

CAREERS IN

Science and Technology

The Amherst College Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning's **Careers In Science and Technology** program supports students who are curious about the career paths within areas such as physical sciences, research, data science, software engineering, computer science, and environmental science.

A sampling of where Amherst College alumni pursue careers in science and technology includes *Airbnb*, *Amazon*, *Broad Institute*, *Google*, *IBM*, *Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab*, *LinkedIn*, and *Microsoft*.

Amherst students have gone on to graduate school at *Harvard University*, *Princeton University*, *Columbia University*, and *Dartmouth College*, among others.

MEET THE ADVISOR

Emily Griffen, Director of the Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning, advises students who are considering careers in the sciences or technology. As a Careers In advisor, Emily assists students in clarifying their interests and goals, locating further resources and opportunities, and positioning resumes and cover letters toward a targeted industry or specific opportunity.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Loeb Center Careers In programs encourage you to develop a deep and sustained exploration of a particular field. Some of the highest-impact ways to do that include:

TREKS

During a trek, a small group of selected students travel to industry “ecosystems,” become immersed behind the scenes at various companies, and meet a wide range of alumni and potential employers.

INTERSHIPS AND SUMMER RESEARCH

Internships allow you to apply what you have

learned in the classroom to the world of work, help you build your professional network, and are an important step in clarifying your interests, skills, and career goals.

Research is a very common and valuable way to build experience and prepare for graduate school in the sciences. The best place to start gathering information about gaining research experience as an undergraduate is by connecting with Amherst faculty members who teach or work in areas of interest to you.

GET INVOLVED

Become a member of a student group such as *the Association for Women in Science* or the *Computer Science Club*.

Learn more about different career paths or office environments by joining us for Food for Thought roundtables or other events such as office hours or info sessions with employers and alumni on campus. Some examples of employers that have hosted Food for Thought events in the past include: *Facebook* and *Google*.

“I feel better prepared to make a decision about entering the tech world and working in Silicon Valley after the trek. It allowed me to understand the kinds of work, people, and environments I would encounter at different companies, and I was able to gauge where I might belong and where I might not.”

2018 San Francisco Innovation Trek Participant

TIP! TECHNICAL INTERVIEWS

Software engineering interviews for internships and entry-level roles are often on computer science fundamentals. These interviews evaluate problem solving abilities and often involve solving coding challenges in real-time with a virtual interviewer. Visit interviewing.io or pramp.com to understand the format and strategies for success in technical interviews. You can also view *Landing a Gig in the Tech World* resource guide in Handshake.

“I have a much better sense of the kind of work I want to do and the kinds of work environments I want to avoid. It also enhanced my networking skills and my knowledge of the tech world.”

2018 San Francisco Innovation Trek Participant

RESOURCES AND NEXT STEPS

- **Handshake** (amherst.joinhandshake.com) is your one-stop shop for Loeb Center events, appointments, and resources, as well as a wide variety of internship and job opportunities. Complete your Handshake profile! The more complete your profile is, the more effective and customized the platform becomes.
- Make a Careers In appointment via Handshake to talk more in-depth about your own questions and get advice.
- Chat with a PCA. Peer Career Advisors (PCAs) are highly trained students who can relate to what it means to balance classes, time with friends, and planning steps to a career. PCAs can give you great resume advice and answer questions about Handshake, internships, interviewing, networking, self-assessment, and other Loeb Center resources.
- Read the Loeb Center weekly newsletter, Career Columns.
- Like Careers In Science and Tech on Facebook: facebook.com/AmherstLoebScienceTech

CAREERS IN

The Loeb Center provides all students with opportunities to dive deeply into specific career areas of interest.

Our Careers In programs provide:

- expert advising from industry specialists
- tailored exploratory programs and skills workshops
- insight into recruiting processes, internship and job search strategies, and interview preparation
- access to alumni in the field

You may participate in any Careers In program at any time as your interests develop, deepen, change, or multiply.

There are seven different Careers In programs:

- Arts and Communication
- Business and Finance
- Education Professions
- Government and Nonprofit
- Health Professions
- Law
- Science and Technology

The Loeb Center also offers general advising and exploration opportunities for students who are curious about a broad range of career options or who are just beginning to reflect on their interests, values, and skills.