ACADEMIC PREPARATION
WHAT DO I WANT TO DO?

• Take classes, get good grades, get a job. Sounds simple, but there’s more to it.

• Classes help you discover what you like and dislike plus learning, and how you learn.

• Things to consider for a “successful” academic career:
  • GPA, grades, and relevant courses
  • Internship/work experience
  • Clubs and involvement (take advantages only offered to students)
  • Leadership roles from clubs/involvement
PERSONALIZE YOUR ACADEMIC CAREER

• Takes the core classes you are required to take, then take classes you are interested in (no brainer, right?!)

• Work on side projects you’re interested in (clubs or personal projects)
  • Document what you did: videos, pictures, technical report, etc. → Resume material

• Step outside your comfort zone, and slowly expand it. It’s how you meet new people.

• Create and follow your own path
OTHER TOOLS

• Summer classes. Great if you want to get ahead, or keep up especially if no internship/work for summer

• Talking to professors to work on projects or research they are doing

• Working with senior projects or graduate students

• Develop a resume and keep it updated
RESUMES...IF YOU ARE JUST STARTING OUT...

• Find the “good” in everything
• Honors and awards (scholarships)
• Go through each class you’ve had (look at class syllabus)
• State the skills you currently have or skills from other jobs
• Start with descriptions, then sell your skills
  • Team work, planning, patience, like to learn, etc.

• Before:
  I was a cashier, took orders during busy times, and performed other miscellaneous tasks.

• After
  Maintained high standards of customer service during high-volume, fast-paced operations.
  Assisted management with inventory control and stock ordering
AFTER AN INTERNSHIP

• Update your resume and keep different versions

• What did you learn?
  • New coding language
  • Writing technical documents
  • I don’t want to go into ____.

• *State the skills you gained from what you did*
WHAT DO I WANT TO DO? 
WHERE DO I WANT TO WORK?

• What you want to do will determine who you try to get a job/internship
• Location can be a deciding factor, not just salary
• Apply early on in your career, and apply throughout the year (seasonal)
• Track who you applied to and what you applied for
  • Be aware of big name companies
• Many STEM internships are paid
• Go to career fairs, make connections, especially locally
PREPPING FOR INTERNSHIPS/JOBS

• Everything we talked about earlier relating to a “successful” academic career……
  • GPA, grades, and relevant courses
  • Internship/work experience
  • Clubs and involvement (take advantages only offered to students)
  • Leadership roles from clubs/involvement

• Use resources on campus they have to offer you at the career center, and explore online on your own

• Location, living arrangements, is it paid and if so how much?
WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU GET THE POSITION?

• Treat it as a job **and** a class in school

• You are there to work and learn. The internship is an “extended interview”

• Depending upon the internship, you may miss school (summer vs semester long)

• Network. Just do it. People know other people, and you never know who you might meet
POTENTIALLY HELPFUL LINKS

• http://www.engineerjobs.com/

• https://www.ndsu.edu/career/
KEEP WORKING HARD AND YOU’LL GET THAT INTERNSHIP
THANK YOU!

A photon checks into a hotel and is asked if he needs any help with his luggage.

"No, I'm travelling light."

IT SEEMS TO RUN ON

SOME FORM OF ELECTRICITY

"Yes, I fully comprehend this Unit"

Said no Engineer ever.

DR. SHELDON COOPER

"The guy is one lab accident away from being a supervillain"
QUESTIONS???