



CAREERSERVICES UCSB

Building 599
(805) 893-4412
8:30am to 4:30pm; Monday – Friday
career.sa.ucsb.edu

ENGINEERING

Navigating Your Future

This path is for Engineering majors at UCSB and is geared toward students who are looking to pursue careers in scientific fields such as:

- ◆ Automotive
- ◆ Design
- ◆ Manufacturing/
- ◆ Biomedical
- ◆ Electrical
- ◆ Packaging
- ◆ Chemical
- ◆ Environmental
- ◆ Mechanical
- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Geotechnical
- ◆ Research/Test
- ◆ Software

Gaucho Paths to Success (GPS) is a career education program offering you a framework to effectively pursue various occupational areas, through optimizing your academic, experiential, and career development preparation.

EXPLORE OPTIONS

Here are some initial questions to ask yourself:

- ◆ What aspects of my major are related to my career of interest?
- ◆ What industry do I see myself working in?
- ◆ Which of my interests and strengths do I want to engage in?
- ◆ Will my career path require me to pursue an advanced degree?

Career Preparation

- Sign up for any of these FREE assessments with a peer advisor in Career Resource Room (CRR):
 - ◆ **Strong Interest Inventory**
 - ◆ **Myers-Briggs Type Indicator**
 - ◆ **Focus 2**
 - ◆ **Strengths Finder**
- Read **library books** in CRR such as: *Career Opportunities in Engineering*, *Great Jobs for Engineering Majors*, *The Engineer's Career Guide*, and so many more!
- Browse through the Science related **career binders** in the **online career library**: *Computer and Mathematics* and *Engineering, Trades, & Architecture*
- Conduct **informational interviews and job shadowing** with professionals in your area of interest and ask these questions:
 - ◆ What does a typical day in this profession look like?
 - ◆ What is the most rewarding part of your position?
 - ◆ What do you not like about your position?
 - ◆ What advice do you have for someone wanting to pursue this career path?
- Meet with a **Career Counselor** to discuss your findings

Academic Preparation

- Speak with **undergraduate academic advisor** to ensure you are on track with your major
- Maintain **competitive GPA** within your major
- Utilize **campus resources** (e.g., CLAS, study groups or private tutoring, etc.)
- Meet with **professors** during office hours to discuss your career goals and learn about research opportunities

Personal Preparation

- Join an engineering related **student organizations** through UCSB Office of Student Life's website
- Create a **website or online portfolio** to begin showcasing personal and class projects

GET EXPERIENCE

Be sure to check out the Get Experience section of the Career Services website!

Connect with Career

- Sign up for **Handshake** and check out a variety of experiential opportunities such as internships, part-time jobs, volunteer, etc.
- Attend **Career Services workshops** (résumés/cover letters, job & internship search, interview strategies)
- Meet with career counselor during **CRR drop-in hours** to review your résumé or cover letter
- Attend **quarterly career fairs, employer information sessions** and **industry panels**

Internships

- Search via **Handshake** and **Internships.com**
- Review **Internship Toolkit** on Handshake
- Sign up for your **academic department's listserv**

Research

- Review the **Faculty Research Assistance Program (FRAP)** directory for on-campus research opportunities
- Check out **Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URCA)** for opportunities to work with faculty

- Connect with professors to obtain **research assistant positions**
- Review the **STEM Research Opportunities** handout in the CRR or on the Career Services website

International

- Consider studying abroad through the **Education Abroad Program (EAP)**
- Research **international internship opportunities** via GoinGlobal, etc.

Leadership

- Consider the **Leadership Certificate Program (LCP)** offered through Office of Student Life
- Apply for a **leadership role** on-campus through Associated Students or in a student organization
- Seek **volunteer opportunities** in your community (ex. Community Affairs Board, SB Young Professionals Club, etc.)

Networking

- Attend a **LinkedIn and Networking workshop** through Career Services and set up a LinkedIn profile to build connections
- Set up a **LinkedIn critique** with career counselor

Industry

Connect with Career

- Check out full-time jobs in **Handshake**
- Review **National Job Links, Job Search Tips & Guidelines and Accepting Offers** handouts
- Make an **appointment** with a career counselor to discuss your job-search strategy

Résumé/Cover Letter

- Meet with career counselor during **CRR drop-in session** to review your résumé or cover letter.
- Attend **resume+** and have résumé critiqued by employer
- Make **appointment with faculty** to review your résumé and ask for possible job leads to contact for possible job leads to contact

Graduate/Professional School

- Review **Graduate School Options handout**
- Research graduate programs at www.gradschools.com or www.petersons.com
- Identify **application deadlines, prerequisites and graduate exam** (if applicable) for programs you are interested in applying to

Career Events

- Attend **Graduate & Professional School Day** during Fall
- Attend **Graduate School workshop** during academic year

Statement of Purpose (SOP)

- Attend **Writing a SOP workshop** through CLAS
- Review **rough draft of your SOP** with faculty
- Obtain critique of final draft of SOP by scheduling **one hour appointment** at Career Services (NOTE: limit one per quarter)

Interview

- Schedule ½ hour appointment at Career Services for **Mock Interview** (NOTE: limit one per quarter)

Job Search/Career Events

- Connect with recruiters by participating in following career events:
 - ♦ **Quarterly Career Fairs**
 - ♦ **Employer Info Sessions**
 - ♦ **Industry Panels**
 - ♦ **On-Campus Interviews**
- Attend a **Job Search Strategies workshop**

Negotiation

- Review the books in the CRR such as *Negotiate Your Job Offer* and many more!

Curriculum Vitae (CV)/Letters of Recommendation

- Meet with a career counselor during ½ **hour appointment** to review your CV
- Prepare packets of information** (ex: application deadlines, CV and SOP) to give to your recommenders
- Identify recommenders and **request letters of recommendation** from your professors

Graduate Exams

- Attend strategy session and investigate **study preparation courses** for your graduate exam

Interview

- Schedule ½ hour appointment at Career Services for **Mock Interview** (NOTE: limit one per quarter)