College Timeline
Planning for Success

**FRESHMAN YEAR**
- Visit Career Services
  - Take a tour to learn about resources and services
  - Meet with a Career Advisor to learn about major/career options
  - Check-out the career services website (www.csustan.edu/career)
- Assess interests and learn about careers with FOCUS
- Consider joining a student organization or volunteering
- Explore campus departments and resources
- Plan summer experiences (travel, jobs, etc.)

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**
- Meet with a Career Advisor
  - Get help if you are unsure/undecided about your major
  - Learn about career options that align with your major
  - Find out about internships and the application process
- Join at least one student organization related to your major
- Gain experience and explore careers through internships, part-time work, and/or volunteering
- Develop your resume or create a log that details activities/experiences

**JUNIOR YEAR**
- Meet with a Career Advisor
  - Create or revise your resume and have it critiqued
  - Learn about internships and prepare for interviews
- Research employer and career options
- Complete an internship or get a part-time job to build a work history
- Attend Career Fair, networking events, employer sessions, and workshops
- Continue club memberships; consider taking a leadership role or joining a second organization if you haven’t already
- If planning to attend graduate school, decide the area of study and research schools/programs

**SENIOR YEAR**
- Meet with a Career Advisor
  - Discuss the job search process and develop a plan
  - Talk about interviewing and schedule a mock interview
- Attend Career Fair, networking events, employer sessions, and workshops
- Pursue jobs 5-6 months in advance of when you would like to start working
- Complete an internship to gain additional experience and expand your professional network
- Join a professional association related to your major
- Request recommendation letters early from professors, advisors, and supervisors
- If planning to attend graduate school
  - Discuss plans with professors, advisors, and/or a Career Advisor
  - Take admissions tests and apply for admissions