**CAREER TRUTHS**

**MYTH:** “I need to figure out my career right now.”
**TRUTH:** People today change jobs an average of 12 times throughout their career. Reframe “what am I going to do for the rest of my life” to “what am I going to try first.”

**MYTH:** “I need a network of well-connected people to get a good job opportunity.”
**TRUTH:** Studies show that 70-85% of opportunities are found through connections, and you already have a large network - your family, friends, Stanford faculty and alumni!

**MYTH:** “I have to find a summer internship after freshman year. That’s what everyone does.”
**TRUTH:** A summer internship will not dictate what opportunities are available to you next summer or after graduation. There are also many alternatives to a traditional internship such as study abroad, research, and service projects, and employers often find these experiences equally as valuable on your resume.

**MYTH:** “I don’t have any experience so I’m not qualified for most job opportunities.”
**TRUTH:** Experience includes leadership positions, athletics, service opportunities, group projects, and more. Employers often care more about transferable skills and a willingness to learn.

**MYTH:** “I need to find a summer internship Autumn Quarter or it’s too late.”
**TRUTH:** The peak for posted internships is actually in February and March!

**MYTH:** “I need to figure out what I’m passionate about so I can figure out what I want to do with my life.”
**TRUTH:** Instead of trying to find your passion, re-focus on developing your passions. Only 20% of people have a clear vision of what they want to do, where they want to go, and why.

---

[stanford.io/careertruths]