Five Career Fair Mistakes to Avoid

Make the most of your fall career fair experience by avoiding these common mistakes.

Assuming your resume is good. Just because your resume earned you an A grade in a class does not mean that it is career fair ready. Is it tailored for a professional job search? Is it the best it can be? Even if you feel confident about your resume, have it reviewed in Career Services or by someone you trust.

Not researching employers. One of the biggest turn-offs for employers is a student who has no idea what their organization does. Read the websites of the employers you plan to meet. Understand what they do, how they do it, and the challenges they are facing.

Just “winging it.” A stellar career fair experience demands preparation. Get a good night’s sleep, eat something, iron your clothes. Just as important, be prepared to introduce yourself in a brief but engaging way. Don’t go for gimmicks; professional and enthusiastic is always a good approach.

Dressing like a student. Here is an opportunity to make a positive impression on employers, so be sure to look the part! Invest in a suit for interviews that fits well and makes you feel confident. Whatever you wear, make sure it is cleaned and pressed, matches nicely, and is business appropriate—no leggings, jeans, sneakers, etc.

Not following up. You’ve made your rounds, shaken hands, gathered business cards. You leave the career fair feeling pretty good about your prospects. Don’t toss those leads when you get home and never think about them again! Follow up with the employers you met, apply for their open positions, and build on the positive meeting you had.

To build more confidence, watch our Training Session videos and view a list of attending employers on the Fall Career Fairs page of our website.

Questions? Contact us at 859-572-5680 or at careerservices@nk.edu.

“We must dare to be great.”
-Teddy Roosevelt

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Study Abroad: Why YOU should go for it!
by Juliane Molitor, Student Marketing Assistant

Everyone always says that part of the college experience should be to study abroad. My sister did it, some of my friends have done it, but I never really knew if I wanted to. My experience may be different from yours; I have traveled to Europe and back more times than I can count, to visit friends and family, so I always thought I didn’t need to study abroad. I was wrong.

Why it was amazing

My study abroad was to Florence, Italy for three weeks. I loved every second of it, even the 8-hour flights and the jet lag. I was in an apartment with five other girls from all over the United States. Everyone got along so well and it made the experience even better because we all wanted the same thing: to do and see as much as possible in the three weeks that we were there.

While I was in Italy, I got to learn about the history of Florence and see all parts of the city. I ate my body weight in gelato, pizza and pasta and even went to a cooking class where I learned how to make those foods. The program I went with set up trips for us as well—an overnight in Rome, Sienna and Cinque Terre. If you don’t know those places, I encourage you to google them; they are beautiful.

My suggestions for getting started

When I finally made the decision to study abroad I went to the study abroad fair that NKU hosts and talked to almost everyone there. I encourage anyone who wants to study abroad to visit a study abroad fair and go to the Office of Education Abroad here at NKU; they are very helpful.

The main excuse I hear when other students talk about study abroad is they don’t have the money or the time, but honestly there is a program out there that will work for you. There are programs that span three weeks and also programs that go a whole semester or year. Also, the program you choose will have scholarship opportunities and NKU has scholarship opportunities; finding a way to pay for the study abroad is very realistic.

The only thing I regret is packing too many clothes and not staying longer! I encourage you to look into it further, and you never know, you might find that you can make it happen.