# Week 14 Instructor Notes

## Overview

Students will explore and summary career paths in Software QA-Testing.

## Objectives

By the end of the week, each student will be able to:

* Discover professional skills and needs of companies for testers
* Explore job career paths

## Before the Week Begins (Prepare)

Preparation:

* Reading

Partnership/Group work:

* Individual or Partnership work on Labs and Prove

## During the Week (Teach)

### Labs:

* Lab: Career Move: You have been working with the test team for the last 5 years. You have found a new opportunity within the company to be a Test Lead or Software Developer.

## Looking Ahead

To be aware of

Next week's announcements:

* Please create and post your Announcement for Finals by Friday of this week.

# Prepare

## Overview

Knowing the needs of the field can help in finding jobs and people for those jobs. As a professional, students need to have the ability to interpret job description posts (job recs) and customize their experience accordingly. For example, when understanding the differences between a job rec that says Testing but is QA. Another good skill is the ability to create job descriptions that are useful for individuals to apply. (Too often, job descriptions don't have enough information or contain information that doesn't match the title or information with too many project conventions).

## Objectives

By the end of the week, each student will be able to:

* Discover the professional skills and needs of companies for testers.
* Explore job career paths.

### Weekly Schedule

CSE 270 is a three-credit class. Three hours of class time (Teach). For every hour of class time, the school expects to have 2 hours of homework, for a total of 9 hours.

* 1st-2nd Hour: Prepare Material & Quiz.
* 3rd-4th Hour: [Teach: I am a Software Tester; where do I go from here?](https://byui-cse.github.io/cse270-course/Teach/CSE270M14TeachCareer.html)
* 6-8th Hour: [Prove: Testing as a Career](https://byui-cse.github.io/cse270-course/Prove/CSE270M14ProveCareer.html).
* 9th Hour: Ponder Reflection Quiz.

## Preparation Material

To be prepared for this module's activities, please read the following and be prepared to start or complete activities for Teach One Another and Prove assignments.

### Reading

* [See Reading.](https://webmailbyui-my.sharepoint.com/personal/wac3_byui_edu/Documents/GitHub/cse270-course/Reading/Reading.html)

As you read, try to answer the following questions:

* What are different career paths and options of Software Testers?

**I am a Software Tester. Where do I go from here?**

**Overview**

A software tester has a lot of possibilities for advancements.   
Having testing skills is a great asset as a programmer. As a programmer, in most projects that I have started on, I spend the first 2-3 months working through the current software tests to become familiar with the software and improving the process. I have seen a lot of programmers come from the testing landscape.   
I have seen several testers become Test Leads over large projects. A Test Lead has a team of testers with various backgrounds (IT, CS, EE, even non-STEM degrees like History, English, Music). Each of these testers background bring a domain knowledge of the customer to make a better product. From the Lead of a Test Team, Project Management is a good career path.  
Those with non-technical skills transform Testing skills into other domains like Quality Assurance, Security, DevOps, User Experience, Business Analysis, and Architect.   
Do some research on the Career Field to help you answer the following questions.   
Perception of a Software Tester. Many programmers have the program's mindset of just implementing the requirements and software design and then toss it over the fence to the testers. Tossing the quickly programmed code to the tester and blaming them for it failing happens towards the end of the schedule. The Test Engineer usually finds the bugs in the programs and delivers bad news, from small to critical defects. Being the bug finder puts a lot of pressure and certain perception on the Test team as not good players.

**Topics**

Based on your reading, work in groups of 2-4 individuals.   
Answer each of the questions from the list below. Answer the question by researching the topic and provide a summary for each group of questions. Make sure you cite your sources; you need to have at least two others other than the readings.

* What type of skills, experiences, and projects for a tester would be good on a resume?
  + Find five job posting on software testing. What skills are needs as a tester?
* What are the different career paths of a Tester? (Following questions help you pick one, or use your own.)
  + What are the ways of moving from Testing positions to a software development position?
  + What are the ways of moving from Testing positions to lead?
  + What are the ways of moving from other career paths?
* What is the perception of a Tester?
  + How can we overcome the perception?

**Rubric**

Use the following rubric to help understand the expectation.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Exceptional 100%** | **Good 90%** | **Acceptable 70%** | **Developing 50%** | **Missing 0%** |
| **Questions 70%** | Answered all question, clearly described and well supported with quotes | Answered all the question in detail. | Missing 1-2 answers, and answers are detailed. | Missing majority of answers to questions or answers consist of 1-2 sentences. | No answers to questions |
| **Teamwork 20%** | Assignments have meeting time or team discussion summary | Assignments are identical | Team assigned different question to individuals, and compiled into one document | Team assigned different questions to individuals, and sent in individually | Team worked on assignments individually and submitted individually |
| **Professionalism 10%** | The paper is easy to read and communicated. | Properly cited, there are no grammar or spelling errors, and the writing style is "professional." | Found an instance of a spelling error, grammar error, incomplete citation, overly verbose wording, poor formatting, or poor writing. | A citation is missing where one is needed (plagiarism alert!). | Gross spelling/grammar errors or other aspects of the writing that make the paper difficult to read. |

The distribution of points starts at 50 percent for the minimal participation expectation and additionally stated expectations increase the percents.

# Prove: Testing as a Career

## Overview

Explore different testing career options based on current job descriptions in the field.

## Backstory

Most companies want to know if you are a good fit for the company; they will also ask you after hiring you what your professional goals are. It would help if you had a general idea of what and where you want to go in your career.

## Instruction

### Part I

You will need to find at least ten different job descriptions from at least five other companies from at least three different field domains (Module 12).   
After reading ten different job descriptions, create a job opening description for H.E.L.P., Inc for three new employees joining your team.

### Part II

Research 10 different related fields. Create a career path map and identify what career opportunities you would like to achieve in the next five years.

### Part III

What conference, training, and research material will you need to make your career happen?

## Make it your Own

The completion of the core of this assignment is 89%. The assignment needs additional personalized work to achieve 100%.

### Part IV

What is the perception of a Tester?

How can we overcome that perception?

## Submission

Make sure that you upload a copy of your document to iLearn. Upload your test code.

## Rubric

Use the following rubric to help understand the expectation.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Exceptional 200%** | **Good 180%** | **Acceptable 140%** | **Developing 100%** | **Missing 0%** |
| **Career Plan 80%** | Make it your own Part IV | Contain Parts III. | Contain Parts I, II | Has two or more major issues | No answers to questions |
| **Professionalism 10%** | Make it your own | Properly cited, there are no grammar or spelling errors, and the writing style is "professional." | Found an instance of a spelling error, grammar error, incomplete citation, overly verbose wording, poor formatting, or poor writing. | A citation is missing where one is needed (plagiarism alert!). | Gross spelling/grammar errors or other aspects of the writing that make the paper difficult to read. |
| **Citations 10%** | One of the citations is a primary source | Contains 3-4 citations other than the reading. | Contains 1-2 more citations other than the reading | Contains citations from the reading | No Citations |