

Thinkful: Career planning document

This document will collect and organize your work in the career planning lesson of the prep course. Complete each section after reviewing the relevant assignment in the course material.

Section 1: Explore the landscape

Write your one to three paragraph reflection for assignment 4.1.1 here.

I appreciate both the pros and cons of an ill-defined field such as data science. I think I'm an ill-defined person but that leaves room to carve into a well-defined, valuable niche in the workforce, or, for me, academia. I've thought this over a few times before, coming up with the conclusion that I've always been a scientist, but am now pursuing, with Thinkful, the skills I consider to myself pertinent to be the most optimal and efficient scientist possible in the 21st century. How could I carry on a scientist when there's a gold mine sitting somewhere full of information? I couldn't. So I truck on through programming and statistics because I see that arguably the best tool human beings have created thus far is the computer, and the possibilities are exponential with it. I'm already a storyteller, a creative, and a business person, so I now live heavy in those skills that need work to help balance myself out.

Section 2: Job postings

Find five job postings you're very interested in and post them here. Focus on one city. Don't just post the links; job postings have a way of disappearing after a while.

***Note to self: Environments I want to work in: music hall, university, museum, library, news station, niche digital marketing with specific purposes, nonprofits, planetarium, aquarium...**

Job 1

- Company name: San Diego Symphony Orchestra
- Title: Artistic Assistant
- Why did you choose this job?

I think this position does a great job of combining my passion for music, my communication skills including but not limited to guest services, coordinating events, as well as working with a musical performance execution software, OPAS.

- Link:
<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/San-Diego-Symphony/jobs/Artistic-Assistant-2a3d9e8218d3f09b?sjdu=QwrRXKrQZ3CNX5W-O9jEvQHG67mVOh3utjGs-Bb3YM8dZ>

[kHUsnGYGtHQWqZAI-Q9zuvZNOOEphuSNgf1WgxmrA&tk=1c659c0eja3puerr&vjs=3](https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=f2be014350331dd0&tk=1c659c0eja3puerr&from=serp&vjs=3)

Job 2

- Company name: San Diego State University
- Title: Social Sciences & Data Librarian - Senior Asst. Librarian
- Why did you choose this job?

A great combination of cross-discipline outreach, social science instruction, providing data services cross-disciplines, relating to “the discovery, evaluation, and manipulation of data and the use of statistical tools for quantitative and qualitative data.” It’s important to me to take the skills I already have (business/communication/social sciences/cross-discipline liberal arts) and combine them with the competitive niche skills I expect this bootcamp to teach me.

- Link:
<https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=f2be014350331dd0&tk=1c6595rsra3pudjm&from=serp&vjs=3>

Job 3

- Company name: KFMB
- Title: Weather Producer
- Why did you choose this job?

I’d love to work at a news station again, this time with the skills to analyze data and create graphics for use of the reporters. I think this position has me thinking more about how I can be creative with data analytics.

- Link:
<https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=828d96f1f91e6380&q=data+producer&l=San+Diego%2C+CA&tk=1c65amc78a3pu9di&from=web&vjs=3>

Job 4

- Company name: Rescue Social Change Group
- Title: Social Insights Analyst
- Why did you choose this job?

Combination of subculture analysis, digital marketing, and delivery of social media data driven insights.

- Link:
<https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=4f548f168c3e49f8&q=digital+marketing&l=San+Diego%2C+CA&tk=1c65avq0oa3puega&from=web&vjs=3>

Job 5

- Company name: Gannett (The Desert Sun)
- Title: Data & Investigations Editor
- Why did you choose this job?

I love and fit in well with newsroom cultures, which, fitting in with the culture of a business is extremely important to me, and I'd love to do research analyzing data for reporters, something I've done before but not to this caliber.

- Link:

<https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=1b797c9b73666b38&q=music+producer&l=San+Diego%2C+CA&tk=1c65bdb4da3pue3c&from=web&vjs=3>

Section 3: Your company hitlist

Find five dream companies (whether or not they're hiring data scientists right now) and add them to this hit list. Focus on the same city you did for job postings. Include a sentence about why you added each company.

Company 1

- Company name: Father Joe's Villages
- Why did you choose this company? I've volunteered at this company before, and I truly loved it. I love the age group (teenagers), and the freedom to use whatever skills you have to help this growing nonprofit's cause. I've watched it expand over the years and it would be great to be a part of it as an analyst for their career services department.

Company 2

- Company name: San Diego Museum of Man
- Why did you choose this company? I adore the museums of Balboa Park; places of cultural significance are very important to me and I know I would feel passionate about furthering the cause with a career there. This museum in particular includes a scientific topic I'm most interested in, being evolution of man + cultural aspects since.

Company 3

- Company name: Fleet Science Center
- Why did you choose this company? This museum in particular is a planetarium as well which is a major passion of mine; it's important that the job I get involves something I could never stop learning enough about.

Company 4

- Company name: Birch Aquarium
- Why did you choose this company? Environment is important to me, it needs to somewhere I am learning constantly and immersed in science. The Birch Aquarium is a beautiful place I can see myself planning events for and managing digital marketing, etc.

Company 5

- Company name: San Diego Museum of Art
- Why did you choose this company? I would love to spend my time digitizing or cataloguing works of art here, perhaps managing digital marketing using data to generate and predict trends or outcomes of events at the museum. Again, it's key that I'm in a place of learning.

Section 4: Find your people

Add the data science related events in your area and find LinkedIn profiles for local data scientists working at the kind of job you want.

Local data science events:

- Tampa Bay Data Science General Meeting (14 February 2018)
- Open Python Mentoring - Tampa Bay (17 February 2018)
- Python 2000 Challenger Activity Meeting - Tampa Bay (24 February 2018)

Local data scientist from a company on your hit list:

- April Smitley - Library Services Coordinator at the San Diego Museum of Art

First or second degree connection in the industry:

- Al Christopher

Section 5: Write your own story

Make the work you've done so far concrete.

Describe your ideal job to an industry professional

I'd love to use spatial analytical tools to study historic change, text mining to discover literary, film, and musical trends. I'm a liberal studying individual, covering a wide span of topics, but it's under the guise that I'd like to use data science to further my academic thesis/research. I want to code well, just like a write, clear and concise and properly formatted, and develop the skill of translating the problems or hypothesis that I am exploring into the best critical/analytic questions possible, and then mastering the effects of presenting them. I want to know statistics backward and forward so that I can properly know the very best graphs to design for the data I am presenting.

Describe the same job to a non-technical family member

I'd like to use computers to tell stories and pick up on patterns in history, literature, film, biology, psychology and other physical and social sciences. It's a very cool thing that computers provide us with, the ability to easily generate images and graphs to present mass amounts of data that did not exist so easily accessible before. I'll be asking research questions and then using the computer to tell stories about my findings, showing my work along the way.

Draft your aspirational professional summary

I'm a musician, disc jockey, audio technical specialist, classical or liberal studies professor, and an evolutionary biologist scientist who combines logic and art to paint the very best picture of the world as we know it (and the systems beneath it) to the rest of the public.