

Alumni Mentors

How To Have Meaningful Career Conversations with Students

Whether you are a mentor, doing an informational interview, or just sharing career advice with UCI students, you play an important role in supporting their career development. By sharing your experience and expertise with them, you are helping advance their career readiness and prepare them for the working world. Thank you for all you do!

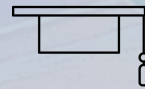
Share Your Own Career Journey

Here are some key questions to consider answering:

- How did you decide to pursue your career? What path did you take to get to your current place of employment?
- What is a typical day like? What are your job responsibilities?
- What do you like the most about your job? What is the most challenging thing?
- What skills and qualities are key to success in this field?
- How did your field of study or degree prepare you for this role?
- What advice would you give someone entering your field today? For seeking employment?
- Do you have any contacts that I could reach out to for an informational interview to continue learning more?

8 Career Readiness Competencies

Employers are looking for graduates who know how to use their strengths, interests, and abilities. Students can develop these 8 Career Readiness skills to prepare them for the transition into the workplace.



Career/Self
Development



Equity and
Inclusion



Critical
Thinking



Teamwork



Technology



Leadership



Professionalism



Communication

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Recommended Resources

Explore Career Interests:

- **Occupational Outlook Handbook:** bls.gov/ooh
- **What Can I Do with This Major?:** career.uci.edu/undergraduate/explore-a-career/choosing-a-major
- **Informational Interviews:** ucidcp.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/QT_InformationalInterviews.pdf
- **Career Assessments:** career.uci.edu/undergraduate/explore-a-career/career-assessments
- **Focus 2 (Free Educational and Career Planning Tool):** career.uci.edu/focus-2-career
- **Recorded Career Panels:** career.uci.edu/career-discovery-series
- **Webinar Video Library:** career.uci.edu/webinar-video-library
- **Imagine PhD for Graduate Students:** imaginephd.com
- **Beyond the Professoriate for Graduate Students:** career.uci.edu/graduate/beyondtheprofessoriate

Prepare and Get Experience:

- **Resume Examples:** career.uci.edu/undergraduate/develop-a-resume-cover-letter/resume-and-cover-letter-examples
- **Interviewing:** uci.biginterview.com/register
- **Handshake (Job & Internship Listings, Event Registrations):** uci.joinhandshake.com
- **LinkedIn:** linkedin.com/school/university-of-california-irvine/people
- **Additional Job Search Resources:** career.uci.edu/undergraduate/find-a-job
- **Graduate School Resources:** <https://career.uci.edu/undergraduate/apply-for-grad-school/>
- **Career Guides:** career.uci.edu/quick-tip-library

Not Sure Where To Start?

The DCP website has a lot of helpful resources:
career.uci.edu

Students can also stop by during drop-ins or schedule an appointment to meet with us:
career.uci.edu/undergraduate/counseling-appointments