off course requirements. It's about growing into a whole and holy person, honing your God-given gifts, building a network of people that will support you for life, and stepping into your unique calling. 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.
- Visit the Office of Career Development and Calling to take a few vocational assessments so you get to know not only what you love to do, but why and how you love to do it.
- Set up informational interviews with alumni or others you know who have interesting jobs. Ask a lot of questions!

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Create your resume. You've likely come into college with a lot of experiences that are worth noting, but you can add and remove experiences as you go along.
- Consider setting up a LinkedIn account and a Handshake account to connect with professionals and showcase the experiences you've already had. Include jobs, volunteer positions, and campus clubs and activities.
- Set up a few more informational interviews, this time focusing 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.
- Try to find 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 jobs, research positions, or internships that line up as closely as possible with what you want to do.

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 online and as your email thumbnail.
- 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.
- Find a mentor you can meet with regularly. This is someone you look up to, who you can share your experiences with, and someone you can gain insight and advice from. It can be invaluable to find someone who's more experienced to give you ideas and encouragement in your job search.

SENIOR YEAR

- Update your LinkedIn profile, resume, and your Handshake account.
- Apply to graduate, and double-check Degree Works to make sure you'll have all of your requirements met.
- Think seriously about graduate school and/or where you'd like to work after graduation. Get ideas from your professors, and meet with a career counselor who can help you start an action plan.
- Attend job fairs and networking events sponsored by the Career Development and Calling office. Organizations are eager to hire Bethel students!
- Look at job sites like Handshake, Indeed, Big Shoes Network, LinkedIn, and individual companies' job boards. Get your resume out there.
- 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 Clauson Center (CC) 322 or bethel.edu/career-development to get started.