NACE Career Readiness Competencies Milestones

Build and track the top 8 skills employers want. Stay on course and graduate career-ready!

Competencies	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Career & Self- Development	☐ Take a self- assessment; visit career center	☐ Declare major; attend a career fair	☐ Secure internship; informational interviews	☐ Apply for jobs or graduate school
Communication	☐ Join a club; speak in meetings	☐ Professional emails; presentations	☐ Mock interviews; refine LinkedIn	☐ Present at conferences
Critical Thinking	☐ Attend events; ask questions	☐ Debates; case studies	□ Solve real-world problems	☐ Capstone project; evaluate options
Equity & Inclusion	☐ Attend diversity workshops	☐ Volunteer with cultural orgs	☐ Mentor peers; advocacy work	☐ Institutional change efforts
Leadership	□ Observe leadership in clubs	□ Join committee roles	☐ Lead organizations/projects	☐ Governance or senior leadership
Professionalism	☐ Arrive on time; manage schedule	☐ Apply for jobs, follow-up emails	☐ Meet deadlines, reliability	☐ Personal brand; manage references
Teamwork	☐ Join group projects/sports	☐ Collaborate on service projects	☐ Resolve conflicts, team lead	☐ Strategic planning; legacy projects
Technology	☐ Use Google, Brightspace, Microsoft	☐ Excel, Slides, Doc projects	☐ Learn industry tools (e.g., SPSS)	□ Use LinkedIn, Handshake

References: NACE Career Readiness Competencies