



# **Job Search Strategies for COVID and Beyond**

CS 191 Fall 2021



# What makes a good job search strategy?

1. **Efficient**—best use of your time
2. **Unique**—every one is different
3. **Satisfactory results**—getting the job!



# How Do I Decide What Companies to Consider--Paring Down the Options

Determine what is important to you:

**Size** (small or large)

**Location**—near home, west coast, etc.

**Industry**—tech, healthcare, manufacturing, etc.

**Area of interest/academic area** (security, machine learning, etc.)

**Culture** (structured or open, collaborative, etc.)

**Who do they hire**—do they sponsor?

# How Do I Find the Jobs?

**CS Resources (posted in Commons, on CS website—calendar—daily emails):**

- \*Company Days in CS (in person or virtual)
- \*Tech Talks (in person or virtual)
- \*Career Fair (**Sept. 13, 3-8 pm**)—register with **Symplicity (MyCCO) and Career Fair Plus**
- \*Classes (like 291, 391, or others with speakers)
- \*Club events/speakers

# Other Resources to Find Jobs

- \*Hackathons (BoilerMake, Mhacks, etc.)
- \*CCO Info sessions ([cco.purdue.edu](http://cco.purdue.edu))
- \*All campus company days (Lilly, Cummins, etc.)
- \*Other career fairs (AITP/CIT Computing Fair, IR)
- \*Job postings in CCO and Opportunity Update, company web sites
- \*Conferences (Grace Hopper, Tapia, etc.)
- \*Part-time work
- \*Class projects with company sponsor (307,407)

# Which Event is Best to Attend?

Depends on your goal and what you hope to achieve:

- \***Company Days/Tech Talks**—informal, more time, ask questions (Symplecity 5-15 min)
- \***Job Fairs**—less time, need to be focused, perhaps more pressure, not a lot of time or questions
- \***Projects/part-time work**—get to know company slowly over period of time





# Before You Go:

## Research and Practice!!

- \*Time management—**TARGET** your search
- \*Find out which company is coming to which events—where is best place to see them (which fairs, company day, etc.)
- \*Know **WHAT** they do, ok to ask how they use CS students (company day, not job fair)
- \*Prepare 30-second commercial
- \***PRACTICE!!**

# What do I Say and Ask?

- \*Status—freshman in CS, interested in .....
- \*Looking for summer internship
- \*Why interested in this company .....
- \*Experience in (projects, special skills)
- \*What kind of intern opportunities, projects?

Practice with a partner!



# Important Things to Remember (Career Fair)

- \*Take plenty of resumes (upload for virtual)
- \*Dress is **business casual** or professional (top half for virtual)
- \*Apply online prior to fair if possible
- \*Practice your handshake and eye contact (look into camera for virtual)
- \*Know your resume and what's relevant
- \*Show real interest in the company!
- \*Be personable, SMILE!

## Professional Dress and Presence



Statistically, it takes 30 seconds to make a first impression. You want it to be positive! Ensure attire is laundered, wrinkle-free, and well-fitting. Be mindful of appropriate length and fit of sleeves, pant legs, and skirts.

Although several color variations and patterns of suits, blouses, collar shirts, dresses, skirts, slacks and blazers is often acceptable, choose wisely and strategically based on industry, while embracing authenticity.



Invest in the following accessories and practice formalities: 1) Resumes printed on resume paper 2) Nametag placed on right side; 3) Leather portfolio; 4) Professional bag/satchel, 5) comfortable dress shoes; 5) Customized business cards; 6) watch; 7) belt; 8) Firm handshake; 9) Confident eye contact and smile.

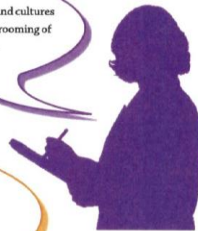


Hair is representative of a variety of lengths, styles, textures, colors and cultures and universally needs to be clean and kempt. Be intentional about grooming of hairstyle, bald head, and/or beard for final presentation.



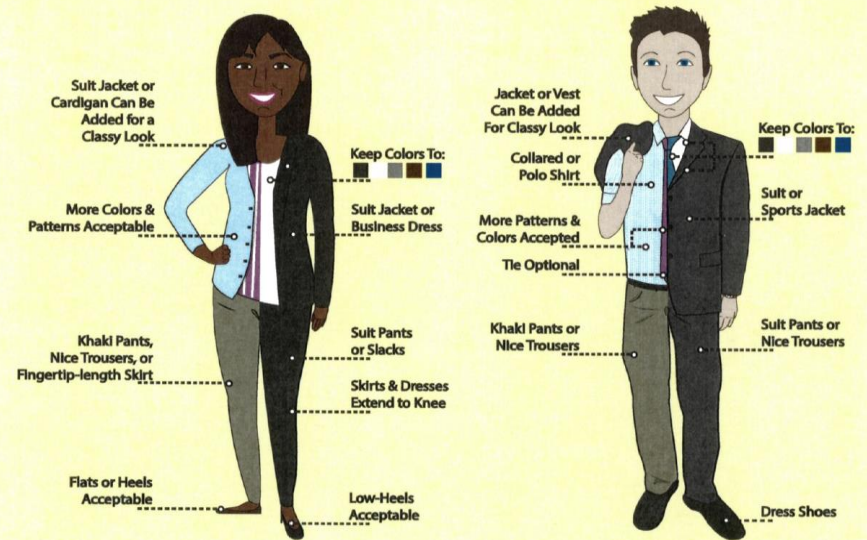
Visit CCO Career Closet during drop-ins for professional attire items.  
Access the CCO Pinterest pages for a variety of professional attire ideas:

- Professional Dress for Men/Women
- Business Casual for Men/Women
- Career Style - Gender Neutral/Gender Queer Attire



## Business Casual vs. Professional

Have an interview or professional event coming up? Learn how to decode dress code.



### Tips for Success in Any Business Situation



- 1 When in doubt, dress conservatively.
- 2 A suit (suit & tie for males) will suffice in most situations
- 3 Make sure your outfit is wrinkle-free.
- 4 Stick with solid colors and tighter-woven fabrics or simple patterns.
- 5 Accessories should be kept simple: basic pumps, modest jewelry, light makeup & light perfume.
- 6 Wear a belt and a watch.
- 7 Be sure your hair is neatly trimmed or groomed. Avoid the "messy" look.
- 8 Shirts with lettering or graphics should not be worn.
- 9 Check your outfit for missing buttons, lint, or a crooked tie.
- 10 A skirt should be no shorter than the tips of your middle fingers (or just above the knee for good measure).

# Important Dates To Remember:

- \*Sept. 8-9 Computing Fair (AITP/CIT)
- \***Sept. 13 CS Career Fair (Symplicty (MyCCO)/Career Fair Plus**
- \*Sept. 14-16 Industrial Roundtable (hybrid)

Purdue fairs are using Symplicty (MyCCO) and Career Fair Plus as add-on

Check CS website and CCO website for details ([cs.purdue.edu](http://cs.purdue.edu), [cco.purdue.edu](http://cco.purdue.edu))



# **Contact Information:**

**Sally Luzader**

**3144B Lawson**

**luzaders@purdue.edu**