Today’s Workshop

• Introduction to the Center for Career Education (CCE)
• The international student job hunt: strengths, challenges, and strategies
• Your first year plan
CCE Provides You With

• Career Counseling / Quick Questions
• Practice Interviews
• LionSHARE internship/job postings
• 9 Internship Programs & 3 Student Enterprises
• Career fairs, networking events, panels, workshops, site visits
• Career resources through the CCE Web site (International student section)
You have key strengths to offer an employer. You may also face challenges in your internship/job hunt.

To understand both, start early to identify:

- Your Skills and Experience (What you bring)
- Fields/Orgs./Jobs/Locations (What you want)
- Work Authorization Requirements (US & Elsewhere)
- Other Challenges & Ways to Address Them
Your Strengths

• A demonstrated ability to adapt to new and challenging situations
• Knowledge of another culture, region, and international experiences
• Language skills
• Many others!
Your Challenges

• Government (work authorization) restrictions
• Additional paperwork and fees for employers
• Short-term commitment (want to return home) perception
• Communication/cultural differences
• Lack of networks in locations of interest
Overcoming Challenges

• Gain related experience — clubs, volunteering, research, internships, on campus employment
• Contact organizations that serve your country including professional societies, advocacy groups, consulates
• Investigate internships at multinational organizations with offices in your country of origin or plans to expand there (Uniworld)
• Research organizations that hire international students, post eligible internships, or need your language skills (CCE Career Fairs & Going Global)
• Network!
On Campus Employment

• International students (visas) are usually eligible for on campus **casual** positions (not work study)

• You can find these positions on:
  • LionSHARE
  • Departmental Websites

• Some of the places to work on campus include: Lerner Hall, Columbia Libraries, CU Call Center, Dining Services, Columbia College Information Technology, Dodge Fitness Center, 3 student enterprises

• Attend our **Getting a Job on Campus** workshops on August 30 (12 pm & 1 pm - 329 Pupin)
Selecting a Major

• Sophomore year = major declaration
• International students (visa) must consider classes/major and relationship to career

  The rules of H1B visas require that the major be related to the job. Attend ISSO/CCE sessions in fall or spring to learn more!

• For some, your major might not be in an affiliated subject but must have significant coursework (minor, concentration) to be approved for a Visa
Student Story

Agustino Fontevecchia
Markets Reporter, Forbes Magazine
Studied: Sociology

• **Internships:**
  
  Committee to Protect Journalists (US)
  Buenos Aires Herald & La Nacion (ARGENTINA)

• **Tip 1:** “…mobilize your contacts, especially people you know from back home and see who they know in related industries. When you go back home, try to work there too…use contacts back home to convince them to let you work, despite there not being an actual framework for interns.”
• **Tip 2:** “…In terms of job searching, motivation is key. It's good to have a few options on the table for yourself. Find the industry you want to work in, and find the perfect job, but look at others that are interesting or will build skills that you will need in whatever you want to do.”
• **Tip 3:** “...It’s very important to think on your feet and be quick about things in order to take advantage of different opportunities. After convincing (my employer to hire me under OPT)...they brought me on as a "temp worker" ...I delivered through my actions (i.e. getting a lot of hits on my stories), once I got that, I ...got it (H1-B sponsorship) to happen.”
Your First Year

• Learn about working under your Visa
• Attend CCE’s workshop on resumes and create yours. Stop by Quick Questions for a review
• Set up a LionSHARE account and Job Agent
• Attend career events to learn about options
• Read CCE’s weekly newsletter
• Learn about CCE’s Exploration Externship, spring/summer internship opportunities, and the Presidential Global Fellowship (rising sophomores regardless of financial need)
• Engage on campus!
International students are invited to these introductory career workshops on job-search and interviewing skills and an information session about F-1 Post-Completion Practical Training.

- **September 24th**
- **November 12th**
East Campus, Lower Level
(212) 854-5609
careereducation@columbia.edu
www.careereducation.columbia.edu

Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm
Wednesdays (during the semester), 9am-8pm
Quick Questions, 1pm-4pm (Mon-Fri)

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR
Career Education