**Creating Your Job Search Strategy**

**Learning Objectives**

In this unit, you'll:

* Develop your career strategy to help you successfully land a job when you complete the course
* Appreciate the greater importance of network building and referrals over resumes, and start doing the upfront work to build a network
* Recognize some common misconceptions, like searching for job titles (rather than descriptions), or that good data science jobs are only limited to well-known tech firms
* Learn about how career services work and build rapport with your career coach

Breaking into a new role can feel scary and overwhelming. Luckily, you have a Springboard career team that is here to help! We're glad you've taken the leap and made the decision to pursue a career in data science. To help you prepare for a successful career in the data science industry, we've put together a career curriculum that covers job search strategies, how to avoid common mistakes made by job seekers, and so much more.

In this unit, you’ll build a job search strategy based on your background and goals. It’s important to remember that your prior work experience is full of transferable skills that you can incorporate into your strategy development.

**Please note:** it's vital to begin working on your job search strategy immediately. Even though you're likely not to get a data science job for several months, you should familiarize yourself with the field and the types of skills that employers want now to be prepared and make your job search as efficient as possible. Let’s get started!

### Fundamentals of Effective Job Hunting

In this subunit, we'll cover the fundamentals of the job search approach that we recommend. Instead of randomly blasting out hundreds of resumes across the internet, we're here to help you create a strategic, effective, and efficient job search.

**Land Any Job You Want - How Successful People Think Differently**

Save



30 - 50 Minutes

11 Points

In this article, Raghav Haran, a job search coach and blogger, shares insights and an inspiring story about how developing different mindsets help people like you achieve success and create a remarkable career.

Though this was written in 2016 its content is still a great reminder of the importance of having the right mindset when starting to look for a new job.

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**Recap**

In this unit, you learned about the key components of an effective job search strategy. You’ll continue to hone your personal job search strategy and put it into action in tandem with creating a key job search asset: your professional online portfolio.  
  
Your Springboard career coach is available to you throughout the course for questions and feedback as you start to implement your job search strategy. Stay in touch with your coach and share your job search progress to receive guidance!  
  
In the next unit, you'll work through the entire Data Science Method as you complete a guided capstone that will teach you skills you'll use for the rest of this course — and throughout your career.

**Applying the Data Science Method**

**Learning Objectives**

* Gain first-hand experience with the end-to-end data science process you’ll use to complete work for this course and throughout your career as a data scientist

**Work to Complete**

In this unit, you'll:

* Work through each step of the data science method by completing a guided capstone project

In this unit, you’ll get to see data science in action (and be part of that action)! The Data Science Method (DSM) is the process you'll rely on to solve any data science problem you come up against. You already learned about problem identification, which is the first step in this process. Now, you'll work through each of the DSM's steps and get your first taste of an end-to-end data science project.   
  
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Description automatically generated**This unit encompasses the entirety of the DSM. You'll work through the end-to-end process two more times:**

* Once during your second capstone, which is woven throughout the rest of the core units
* Again during your third capstone, which you'll work on after you choose a specialization.

You'll find an article at the beginning of each subunit that explains the step being taught; these articles were written by Aiden Johnson, one of the subject matter experts who helped to build this course. Once you've read the article, you'll practice implementing that step by working through a guided capstone project. As you work, keep in mind that your next big course project will be to work on a capstone project by yourself, so be sure to make a note of any step of this process that you find particularly enjoyable or challenging.

**tep One: Problem Identification**

In this subunit, you'll take an in-depth look at the first step in the data science method: **problem identification.** You've already worked on a unit about this step so we've kept this subunit brief; you'll find resources that will ensure you're set up with a solid foundation to work from as you work through the guided capstone project.

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**Guided Capstone - Step One**

Save

1 - 2 Hours

27 Points

You learned all about problem identification in the first technical unit of this course. If you'd like to review this topic before you get to work, [**click here**](https://medium.com/@guymaskall/problem-identification-f7db429af6e0?sk=e88f6bedcd90289fc9348b259e02c1de).

For the first step of this guided capstone, you'll fill out a problem statement worksheet based on what you learn by reading through this Big Mountain case study overview. This task is very similar to what you did when working through the Problem Identification unit — feel free to refer back to the resources contained in that unit if you need a refresher.

**Submission Steps**

1. Read these[**project instructions**](https://www.springboard.com/archeio/download/8fa880a90f874610ac253bbf60b34a13/)**.**
2. Once you've finished your work, please submit it here and discuss it with your mentor during your next call. Make sure your document share settings are set so that your mentor can view your work.