# **A Four-Year Plan for Success**





#### Freshman Year

- ☐ Work with your academic advisor to set your academic plan for your intended career track.
- ☐ Talk with a career counselor about your interests and set career goals.
- Explore possible second majors, minors, or pre-professional programs.
- Research whether your chosen career track requires additional certifications, licenses, or graduate degrees.
- Ask a career counselor about informational interviews or job opportunities.
- ☐ Meet with Career Services to start developing a professional résumé.
- Get involved with at least one campus event, organization, or sport to develop leadership and organizational skills.

### **Sophomore Year**

- ☐ Meet with your academic advisor to discuss your major and clarify program requirements.
- ☐ Develop your leadership and other marketable skills through campus and community involvement.
- Consider participating in community service or Social Impact Trips to explore your career interests.
- Hone your communication skills by taking a writing or communication course.
- ☐ Explore careers through job shadowing and informational interviews with professionals in the field related to your interests.
- Use online career resources to search for internships and job openings.
- ☐ If you're interested in graduate school, make a list of potential programs, including their prerequisites and admission requirements. Connect with your academic advisor to ensure your academic plan matches the requirements.

#### **Junior Year**

- Meet with your academic advisor to ensure you are on track for your anticipated graduation date.
- Update your résumé and meet with Career Services for a formal review.
- Secure an internship to explore a chosen profession and gain hands-on experience in the workplace.
- ☐ Establish your profile with a professional photo on LinkedIn and other career-related sites.
- During Junior Mentoring, talk with faculty members in your major about your intended career track to learn more about your intended career track to gain more knowledge about the field.
- ☐ If you are pursuing graduate school, start preparing for any required entrance exams (e.g., GRE, LSAT, MCAT).
- Attend interviewing, résumé, and job search workshops.

#### **Senior Year**

- ☐ Check in with your academic advisor to make sure you are on track for graduation.
- ☐ Build your professional network through events like career and alumni panels and the AU career fair.
- Update your résumé with internship experience and transferable skills.
- Perfect your interviewing skills by participating in a mock interview session.
- Finalize graduate school applications.
  - » Secure letters of recommendation.
  - » Meet with a career counselor to review your personal statement and other application materials.
- Tailor your cover letter and résumé for specific job applications.
- Share your post-graduation plans with Career Services.

### **Connect with the Crouse Center and Career Services**

Use the contact information below to set up appointments with Career Services and the Crouse Center for Academic Advising throughout your time at AU.

## Crouse Center for Academic Advising

aurora.edu/crousecenter advise@aurora.edu 630-844-6870



Career Services aurora.edu/career career@aurora.edu 630-844-5403

