



Australia's
Global
University

Focus on Success Lesson Plan

Module 4: Careers After University

A close-up photograph of a hand moving a purple wooden block on a wooden surface. Other wooden blocks in various colors (yellow, orange, blue, grey) are scattered around.

Careers Panel

Workshop: Careers Panel

Workshop Goal

This is a panel style session that provides students with the opportunity to hear first hand from a range of professionals about their industry, the type of work they do, how they made decisions around higher education, and how to navigate a successful career. Hearing the stories of others can inspire the students while also helping them in formulating their own career goals.

The panel should ideally be made up of between three and six professionals from backgrounds that the students can relate to and across a range of industries. The panellists should be requested to submit a detailed bio prior to the event, and also be provided with the chair's questions to help them prepare.

Key Learning Outcomes/Topics covered

- Insight into a range of different jobs and the pathways into different sectors or fields.
- Advice and information related to being successful at school, university and in their careers.
- Positive examples of how local/regional people have forged successful careers.

Resources/handouts/materials needed

- Notes for Facilitator/chair including questions for panellists
- Panellist bio's
- Gifts for panellists
- Microphone

Overview:

Time	Activity	Resources
5 mins	Introduction	
10 mins	Panellist Introductions	
35 mins	Questions for panellists (from chair)	○ Chair notes
10 mins	Questions from students	○ Microphone

Details

Session Introduction:

- o Chair introduces the session, and talks about the purpose and importance of having local professionals come and share their experiences with the students. Introduces each panellist by name and employer/sector.

Panellist Introductions:

- o Each panellist shares their very brief career story and where they work/what they do in their current role, and what they like or don't like about it (2-3 minutes each).

Suggested questions for Panellists:

- o When you were in Year 11, what did you think you would be doing as a career? Has your path been exactly as you imagined it or totally different?
- o How did you decide on what degree you wanted to study? Did you have this in mind throughout your HSC or were you still undecided about what you wanted to do?
- o How did you feel in your HSC year and how did you stay motivated?
- o Did you need to move away from home to attend uni? How did you feel on your first day/first week/first semester at uni?
- o What was university like for you? How different was it from high school? How did you overcome challenges?
- o How hard or easy was it to find a job after you finished your degree? Can you tell us about your journey after uni? What are some of the things that helped you find work?
- o Do you have any advice for someone wanting to get into the same field of work as you?
- o Looking back do you have any big regrets about your study or career choices and path?
- o What skills or aptitudes do you think the future generation will need to have for success in their work life?
- o Do you have a tip for Year 11 students? (It could be about anything!)

Conclusion

- o Conclude the session with any questions from the students/the floor.
- o Thank and hand out gifts to the panellists.