SPARC created this guide to suggest action steps, provide resources, and nurture connections to help you develop a sense of purpose along your academic and life path. We offer these tools to help you navigate your unique journey, optimize the resources available to develop essential workplace skills and provide direction as you launch toward your life after Hampshire, wherever that takes you. Remember: You can always schedule an appointment with a SPARC career counselor to discuss how to best apply this roadmap to your individual path.

For each of the suggested actions outlined below, we've curated some desired outcomes.

**Div I**

- **Explore work-study opportunities** on-campus and off campus
  - Gain real world experience to add to your resume
  - Cultivate teamwork, accountability, and communication skills

- **Attend Hampfest and join student clubs** that align with your interests
  - Develop community, as well as teamwork and leadership skills

- **Write a draft resume** and review it with a SPARC Peer Ambassador or SPARC Career Counselor
  - Learn to effectively communicate your experience
  - Be ready to customize your resume to best reflect your suitability for specific jobs
  - Reflect on additional experiences you may want to pursue

- **Activate/Login in to your Handshake account** to explore job/internship opportunities and make appointments with SPARC advisers.
  - Explore potential paths and outcomes for your desired field of study
  - Learn to strategically navigate this tool to meet your goals and match your interests

  **TIP:** Customize your profile (interests, skills, resume) to best represent your unique skill set and receive info about relevant opportunities.
Div I - General

☐ Engage with your Learning Collaborative (LC), both in class and at meetings.
  ● Develop your critical thinking and collaborative skills
  ● Engage with a diverse team to find solutions to a global problem
  ● Organize a sponsored LC event, apply for LC grant funding, or consider becoming a student coordinator of an LC next year to develop leadership skills

☐ Attend Community Days of Learning
  ● Learn about justice, equity, and anti-racism initiatives both on campus and in the community.
  ● Practice self-advocacy and learn to become an effective ally for others

☐ Attend a Div I Design Your Life workshop to reflect on your skills, values, and the “sparks” in your life that energize you
  ● Consider how your inner compass can align with your work in the world

☐ Read about jobs that you might enjoy on O*Net. In particular, explore the “Interest Profiler” and “My Next Move” under the “I want to be a …..” section
  ● Assess where your skills/strengths, values and interests align with possible careers
  ● Identify areas for personal/professional growth, development, and skill building
  ● Consider educational, work and internship opportunities to fulfill future job requirements

☐ Set up an informational meeting with two people doing work you think would be fun
  ● Get an insider's perspective on skills needed in that field
  ● Solicit advice for classes, summer work, and more that will help inform your explorations
  ● Start to build your professional network

☐ Sign up for the SPARCInternshipSeekers listserv for information about summer, part time and intern opportunities
  ● Learn about opportunities that spark your interest
    TIP: Apply now or save those you may want to pursue later; they usually repeat yearly!

☐ Plan to pursue your passions this summer (pursue an internship, job, volunteer, independent research, community organizing, coursework, or whatever is right for you)
  ● Gain valuable work and life experience in a field of interest; develop relevant skills
  ● Discern which professional path is really a good match for your interests, skills, preferred work style and workplace culture.

Div II - First Year

☐ Write/update your resume and have it reviewed by a career counselor at SPARC
  ● Learn to effectively communicate your unique Hampshire education and experience

☐ Attend a Div II Design Your Internship Workshop
  ● Reflect on your own strengths and areas for development
  ● Develop ideas for life after college and flesh out a plan to get there
  ● Identify areas for continual growth while pursuing and applying feedback

☐ Join the Hampshire Network and talk with two alums doing work you're interested in
• Practice generating appropriate questions to gain the information you need
• Keep building your network

☐ Create a LinkedIn Profile (for Internship(Job Search)
• Connect with Alums and follow people in your field of interest
• Expand your professional contacts

☐ Attend a Five College, Handshake or other career fair, in-person or virtual
• Talk with employers about opportunities, work culture and more
• Learn to successfully navigate the hiring process, in person and virtually

☐ Talk with your faculty about career paths and internships in their field
• Communicate interest/curiosity
• Seek out professional development opportunities

☐ Attend an Alum Advisory Council event or other alum presentation/workshop
• Identify areas for continual personal growth and professional development

☐ Use Handshake to find internships and attend employer presentations
• Build intentional relationships with people who can open doors for you by participating in events with potential employers (virtual job fairs, info sessions, etc.)

☐ Pursue an academic year or summer internship, job, or volunteer experience in an area of interest to you
• Gain skills, knowledge, and connections

☐ Visit Global Education Office to explore international study and/or internship options
• Enhance your understanding of people from different cultural groups
• Foster personal growth and flexibility

☐ Participate in a story circle hosted by Justice, Equity, and Anti-Racism
• Build affinity among peers
• Learn to solicit and use feedback from multiple cultural perspectives
• Strengthen your ability to make inclusive and equity-minded decisions

**Div II - Second Year**

☐ Join a professional organization related to your interests and/or social identity
• Follow industry trends
• Participate in further education, training, or other events to support your career

☐ Consider a Div III that connects/puts you in contact with organizations/people/alumni working in your field of interest
• Establish or expand relationships with people who can help you professionally

☐ Pursue a summer internship or work related to your future goals, even if tentative
• Gain real world experience, acquire skills, and make connections in your field
- Demonstrate dependability and professionalism

- Discuss Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant opportunities with your faculty
- Practice self advocacy
- Assume responsibilities to help you learn at a deeper level and progress professionally

**If you’re considering graduate or professional school:**
- Attend SPARC’s Applying to Grad & Professional School Workshop
  - Understand the application processes and timelines
  - Make a plan to apply to grad school as a Div III or after you graduate

- Research programs and develop an action plan to make sure you’re on track
  - Understand their admission requirements; take appropriate classes and exams

**Div III**
- Attend a Div III Design Your Life after Hampshire workshop
  - Seek and leverage diverse resources and feedback to inform your direction

- Design a Div III in an area that excites you
  - Develop advanced skills and connect with those working in your field of interest

- Attend job, internship, and grad school fairs at the 5 Colleges and virtually
  - Establish relationships with people who can help you professionally

- Develop a professional portfolio or your LinkedIn
  - Showcase your work, projects, and your “brand” in alignment with your personal values

- Update/refine your resume and professional portfolio
  - Showcase various skills that correspond to specific job opportunities

- Apply to grad school or get yourself ready to apply after graduation

- Join SPARCJobseekers listserv to learn about jobs received via email, some from alums

- Ask alums and others in your area of interest for job search advice (esp. who are willing to “Open Doors at Workplace” on the Hampshire Network)

- Reflect on your Hampshire experiences and translate your acquired skills into job application materials (resume and cover letters)

- Schedule a mock Interview with a SPARC counselor
  - Practice communicating your unique Hampshire education to future employers
  - Demonstrate verbal and non-verbal/body language, abilities

- Ask faculty and/or other supervisors to write letters of recommendation or serve as a reference