

Are You Career Ready?

Take this self-assessment to see what professional competencies you need to develop and practice to be career ready and experience workplace success.

COMMUNICATION: Articulate thoughts and express ideas effectively using oral, written and non-verbal communication skills (to instruct, inform and persuade), as well as listening for meaning to gain understanding. The ability to deliver information in person, in writing, and in a digital world.

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

Ways to develop this competency:

- Develop and deliver a presentation for a class.
- Check for understanding by asking clarifying questions.
- Proofread on-line and written communication to avoid errors.

Goal for developing this competency:

TEAMWORK AND INTERPERSONAL: Build and maintain collaborative relationships to work effectively with others in a team setting through shared responsibility, empathy and respect. The ability to manage ones emotions and conflict with others while contributing towards a common goal.

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

Ways to develop this competency:

- Collaborate with others on a class project where responsibility is shared and not divided.
- Handle difficult conversations in person with respect.
- Consider others' perspectives before making a decision.

Goal for developing this competency:

LEADERSHIP: Motivate, organize, and delegate work by leveraging the strengths of individuals. The ability to use empathetic skills and a positive attitude to guide and influence others while reaching a shared goal through adaptability and effective decision-making.

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

Ways to develop this competency:

- Take on a leadership role in a group or organization.
- Demonstrate initiative at your job/internship by taking on additional responsibilities.
- Motivate team members with a positive attitude and leverage their strengths when delegating work.

Goal for developing this competency:

CREATIVITY AND PROBLEM-SOLVING: Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, synthesize information, make decisions and solve problems. The ability to think critically and strategically to develop original ideas and innovative solutions.

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

Ways to develop this competency:

- Develop an action plan with specific steps to solve a problem.
- Brainstorm solutions to a problem before bringing it to a supervisor/professor.
- Activate your mind – read, do puzzles, write, etc.

Goal for developing this competency:

PROFESSIONALISM AND PRODUCTIVITY: Demonstrate integrity, resilience, accountability and ethical behavior. The ability to take initiative, maintain effective work habits (prioritize, plan and manage work) to produce high quality results and project a professional presence.

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

Ways to develop this competency:

- Use a planner or calendar to prioritize work/assignments and meet deadlines.
- Reflect on a recent challenge and identify areas of growth and improvement for the future.
- Review your social media through the eyes of a future employer and determine appropriateness.

Goal for developing this competency:

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE: Respect the viewpoints of those from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, religions and lifestyles to build collaborative relationships and communicate effectively. The ability to appreciate, value, and learn from other cultures and perspectives to move beyond tolerance.

- Need to Develop
- Currently Developing
- Excelling

Ways to develop this competency:

- Attend an event on campus that encourages you to step outside your comfort zone.
- Engage in conversation with individuals who have different perspectives than your own.
- Participate in a study abroad or volunteer experience to broaden your horizons.

Goal for developing this competency:
