



UNIVERSITY *of*
MOBILE

FOURTH YEAR

**From Freshman Year to Dream Career
Be Known Success Pathway**

THE JOURNEY OF MASTERY: Become excellent at your level by enhancing your skills and searching for your dream job. **FRUIT** empowers you to consider the character-based development that you have encountered throughout the Success Pathway: “Through knowing and being known, what do I have to offer society?” This question challenges you to identify the character, relationships, leadership, and learning you acquired at the University, while also encouraging you to recognize these qualities. The **FRUIT** of your University experience is meant to benefit other people in your family, workplace, community, and nation.

ACADEMIC PLANNING

- Meet with your faculty advisor to review your Degree Plan at the beginning of your senior year to make sure you are on track to fulfill all academic requirements for graduation.
- Make choices during your final year (regarding courses, activities, and experiences) to enhance your understanding of the field and strengthen your marketability.
- Identify top strengths, skills, and interests from past academic and work experiences.
- Enroll in electives that will further your career and personal goals.
- Complete an internship if you have not already done so.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Continue in leadership roles in campus and community organizations related to your career field.

PERSONAL GROWTH

- Network with friends, family, alumni, faculty, and acquaintances.
- Evaluate your lifestyle interests and values to determine your post-graduation plans.
- Be aware of changing relationships with parents, siblings, and friends.
- Develop a budget and evaluate financial responsibilities.

CAREER AND LIFE DEVELOPMENT

- First week of class, meet with professors about your graduate school plans, seek advice, and identify potential authors of letters of recommendation.
- First week of class, make an appointment with the Office of Career Services to discuss your career goals and create a job search plan.
- Strengthen your job search skills by attending workshops and seminars offered by the Office of Career Services during the fall and spring semesters.
- Have your resume and cover letter critiqued by the Office of Career Services.
- Practice your interviewing skills by scheduling a Mock Interview with the Office of Career Services.
- Learn strategies “to work a job fair” and write your “one-minute commercial” to introduce yourself to recruiters; continue to attend Job Fairs/Expos offered at UM and throughout the city.

- Update your Handshake and UM Portfolio with examples of your accomplishments, community and campus involvement, and academic endeavors.
- Continue to expand your professional network.
- Tailor your cover letter clearly stating why you are interested in working for the organization, submit your resume, and complete an employment application, if required.
- Follow up with employers to request job interviews. After each interview, send a thank you e-mail and a handwritten note expressing your appreciation for the recruiter’s time and reiterating your interest in the organization.
- Continue to interview until you receive job offers. Evaluate your offers, understand all company benefits, and accept an offer.
- Report any job offers and acceptances to the Office of Career Services and your academic department.
- Continue to talk about your career goals with everyone you meet; continue to visit professionals in the workplace.

SUMMER AFTER COLLEGE

If you land a job before graduation:

- If headed to business school, consider taking the GMAT this summer and applying this fall to enter business school with one year of job experience.
- Remember, every August for the rest of your life, ask yourself: “In one year, do I want to be in grad school?”
- Pursue a service opportunity or some kind of big adventure.
- Take any kind of wage job and rest your mind.

If launching a career but without a job yet:

- Use the Office of Career Services to run a systematic search.
- Find a post-baccalaureate internship or summer job in your industry or field.
- Stay in touch with professors who may refer you to positions.
- Try hard to find work you’re interested in, even passionate about, that requires your college degree and your accumulated skills, and try hard not to freak out and settle for any income you can find.



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