

Job Fair Lab

Job Fair Lab Option A - this can get you up to 12/10 points

This lab involves going to the job fair and discussing professional responsibilities and the importance of ethics in the workplace. If you have a job and do not like the job fair atmosphere, or you really can't make it there on Thursday, you may investigate the ethics of the employer you've already chosen. I'd like to see you develop a simple investigation of some basic interesting questions, like choose one or two of these (or make another of basic interest):

"Does your company have a code of ethics or conduct? Can you point me to a copy of it?"

"Does your company have a process for investigating ethical/professional lapses of employees and is it published for others to know?"

"Do you know that our Computer Science and Software Engineering graduates are the only graduates in the College of Engineering who are required to complete a course in Professional Responsibilities?"

"Does it make any difference to you as an employer, would you choose one of our graduates above others who do not meet such a requirement?"

It is **imperative** that you show the **utmost** respect and professionalism in your queries to the company reps. Some of them really may not be prepared for (or even embarrassed by) such questions. Make light of it and let them off the hook if it is uncomfortable, we are not here to judge them or anything, we are just curious and want to share what we can find out with the rest of the class. Anonymity of answers may be important, offer not to mention who they represent if they still want to talk to you but feel uncomfortable. We're not doing a formal study, but are curious.

The writeup of this lab will be individual and based on the depth and format of your work. I suggest you come up with two or three questions (related) and while you're looking for a job, work in these questions along with handing them your resume. Have a hypothesis beforehand, and a sense of what the answer seems to be (beforehand!). Collect some answers (data) to test your hypothesis, I suggest 3 or 4 companies (you might vary the type of company or the geographical locations if they are part of your hypothesis).

I expect a one to two page summary listing your questions, your hypotheses (and some explanation as to why your hypotheses make sense before you go get the data), explain carefully the process you follow (your procedure to gather the data), then gather and present the data in some tabular format or chart, then summarize your results to confirm or refute your hypotheses with some explanation about it all. Basic comments on the overall experience are good to include.

Job Fair Lab Option B - This can get you up to 10/10 points.

Pick a company you currently work for or would like to work for and research their ethics policies. For example: Do they have a code of ethics? Do they adhere to the SE Code of Ethics? What are their policies on discrepancies in their code of conduct? Do they offer an anonymous way to report ethics violations?

Write up a one (or more) page double-spaced summary of your findings.