

# The Key to a Successful College Experience...Planning

	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR</b>	<b>4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR +</b>
	<b>DISCOVER!</b>	<b>EXPLORE!</b>	<b>EXPERIENCE!</b>	<b>CHOOSE!</b>
<b>C A R E E R</b>	<b>EXPLORE CAREER AREAS</b>	<b>COLLECT MORE INFORMATION</b>	<b>INCREASE EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>FIRST CAREER CHOICE</b>
	<p>Talk with family, friends, &amp; professors about your career ideas</p> <p>Take a career inventory such as the STRONG &amp;/or FOCUS (offered by Career Development) to confirm your ideas</p> <p>Identify your strengths by considering the following:                      - Past accomplishments                      - Interests, skills &amp; abilities                      - Work values &amp; personality style</p>	<p>Read about at least 3 career options available to you through your major</p> <p>Talk with professionals in interesting careers (informational interviews)</p> <p>Spend a day on the job with professionals in different careers (job shadow)</p> <p>Gain experience through a related summer job or volunteer work</p>	<p>Complete an internship or two</p> <p>List your tentative career decisions</p> <p>Attend Resume Writing &amp; Interview prep workshops</p> <p>Begin to request recommendations from faculty and employers</p> <p>Become familiar with work settings and job descriptions</p> <p>Join a professional organization at the cheaper student rate!</p>	<p>Identify and confirm job targets</p> <p>Attend Job Search, Interviewing and Senior Kickoff sessions</p> <p>Develop an employer contact list</p> <p>Attend Career Fair(s)</p> <p>Interview for jobs on campus, at job fairs &amp; independently</p> <p>Read professional journals &amp; join a listserv</p>
<b>A C A D E M I C</b>	<b>EXPLORE THE UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>GAIN MORE INFORMATION</b>	<b>MAKE INITIAL CHOICES</b>	<b>LONG-TERM DECISIONS</b>
	<p>Become familiar with KU majors and minors</p> <p>Review course descriptions and graduation requirements for your major/intended major</p> <p>Make a point to talk one-on-one with each of your professors</p> <p>Get to know your faculty advisor</p> <p>Seek help if you are having difficulty with a course</p> <p>Consider taking summer classes and plan a summer job that relates to your major</p>	<p>Join the KU academic club for your major</p> <p>Confirm your choice of major and consider adding a minor</p> <p>Meet with your faculty advisor each semester</p> <p>Look into a study abroad program</p> <p>Focus attention on attaining a good GPA - study HARD!</p>	<p>Earn good grades in major courses</p> <p>Attend seminars and conferences related to your major</p> <p>Ask faculty about relationship between academic coursework and future plans</p> <p>Meet with faculty advisor to confirm remaining counseling</p> <p>Is grad school in your future? Find out when and what you need to do</p> <p>Attend Grad School Fair and research &amp; evaluate programs</p>	<p>Send out grad school applications</p> <p>Develop a special senior project</p> <p>Make a list of your long-term learning goals</p> <p>Where do you see yourself in 5, 10 years?</p>
<b>P E R S O N A L</b>	<b>GAIN SELF-AWARENESS</b>	<b>EXPAND NEW ROLES</b>	<b>TAKE SOME RISKS</b>	<b>MAKE COMMITMENTS</b>
	<p>Identify interests &amp; values</p> <p>Find an organization or event to volunteer your time</p> <p>Discuss your changing relationship(s) with family and friends</p>	<p>Broaden your circle of friends</p> <p>Get to know some international students and explore options for study abroad</p> <p>Find a mentor who can offer support</p>	<p>Seek out people to talk about your concerns</p> <p>Help another work through a problem</p> <p>Discuss some of your decisions with a mentor</p> <p>Test your ideas through a discussion group</p>	<p>List the components of your ideal lifestyle</p> <p>Talk to an alum about your first year out of school</p> <p>Make a list of your firm decisions</p> <p>Write 3 life goals &amp; 3 fears about next year</p>
<b>&amp;</b>	<b>INITIATE RELATIONSHIPS</b>	<b>INCREASE INVOLVEMENT</b>	<b>EXERCISE NEW SKILLS</b>	<b>DEVELOP LEADERSHIP</b>
<b>S O C I A L</b>	<p>Join Residence Hall, Commuter or Greek organization</p> <p>Join KU clubs and organizations of interest</p> <p>Allow time for fun!</p>	<p>Work on Residence Hall, Commuter or Greek project or program</p> <p>Apply for an on-campus job</p> <p>Participate in intramurals</p>	<p>Get involved in student government or run for a leadership position in a campus club/org.!</p> <p>Volunteer your time to help a community organization</p>	<p>Chair a group or committee</p> <p>Lead a student/professional organization</p>