Lasell College Career Services
Research

Once you have some ideas about what careers/jobs you might be interested in, you can learn more about the field to verify that it will be a good fit with your interests, skills, personality, and values.

What to look for:
When you are researching career fields, your goal is to see if the field is a fit for your interests, skills, personality, and values. Pay especial attention to the nature of the job, skills needed, as well as required training/education.

1. Books and People
While going straight to the internet to look for information seems easy there are other sources that may be quicker or more productive. Don't underestimate the value of books about career fields or talking to someone in the field.
   - Browse Career Books in the Office of Career Services
   - Meet with a Career Counselor
   - Conduct an Informational Interview with someone in the field
   - Contact a Professional Association in your field

2. Internet
If you are going to look for career information on the internet, avoid getting lost in the sea of information. Pick a few good sites and read only the parts most relevant to your goal of learning more about the day to day tasks and skills needed for a certain job/career. The following are recommended starting points.
   - JobProfiles.org (www.jobprofiles.org) has profiles written by people working in the field sharing their motivations, and advice for those just entering the field
   - Wetfeet has more than just job listings. There are two great sections. The first is an overview of career fields focusing on requirements, career tracks, and compensation (www.wetfeet.com/Content/Careers.aspx). The second is interviews with people working in the field focusing on their education, career paths, aspirations and the truth about how they really spend their time at work (www.wetfeet.com/Content/Real%20People.aspx).
   - America Career Info Net (www.acinet.org/acinet/occ_rep.asp?id=1,&nodeid=2) has an in depth listing of job tasks, skills, wages, and additional sources of information.

Next Steps:
   - If you have determined what career/job you want to pursue, it is time to begin your job search.
   - You may want to meet with someone in the field for an Informational Interview to get a first hand perspective.
   - If you are not graduating, you may want to talk with your academic advisor to select the best courses and internship to match your career goals.