Preparing for a Career in Data Science

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Connecting majors to careers
1. Investigate what other people have done

- Career Center's First Destinations Survey
- Candid Career
- Career Connections events
- Alumni on Berkeley Career Network

2. Explore career areas and industries

- What can I do with my major?
3. Explore positions and skills needed

Jobs on Handshake
(search by major)

Bureau of Labor Statistics
O*Net Website

4. Map out your steps

My Major Map
Recruiting @Cal

Fall recruiting → Spring recruiting → Summer job or internship
What can we help you find today?

Jobs → Find internships and full-time jobs
Employers → Discover the right company for you
Community → Learn from alumni and students
Career paths → Explore roles and average salaries
Events → Register for events and career fairs
Career center → Connect with the experts

berkeley.joinhandshake.com

Career counseling appointments
Steps to apply to jobs and internships

• Update your online presence
  – Handshake
  – Linkedin
  – Project website
• Attend career events
• Get your resume reviewed
  – Career counseling appts
  – Peer advisor drop-ins
• Network with recruiters, alumni, and other people in your network
• Prepare for interviews
  – Career counseling appts
  – See below for info on technical interviewing
Tips for your applications

• Use a targeted and tailored approach
• Your resume should be simply formatted and include keywords from the job or internship posting
• Include a cover letter if possible
• Focus on describing your relevant skills and the impact you made using the skills in the past

CAREER CENTER
career.berkeley.edu

Berkeley UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Preparing for technical interviews

- Brush up on concepts and technical skills relevant to each job description. Don’t know something? Go find some info about it and be honest about what you know and don’t know.

- See interviewing guides like the one on towardsdatascience.com.

- Practice for coding problems on websites like LeetCode, Hackerrank, Github, Geeks for Geeks and more.

- Kaggle is great to practice data science specific problems related to SQL, Pandas, data visualization, data cleaning, and more.
Technical interview platforms


- Technical problems may need to be completed on your own or you may solve them in front of interviewers.

- Many platforms will only allow you to complete a challenge in one sitting.

- Recruiters can check for plagiarized code or if you copy and paste your answers.
During the technical interview

• Show how you solve a problem and explain your step by step process.

• Ask for guidance, ask questions, and show you are eager to learn even if you can’t completely solve the problem.

• Be solutions oriented if things aren’t working out. Having a positive, collaborative attitude is the most important thing.

• If you don’t know something, be honest and talk about how you would find the answer.
Events

- Career fairs
- Career connections
- Info sessions
- Coffee chats
- Workshops
Upcoming events

Engineering & Physical Sciences Career & Internship Fair - Wednesday, Feb. 10th, 12pm - 5pm
Software, Data, & IT Career & Internship Fair - Thursday, Feb. 11th, 12pm - 5pm
Technical Interview Panel - Tuesday, Feb. 23rd, 4pm - 5pm
Career Connections - Tech for Good - Thursday, Feb. 25th, 5pm - 7pm
Environment and Sustainability Career & Internship Fair - Wednesday, March 3rd, 12pm - 4pm
Career Connections - BioTech - Tuesday, March 9th, 5pm - 7pm
Underrepresented in STEM: Navigating Your Job Search - Tuesday, March 16th, 4pm - 5pm
Career Connections - Esports & Gaming - Thursday, March 18th, 5pm - 7pm
Alumni Career Chat: Software Engineering - Friday, March 19th, 4pm - 5pm
Career Connections: L&S STEM - Thursday, April 8th, 5pm - 6:30pm

Handshake's Guide to Attending a Virtual Fair  Virtual Career Fairs - Tips for Students
1. Introduce yourself and your skills
   a. Name, major, school year, and position you’re interested in or applied to
   b. Overview of your relevant education, projects, and experience
   c. Top relevant skills you have

2. Express interest in the company
   a. Research the company ahead of time (company website, news reports, social media) so you can speak to a couple things that interest you
   b. How their opportunities align with your passions and career goals

3. Ask questions
   a. Avoid questions you can easily find the answer to online
   b. Always ask how you can stay in touch with the recruiter (email, Linkedin, etc.)
   c. Ask anything else you’re curious about (e.g., mentoring for interns, projects interns work on, opportunities for career advancement)
CareerMail

• Career news
• Career insights
• Upcoming Career Center events
• Opportunities beyond the Career Center
• Highlighted selection of upcoming company info sessions
• Highlighted selection of job & internship opportunities

Sign up for CareerMail by clicking the Career Interests tab in the drop down menu under your initials on Handshake
Handshake resources

• Prep for interviews
• Gain industry knowledge
• Find opportunities abroad
• ... and more!
Thank you! Any questions?