

## FOUR YEAR PLAN

### FRESHMAN PLAN – GETTING STARTED

- Take a variety of courses that interest you – if you're undecided, this will help you decide on a major
- Take the Strong Interest Inventory and/or Myers-Briggs Type Indicator – these assessment tools will help you determine your interests as they relate to a majors and/or career option; discuss your results with Career and Civic Engagement
- Visit the Academic Success Center - it is important to demonstrate academic performance by excelling in your coursework
- Attend an Academic Success Center workshop on time management, study skills, and test taking strategies
- Visit faculty during office hours - these relationships you can later use as references for employment or graduate school
- Create an academic plan – developing a timeline as a freshman can help you graduate on time
- Volunteer in Rock Hill or a surrounding community - build a network and gain skills!
- Join a campus organization and attend meetings regularly; SOAR (Serving others and Reflecting) is a great one to join! – in a few years your high school organizations won't be on your resume and you will need to replace them with new experiences
- Visit Career and Civic Engagement to get help writing your resume – a resume will be needed for on campus jobs and on campus leadership opportunities
- Explore Internship opportunities (you are eligible after acquiring 24 hours of credit at Winthrop and a 2.5 GPA)
- Log in to EAGLElink to access part-time jobs and volunteer opportunities - [www.winthrop.edu/eaglelink](http://www.winthrop.edu/eaglelink)

### SOPHOMORE PLAN - CAREER EXPLORATION

- Make sure that you have completed all items under the freshman plan
- Obtain a US Passport and take a foreign language course – international experiences look great on a resume
- Take a variety of courses- include a service learning course
- Utilize on campus resources such as the Academic Success Center, the Writing Center, the Math Tutorial Center, Chemistry Lab and/or the Business Resource Center to maintain strong grades and build skills
- Update your resume and upload it onto EAGLElink: [www.winthrop.edu/eaglelink](http://www.winthrop.edu/eaglelink)
- Declare your major by the time you have earned 45 credit hours, to avoid a registration hold; Meet with your Academic Advisor and Career and Civic Engagement to discuss your career plan
- Get involved in a professional organization that relates to your major—many offer reduced student membership rates...consider attending a professional conference too!
- Apply for internships and begin networking with academic and/or professional references for future employment
- Review Office of Nationally Competitive Awards (ONCA) opportunities online at [www.winthrop.edu/onca](http://www.winthrop.edu/onca)
- Attend both cultural events and professional development workshops
- Continue part-time employment to develop skills, confidence and references for future employment
- Attend the fall volunteer fair to find opportunities to connect with area non-profits
- Attend the fall and spring career fairs to connect with employers and graduate schools
- Consider attending an alternative spring break trip

## **JUNIOR PLAN – CONFIRM CAREER CHOICE**

- Make sure that you have completed all items under the freshman & sophomore plans
- Participate in an internship
- Check EAGLElink for opportunities that connect with your major and/or career
- Seek leadership responsibilities in extracurricular activities
- Refer back to results from STRONG & MBTI career assessment tools to reaffirm career choice and identify careers that match your skills set
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in your field
- Discuss career opportunities in your major with faculty, professionals, advisors, and Career and Civic Engagement staff
- Study abroad/work abroad/take an International Service Learning course
- Create a portfolio
- Compile a Reference File—connect with key people who will write recommendation letters for graduate school or the job search
- Make sure to assess your cultural event credit
- Research graduate school options and required testing (GRE, GMAT, etc.)
- Attend the fall and spring career fairs to connect with employers and graduate schools

## **SENIOR PLAN – DEVELOP CAREER PLAN AND ACT ON IT**

- Apply to graduate after completion of 87 earned hours
- Attend Graduation Finale, a one-stop shopping event for all of your graduation needs
- Practice networking, etiquette skills, and learn important job search strategies by attending Career and Civic Engagement events and workshops
- Facilitate a community service learning project that relates to your career goals
- Schedule a mock interview on EAGLElink to practice your interviewing skills
- Research potential employers and jobs online; target your cover letter and resume to specific jobs
- Meet with Career and Civic Engagement staff to develop an individualized job search strategy
- Attend the Fall and Spring Career Fairs to apply for positions
- Contact the Alumni Relations Office to learn about the free benefits of membership in the Winthrop Alumni Association at [www.winthropalumni.com](http://www.winthropalumni.com)