Citlalli Villanueva

Internship

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Professional Development Critique #1

1. What is the name of the seminar/webinar? Who gave the webinar? What are their respective credentials for teaching this professional development? When was it? Where did it take place?

The Seminar’s name was “Public Affairs—DSS/HRA Career Fair,” a career fair that invited multiple recruiters for students and outsiders to attend, network, and potentially acquire a job. The event occurred on November 20th, 2024, at 285 Jay Street, Brooklyn, New York, at the Academic Complex, one of New York City of Technology’s buildings. It started by gathering the students in a classroom for a small introduction of who the recruiters were and a check-in. After the warm-up, students were finally sent into both rooms, where recruiters patiently waited to start conversations. Some opportunities were to meet local employers and find part-time jobs or post-graduate roles, mainly in the academic, health, and finance areas.

1. What was the webinar about? What were the top 3 most essential items you learned from this professional development and why?

The Career Fair was about putting our networking and communication skills into action. At the beginning of the career fair, students were taken to a classroom for a small introduction to the event. One of the professors gave advice and said confidence is one of the most important things when approaching a recruiter, which one believes is a crucial part of job interviews. The professor also mentioned that it was good to start with a catchy introduction to hook the recruiter’s attention, a piece of advice essential for networking: grab the attention. Lastly, arriving prepared, with a resume on hand, well-dressed, and a clean look, one could notice how employers were more interested in people who looked ready than others. First impressions do mark a difference.

1. How does this professional development relate to the courses or degrees you have studied? Explain why?

The Career Fair was similar to the public speaking class that one has to take in college as a liberal arts class due to one's assertiveness when talking to recruiters. During the public speaking class, there were activities in which students would present their speeches in front of the class; talking to employers had a similar feeling. Professor Knights often said that people give speeches every day and must be ready to give a speech at any moment. In the Business Communication class one is taking, the formality essential when speaking to recruiters will make a difference whether you get a callback or an opportunity for an interview. During class, there was a crucial list that Professor Bermont shared that enumerated various prohibited words not to use when writing and speaking. When meeting the recruiters, one made sure not to use those words.

1. What is the most important takeaway that you have learned from this webinar, and what would you tell your peers about this professional development?

The most important thing that one learned about this Career Fair experience was always to try regardless of how high or low one thinks one's chances of achieving something are. Things will go well if one is prepared and confident in one's potential as a worker. When applying for jobs, it is easy to get rejected multiple times, but persistence will always be the key to success. Participating in a career fair was a good experience that people should experience once in their lives. There will always be jobs hiring and endless opportunities as long as one never stops trying.