How Can I Be Successful Post-Bachelor’s?

Many contributors to overall happiness*
- Loving relationships
- Financial comfort / a reasonable standard of living
- Personal freedom
- Meaningful / satisfying work
- Working toward goals
- Good health

* The definition of happiness differs from one person to the next and may differ for one person over time.

How can you set yourself up for career success?

Take Courses

**Computing knowledge:** Develop strong computing knowledge and skills.

**Communication:** Develop reading, listening, writing, and speaking abilities. Being a great communicator will serve you well on any career path.

**General knowledge:** Many computing careers involve working with experts in other fields. Be open to learning about new subjects.

Participate in Internships and Projects

*(you won’t know what you like until you try it)*

**CS Research:** Especially important if you’re thinking of grad school / a research career. Also great because employers like to see that students have worked on open-ended problems!

**Industry Jobs:** Gain experience working on problems that companies care about. Explore different types of work environments, if possible (big company, small company, etc.), to learn what you enjoy most.

**In-class and out-of-class projects:** Grad schools and employers are interested in all your experiences working on big, challenging projects.

(OVER)
**Expand Your Network and Find Mentors**

**Professors:** Get to know *at least* one professor well.

**Employers:** Be a great employee; whether you decide to stay at a job or not, your boss can be a terrific advocate.

**Develop a network:** Professors, employers, colleagues, classmates, and computing professionals you meet can be valuable resources.

**Obtain advice:** Writing a resume, cover letter, or grad school essay? Preparing for an interview? Search for and be open to advice.

**Collaborate**

Computing is an inherently collaborative discipline.
Participate in collaborative group projects.
Learn how to be part of a team.

**Be open...**

To trying new things: You might discover a passion for something you never knew you loved.

To learning new things: Computing is a young and quickly evolving field. That’s part of the fun.

To failing: If you’re doing something challenging and new, failure will happen. Embrace it and learn from it.

To the idea that developing a great career can take time.

**For additional information, see our info sheets on:**

- Is Graduate School for You?
- Master’s or Ph.D.?
- How Do I Successfully Apply to Graduate School?