

Bates Center for PURPOSEFUL | WORK

Hello!

Now that you've wrapped up your third year at Bates, we at the [Bates Center for Purposeful Work](#) want to send you good wishes for a productive and restorative summer.

Whether you've been here on campus or studying abroad, taken on a leadership role on your team, or started a new club, we know that you'll have a lot to reflect on over the next few months. It's a great time to think about what you've accomplished, what you've gained, and how you'd like to grow and develop further. What would you like to explore? What would be meaningful work to engage in? What are your strengths that you'd most like to employ in the many types of work you do?

Many of you are already preparing for internships and jobs for the summer. In case it's helpful, here's a set of [8 career competencies](#) and [15 candidate qualities](#) that most employers are seeking – How do you stack up? What do you want to work on? Consider the areas of development where you'd like to focus attention – and how your summer activities will help you improve in those areas. As you're considering your AI competencies and skills, check out [our recommendations](#) for how to best represent them to potential employers.

Regardless of what they are, we'd love to hear your summer plans – [click here to share!](#)

For those of you still searching, employers are still posting opportunities on [Handshake](#), other search platforms (like LinkedIn or industry-specific job boards), company websites, and social media. With Handshake, make sure to update your profile (and make it public for recruiters), update your career interests (including your Bates College career clusters), check out the [Resources](#) under the Career Center tab (especially the [Vault industry guides](#) to dive into industry research), and explore opportunities under the Jobs tab.

Consider whether you can build additional knowledge and skills by checking out [Coursera](#), [EdX](#), and other platforms where you can take free or low-cost online courses for free and get exposure to key concepts and technical skills that may give you a professional advantage. For example, data analytics/visualization, programming, and project management are continuing to show up in job descriptions, regardless of industry – from artistic to technical roles. If you're planning to apply to graduate school, check out our [Graduate School Resources](#) and reach out with any questions.

With one year of college left, we know that some of you may be anxious about figuring out your next steps. It can be helpful to connect with alumni working in areas of interest on the [Bates LinkedIn](#) page and learn more about their career trajectories. Whether you're pursuing a path you've always known, exploring new understandings of who you are and who you want to be, or networking with alumni to figure those things out, know that we at Purposeful Work are here to support you. [If you need us, we're available throughout the summer!](#) Reach out, ask questions, and access resources -- especially if you haven't yet. We're here for you!

Happy summer,

[Bates Center for Purposeful Work team](#)