

We help you translate your academic and co-curricular experience into professional skills and opportunities **FROM DAY ONE.**

WEINBERG COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

# CAREER PLAN

## FIRST YEAR

**REFLECT** on who you are and where you want your NU experience to take you.

ASSESS

**IDENTIFY** your interests, values, skills, and personality preferences, and reflect on how those might relate to your NU experience and your future goals.

**INCREASE** your awareness of suitable career options by meeting with a career counselor, and consider taking a career assessment.

EXPLORE

**EXPLORE** your interests, values, and skills through diverse coursework, involvement in at least 1-2 student organizations, and experiential learning opportunities on and off-campus.

**EXPERIMENT** with courses from different majors, minors, and certificates, and meet with a career counselor to discuss how to connect your coursework to future career opportunities.

**RESEARCH** 2-3 potential careers/industries using NCA online resources such as WetFeet, Vault, and the Occupational Outlook Handbook.

**RESEARCH** fellowship opportunities through the Office of Fellowships; some opportunities are open to first year students and others might require you to start preparing during your first year on campus.

**RESEARCH** Chicago Field Studies (CFS) and consider incorporating CFS into your 4-year academic plan.

**LEARN** about professional communication and informational interviewing by meeting with your career adviser, and then begin speaking with people you know in careers of interest (family, family friends, supervisors, NU faculty & staff).

**EXPLORE** additional career options using the LinkedIn alumni tool to review the profiles of NU alumni who studied your major and/or work in an industry of interest.

**INVESTIGATE** the careers of alumni further by sending them professional messages to express your interest in learning more about their career paths.

**ATTEND** industry-based career treks sponsored by Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Student-Alumni Engagement during reading week each quarter.

DECIDE

**LEARN** about the career decision-making process (Assess, Explore, Decide, Act), and meet with your career adviser to create your individualized career plan for intentionally moving forward in the process.

**IDENTIFY** and begin to decide on appropriate summer experiential learning opportunities (informational interviews, research, study abroad, internships, part-time jobs, volunteer work).

ACT

**CONVERT** your high school resume into a professional document, and upload onto CareerCat.

**ESTABLISH** your professional online presence by creating a LinkedIn profile; build your network by requesting to connect with personal contacts (family, friends, supervisors, classmates) and joining the NU Alumni Association group and other appropriate groups.

**ATTEND** NCA Internship & Job Fairs to familiarize yourself with this type of event, increase industry/employer knowledge, and make connections with employers.

**ATTEND** career panels and events hosted by Weinberg departments and programs.

**APPLY** to summer experiential learning opportunities with targeted resume and cover letters.