# Course Title: C.2.1 Student Employability

# Abstract:

This chapter focusses on students’ employability; it is planned as the last lecture of a program. Students will be introduced to the importance of taking a proactive approach towards development of their own professional life (career). Students are introduced with four important steps in career decision making. Both students and teachers are well aware that a degree is no longer enough, so the emphasis is put on proactivity, creativity, extracurricular activities, and development of other soft skills that are often not thought of in the classroom. During class, different examples will be presented which will help students to identify the key elements of career decision making and make their own career development action plan. (Interactive exercises are in blue font, self-study in orange.)

# Learning Objectives:

# Learning Objective 1: Understand the need for a proactive approach in career search

* Learning Objective 2: Identify the key elements of career decision making

# Learning Objective 3: Identify personal strengths, weaknesses, and areas requiring further development

* Learning Objective 4: Identify general trends in graduate employment and recognize opportunities for employment
* Learning Objective 5: Create a short/medium/long-term career development action plan

# Assessment Method:

* Individual assignments
* Video clips

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Session # | Session Content | Method(s) | Learning Objectives of Session | Material | Time (min) | Comments |
| 1 | **Employability (20 min)** | | | | **15** |  |
| Introduction: What is employability | Input (slides) | Understand the concept of employability | PPT slides 1-4 | 5 |  |
| Difference between a job and a career | Open brainstorm and discussion with class  Each student should make a list of potential jobs in different sectors | Understanding the importance of thinking outside of the box (not being stuck within the chosen profession)  Understand difference between a job-based search and people-based search | PPT slides 5,6 | 10 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | **Career decision making** | | | | **45** | **Self-Study: 1 hr** |
| Career decision making | Input (slides) | Understanding the process of decision making in career development | PPT slide 7,8 | 5 |  |
| Self-assessment | Input (slides)  Open brainstorm and discussion with class |  | PPT slide 9-14 | 15 | Individual assignment: Personal evaluation  Workload: 1 hr |
| Soft skills | Input (slides)  Open brainstorm and discussion with class | Understanding what employers seek from their future employees | PPT slides 15-18  Video clip | 15 |  |
| Networking | Input (slides)  Open brainstorm and discussion with class | Understanding the importance of networking in career pursuit | PPT slides 18-20  Video clips | 10 |  |
| 3 | **Career plan** | | | | **25** | **2 hrs Self-study** |
| Short/medium/long-term career development action plan | Open brainstorm and discussion with class | Thinking about the future and a career | PPT slide 21-23  Video clips | 20 | Individual assignment: develop career plan  (workload 2 hrs) |
| Summary |  | Wrapping up and some tips | PPT slide 22 | 5 |  |