

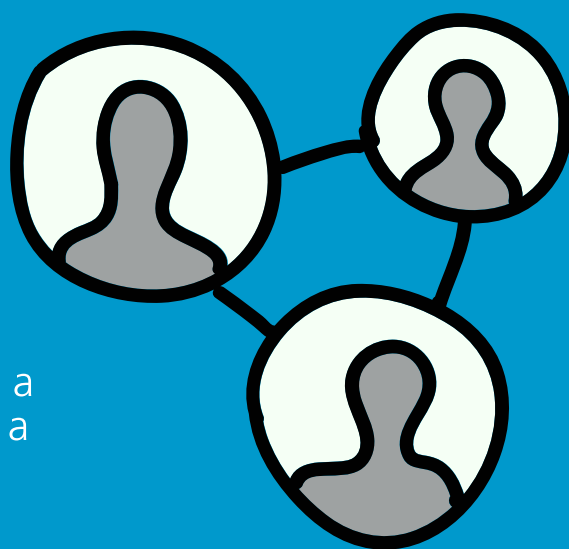
# INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING

WHAT IS INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING? Informational interviewing is a way to gain knowledge from professionals in a specific industry or field. The information that you can gain from an informational interview can help you determine which courses and qualifications are necessary for specific career paths, the types of jobs or companies best suited for you, what skills you may want to gain, and more. All while increasing your network within your field of interest!

## USE YOUR NETWORK

Not sure where to begin?  
Start with people you know!

You may not realize it, but you already have a network. Your network does not have to be a formal list of individuals who have only met professionally.



**Your network can include friends, family members, professors, previous employers, and even Xavier Alumni.**

## DO YOUR RESEARCH



Once you know who you want to connect with, do your research. Try to find out as much information as you can about that person such as: where they went to school, what they studied, articles they've written, conferences they've attended, their career history, etc.

**Knowing more about the person you are interviewing will allow you to ask more pointed and meaningful questions.**

## WHAT ARE SOME QUESTIONS I CAN ASK?

- How did you enter this job/career?
- What kind of experience would help in this career
- What are the disadvantages and advantages of this career?
- What recommendations would you have for an entry-level person considering this career?
- How do you see the jobs in the field changing over the next 10 years? How can I best prepare for these changes?
- What professional organizations are active and responsive in this career field?
- Who would you recommend I contact for more information about this career?



## MAKING THE MOST OF THIS EXPERIENCE



- Practice your elevator pitch at the beginning of the interview
- Ask for feedback on your resume
- Stay connected through LinkedIn to allow for future communication
- Send a follow up Thank You message
- Reach out to referrals

