Northwestern | EPICS

CAREER COMPETENCIES

Career-readiness is an important set of skills to possess as you transition from student to professional. EPICS believes professional success is embodied in the competencies listed below. The competencies are based on career readiness skills created by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (definitions by NACE). EPICS believes these competencies will ensure you are prepared professionally for a meaningful career.

Innovation & Professional Creativity | Students will demonstrate superior skills related to professionalism in the workplace through a strong work ethic, accountability and integrity. As professionals, they will approach their work with strong emotional intelligence, understand their roles and responsibilities, and focus on how to contribute to an organization's success through new, innovative, and creative ways.

Communication & Articulation | Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms to persons inside and outside of the organization. The individual has public speaking skills; is able to express ideas to others; and can write/edit memos, letters, and complex technical reports clearly and effectively.

Critical Thinking & Creative Solutions | Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems. The individual is able to obtain, interpret, and use knowledge, facts, and data in this process, and may demonstrate originality and inventiveness.

Career Readiness & Advancement | Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to the position desired and career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional growth. The individual is able to navigate and explore job options, understands and can take the steps necessary to pursue opportunities, and understands how to self-advocate for opportunities in the workplace.)

Individual & Collective Leadership | Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to be coach and to help develop others. The individual is able to assess and manage his/her emotions and those of others; use empathetic skills to guide and motivate; and organize, prioritize, and delegate work.

Industry Trends | Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals. The individual demonstrates effective adaptability to new and emerging technologies.)

Teamwork/Collaboration | Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers representing diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, religions, lifestyles, and viewpoints. The individual is able to work within a team structure, and can negotiate and manage conflict.

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