

Co-op Expo Assignment

Course Objectives:

- *Be able to identify and articulate interests, skills, and educational experience to career services staff and employers and how these relate to career and co-op choices.*
- *Feel confident preparing for and navigating a job search, including attending and following up after career fairs and other networking events.*

Attend the Co-op Expo as indicated on your syllabus. *Business casual or proper class attire is expected – no sweatpants, athletic attire, or ripped clothing.*

Before the Co-op Expo:

- Identify and research a minimum of 5 organizations that you'd like to learn more about.
- Prepare 3 to 5 questions to ask the representative (***this individual will be a student who has completed a co-op work experience***) of each organization. While most of the questions for each company may be the same, you may have some specific questions related to their work, location, culture, etc. Use the list below as you see appropriate and feel free to develop your own questions:
 - What was your most favorite part about working for x company?
 - Tell me more about the project (s) you worked on.
 - What was the most significant skill you learned/acquired as a result of this co-op?
 - How would you describe the culture? The people? The work environment?
 - How did you find opportunities to interact and network with other employees/co-ops outside of work?
 - How did you get the job at x company? (i.e. through CareerLINK, career fair, networking, outside sources, etc.)
 - What was the interview process like?
 - How has this experience shaped what you will do next with your career?

During the Co-op Expo:

- Meet representatives from each organization of interest; as time permits, visit others. This event is your chance to learn more about a number of co-op positions – take advantage of the opportunity to learn about as many positions/companies as possible.
- Take notes as appropriate.

After the Co-op Expo:

- Be prepared to participate in a reflective activity during the next PDS class section. Questions may include, but are not limited to:
 - What co-op experience sounded most interesting to you? Why?
 - How have your thoughts about co-op changed after the expo?
 - What was the most valuable thing you learned at the event?