Career questions in academic advising: Case studies for professional & faculty advisors

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Let’s get started

Please take a few minutes to discuss the scenario in front of your group.

After a few minutes, we’ll rotate when you hear the gentle alarm.

Feel free to jot down some notes. We will share out our ideas and relevant resources at the end.
Scenario 1

A second-year student comes into your office to talk about changing majors. She is especially curious about what career options are possible for different majors, and she is worried that her career options don’t line up with her passions.

• How would you advise her?
• What resources are you aware of that could help this student?

Resources to consider:

1. Exploring resources: www.uvm.edu/career/exploring-resources

Scenario 2

A first-generation first-year student comes into your office in December asking about summer internship possibilities. He wants to know how he can start getting experience as soon as possible.

• How would you advise him?
• What possibilities does this student have to get experience?

Resources to consider:

1. Guide to Internships: uvm.edu/career/internships
2. Job Shadowing: uvm.edu/career/job-shadowing
3. Alums offer internships/job shadowing on UVM Connect: uvmconnect.org/
**Scenario 3**

During an advising session, a student tells you that they are nervous about networking and are unsure if it is something that is important for their career readiness.

- How would you advise them?
- How would you explain the importance of networking?
- How you help this student get started?

**Resources to consider:**

1. Guide to Networking: go.uvm.edu/network
2. Clubs & Orgs are a great way to get started: clubs.uvm.edu
3. UVM Connect: uvmconnect.org
4. Guide to LinkedIn: uvm.edu/career/your-guide-linkedin

**Scenario 4**

A student tells you that they are excited/nervous about an upcoming interview. This will be their first “real” interview and they’re not sure how to get prepared. Also, they want to know how they can show up and be “professional”. Finally, they know that they should have some questions prepared at the end of the interview, but they don’t know what that looks like.

- How would you advise this student?
- How could this student prepare for an interview?
- What behaviors are appropriate before, during and after an interview?

**Resources to consider:**

1. Guide to Interviewing: uvm.edu/career/your-guide-interviewing
2. Mock Interviews
Scenario 5

A graduating senior is not sure what they want to do after graduation. They’re considering doing something other than starting work immediately. They want to know what their options are.

• How would you advise this student?
• What options would you recommend as alternatives to work?

Resources to consider:
1. You Have Options! go.uvm.edu/post-grad-options
2. Job Search Checklist: go.uvm.edu/jobsearch
3. Plan for Grad School: go.uvm.edu/gograd

Scenario 6

A student reveals to you that he plans to use ChatGPT to create his resume and cover letter as he begins the job search process.

• How would you advise this student?
• How would you prompt the student to best utilize ChatGPT.

Resources to consider:
Refer Students to the Career Center

Academic Year Drop-ins: Mon. - Thurs, 10am-2pm
Summer Drop-in: Mon - Thurs, 11am-1pm

Appointments made through Handshake.

Contact: career@uvm.edu