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.*

To me data science describes the tool kit that someone could you to make informed decisions about what the data is saying. For example, sometimes people have gut feelings about things or make decisions based on emotions and I think that making data driven decisions is both more empowering and more meaningful.

I think data science is the current buzz word, but the concepts and skills that these two words describe are very powerful. I am excited to grow my skill set in this field and to leverage the skills I develop to move ahead in my career and become more data savvy, on even a personal level.

## 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.*

### Job 1

* + Company name: Bayer
  + Title: Associate Data Scientist
  + Why did you choose this job?
    1. Bayer is a long-time large player in the pharmaceutical industry with opportunities for growth within the company
    2. I like that ‘data science’ is in the role title
    3. The work is clearly identified and described – take ownership of developing prescriptive breeding algorithms in soybean line development and drive development of algorithms from discovery to validation to deployment (I like that there is an opportunity to participate in the whole pipeline)
    4. Required experience in Python/R, ML algorithms (ensemble, deep learning, svm), experience with deep learning packages (Keras, TensorFlow)
  + Link: <https://www.ziprecruiter.com/c/Bayer/Job/Associate-Data-Scientist/-in-Anchorage,AK?ojob=8caf2c1c7ac3758f98e2cb9c7e0d5fa3&utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic>

### Job 2

* + Company name: Gates Foundation
  + Title: Senior Business Systems Analyst (IT)
  + Why did you choose this job?
    1. Always wanted to work there
    2. The role is very broad and comprehensive
    3. Offers an opportunity to oversee projects
  + Link: <https://gatesfoundation.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/Gates/job/Seattle-WA/Senior-Business-Systems-Analyst--IT--Data-Management-_B013025>

### Job 3

* + Company name: Hilcorp Energy Company
  + Title: Financial Analyst
  + Why did you choose this job?
    1. The job lists knowledge of things like PowerBI, so it seems like there is an opportunity here to deploy data science skills
    2. The subject area seems very interesting – analyze past performance and make forecasts
  + Link: <https://www2.startwire.com/jobs/anchorage-ak/financial-analyst-391171832?source=seo&utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic>

### Job 4

* + Company name: Cook Inlet Region Inc (CIRI)
  + Title: Energy Analyst
  + Why did you choose this job?
    1. An opportunity to remain in the energy sector
    2. Data analytics role with seemingly an opportunity to deploy new technology
  + Link: <http://jobs.jobvite.com/ciri/job/oBVx9fwW?utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic>

## 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: British Petroleum
  + Why did you choose this company?

I currently work for this company and would really love an opportunity to grow into a data science role. This is a global company and I would to be able to work with groups from different regions or to coordinate global projects. BP has grown into the renewable energy sector and I would love to work on projects in that area.

### Company 2

* + Company name: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
  + Why did you choose this company?

This is one of the companies that I have always, always dreamed of working for. They have an incredible mission to help people all over the world that deeply resonates with me. I value especially their commitment to improving the lives of children all over the world and to assisting health care providers with being able to bring vaccines to all corners of the world. I have a background in Public Health and being able to work for the Gates Foundation as a data scientist who analyses either health data or the impact the company is having across the world would be such a dream job.

### Company 3

* + Company name: Washington Capitals
  + Why did you choose this company?

I am a huge hockey fan and although sports statistics scare me a little bit, an opportunity to work for this team would be such an honor! It would be really nice to move back to DC, where I spent 14 years, and to interact with the really cool players of this team, even occasionally.

### Company 4

* + Company name: Pharmaceutical Product Development (PPD)
  + Why did you choose this company?

This is a global company and they have a lot of roles that make it possible to work from home. I think that would be something that I would really enjoy and would open up a whole new work experience for me.

### Company 5

* + Company name: CDC
  + Why did you choose this company?

Due to my background in Public Health, I have genuinely always had a dream of working for the CDC. In today’s world, where a lot of Federal agencies are struggling to really demonstrate how they add value, the mission of the CDC and their every day work is so impactful and critical. I would really love to be a part of that.

## 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:

* This is the hardest part about living in Alaska – there really aren’t any local DS events ☹

### Local data scientist from a company on your hit list:

* There really aren’t any local data scientist, even at BP, in Alaska. I was able to find some folks in Seattle who are data science roles for the Gates Foundation
* <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jonagnone/>

### First or second degree connection in the industry:

* I have a first degree connection to someone at PPD
* <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shannon-grahek-17839652/>

## Section 5: Write your own story

*Make the work you've done so far concrete.*

### Describe your ideal job to an industry professional

My ideal job would be as a Data Scientist or Data Analyst on a team with other data professionals, including software developers, and my role would be to analyze data to provide insights to our clients. I would use machine learning tools to develop predictive models and would time series analysis and neural networks to help clients make business decisions. I would also help the data engineers develop tools around the models that I’ve built. Eventually I would like to function as a project manager or a dev ops manager and coordinate project development for the team, or even at a regional or global level.

### Describe the same job to a non-technical family member

If I had to describe what I would love to be doing to my family and friends, I would say that I would love a job that allowed me to see patterns in company data that would assist my coworkers in seeing things that are hard to see with the naked eye. I enjoy uncovering patterns and making predictions about outcomes that may occur in the future.

### Draft your aspirational professional summary

Professional summary – I am a detail oriented and curious analyst who enjoys answering complex questions with insights from data. I utilize modeling and data visualization techniques to assist with answering business questions using company data.