#### THE PLACEMENT CELL

MIRANDA HOUSE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI 2025



# GUBPOSI:



OMNIBUZZ 2023-25 MAGAZINE

**MIRANDA HOUSE** 



- THE STATISTICS

  INFORGRAPHIC LANE
- 8 INKED AND SPILLED
- O CELLEPORIUM
  - PLACEMENT STORIES
    - MEET THE TEAM

### PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

For decades, Miranda House has been a vibrant space where creativity, intelligent rigor, and leadership have thrived in equal measure. Excellence here is not just an aspiration but a reflected realityin achievements of our students and faculty across academics, research, and co-curricular arenas. What makes our institution truly distinctive is its seamless blending of traditional and innovation, shaping an environment that nurtures both individually and collective growth.



The Placement Cell embodies this spirit by serving as a bridge between classroom learning and the world of work. Through internships, preplacement talks, training, training sessions, and recruitment drives, the Cell equips students with the skills, confidence, and exposure they need to navigate professional landscapes with competence and purpose. Its efforts are not just about securing opportunities but about preparing our students to become thoughtful, responsible, and resilient leaders who will make meaningful contributions wherever they go.

Our alumnae, who continue to leave an indelible mark in diverse fields-be it academia, industry, governance, or social service-stand as shining examples of what a Miranda House education makes possible. Their journeys remind us that every student here carries with her the potential to inspire and transform.

I take this opportunity to extend my warm appreciation to the editorial team of Guidepost for curating this magazine with such dedication. It reflects the dynamism and aspirations of our students community and offers a window into the future-ready spirit that defines Miranda House.

### **CONVENOR'S NOTE**



At Miranda House, the Placement Cell nurtures students' growth by offering them global opportunities that prepare them for the rapidly changing job market. Anchored in the vision of प्रमादित्यवम्", "स्वाध्यायनन the Cell emphasizes self-learning and providing introspection, while enabling space for skill-building and professional readiness.

This year (2025-26) marked the introduction of a structured placement registration process, where 3rd and 4th-year students underwent a rigorous CV vetting exercise.

This not only streamlined the recruitment process for companies but also enhanced the professionalism of students. Alongside this, pre-placement seminars, counselling, motivational sessions, and workshops on hard and soft skills gave students the confidence and energy to pursue opportunities in both national and global markets.

The outcomes speak for themselves: 24 companies participated in the drive, offering a highest package of 24 LPA and a median package of 8.2 LPA, reflecting the strong preparedness of our students.

The Cell also contributes to social empowerment. In collaboration with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under Prime Minister Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), two Skill Hubs have been set up at Miranda House, offering training in Green Jobs and Artificial Intelligence to school dropouts, girls, and women aged 15–40. A notable initiative, Utkrisht Miranda, showcased products by underprivileged women at the Khadi Festival, further promoted through a stall at Dainik Jagran.

It is a matter of pride to see the Cell managed so efficiently by a dedicated team of young students, whose initiatives strengthen not only professional growth but also community development.



The placement session of 2024-25 was a resounding success! With over 90 students placed at esteemed organisations including BCG, Nation With Namo, KPMG, Accenture, Barclays, Uniqlo, and ZS Associates, the session saw active enthusiasm of the placement team and immense support from the companies.

The highest package was a record-breaking 24 LPA, with an average package 9 LPA and a median package of 8.8 LPA.

This achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication of the Placement Cell and the exceptional skills of our students, who are truly workforce-ready. Throughout the year, the Placement Cell conducted a host of informative and interactive sessions with prominent names like Salesforce, BCG, Uniqlo, Tsinghua University, ZS Associates, BITS, and Nation With Namo, helping students build crucial industry knowledge and confidence for the recruitment process.

The Placement Cell also established the Skill Hub, an initiative designed to make students more skilled and industry-ready. Additionally, the Miranda House Principal's Internship Scheme served as an internal source of providing valuable employment skills and internship opportunities to students.



Chrysalis is the flagship annual Job, Internship, and Knowledge Fair organized by the Placement Cell of Miranda House, University of Delhi. This highly anticipated event is a day-long offline fair that serves as a bridge between students and industry leaders, offering a diverse range of employment and internship opportunities to help students take the next step in their careers.

With 80+ reputed companies onboarded, Chrysalis ensures that every student gets a fair chance at securing an internship or job, providing exposure to various fields such as consulting, finance, media, tech, research, and more. The event is open to students across all Delhi University colleges fostering an inclusive and competitive environment.

In addition to recruitment opportunities, Chrysalis also features a highly engaging speaker session, where an esteemed personality—an industry expert, entrepreneur, or thought leader—shares their valuable insights, experiences, and success stories. This session aims to inspire and empower our diverse audience, shaping them into future leaders.serves. The fair successfully bridged the gap between academic knowledge and industry expectations, providing a platform for students to connect with leading companies and industry professionals. The overwhelming participation and positive feedback from both students and employers highlighted the success of the event. As Chrysalis continues to grow in scale and impact, it reaffirms its position as a pivotal event in preparing students for the challenges and opportunities of the professional world. The Placement Cell looks forward to building on this success in future editions of Chrysalis.

Chrysalis is more than just a placement fair; it is an interactive fest of opportunities, knowledge, and networking, preparing students for the dynamic professional world ahead.

# RYSA SA



















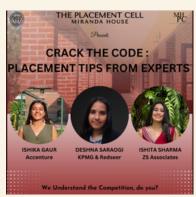










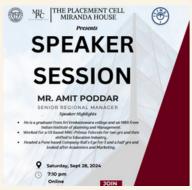


























The Placement Cell of Miranda House held a seminar called "Crack the Code: Placement Tips from Experts" featuring three accomplished alumni in their respective organizations Ishika Gaur (Accenture), Deshna Saraogi (KPMG & Deshna

The seminar was very interactive and included a long Q&A session for further clarification on typical placement challenges. The students were able to gather insight through the speakers honest experiences and all the tips shared, which made the process of recruitment a little less daunting. By connecting students with more recent graduates who have progressed into the professional world, the seminar emphasized the importance of preparation, flexibility and believing in yourself through the very complex and bewildering process of recruitment. This ultimately acts as an excellent resource for students and the layout of the seminar to equip them with much more confidence to navigate placements.



# Crack the Code: Placement Tips from Experts

The Placement Cell of Miranda House, in collaboration with ISB&M, organised a seminar on September 9, 2024, focused on the preparation of Group Discussions (GD), Aptitude Tests, and Personal Interviews. Held in the Mini Auditorium, the session aimed to strengthen the foundational skills required for successful placement outcomes.

The Placement Cell had the honour of hosting Prof. Navin Verma, a seasoned professional with over 30 years of experience in the Automotive, Industrial, Telecom,

and Heavy Engineering sectors, including renowned companies such as Cummins, Tata, and Airtel. Prof. Verma offered in-depth strategies on structured communication during GDs, approaches to aptitude problems, effective self-presentation in interviews. The seminar was highly engaging and left students better prepared to approach recruitment processes with clarity and confidence. This initiative was for bridging the gap between academic learning and industry demands.



# Preparation of GD/aptitude/PI-9 september



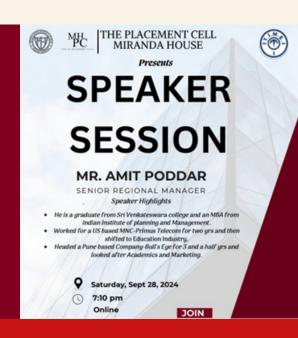
The Placement Cell of Miranda House organized a two-day Externship Program and Skill Enhancement Interaction on August 27-28, 2024, in partnership with The Smart Edge and Skills Reform. The objective of the program was to provide students with the essential career skills needed to prepare them for internships and employment and were engaged facilitators to help connect university course content with industry preparedness. The placement cell was honoured to host Mr. Amit Phull (Founder & CEO, The Smart Edge) and Mr. Chetan Khurana (Director, Skills Reform) as facilitator of this program.

They delivered engaging, interactive sessions on resume building, interview skills, and workplace preparedness that provided students with real examples, experiences, and applicable advice.

#### Externship program - 27-28 August

On 28 September 2024, the Placement Cell of Miranda House organized an informative online Speaker Session with an experienced industry professional Mr. Amit Poddar, Senior Regional Manager at T.I.M.E. Mr. Poddar received his degree from Sri Venkateswara College and a degree in MBA from Indian Institute of Planning and Management. He has a strong industry background and was working with a US based MNC called Primus Telecom before transitioning to education.

He then went on to lead Bull's Eye, a company based in Pune, for over 3 years and had experience in academics and marketing. In the episode, he shared his expert-laden inputs on how to level up, CAT preparation and the changing scenario in management education. The session provided students with an exclusive opportunity to hear from an industry experienced professional, and help students evaluate postgraduate opportunities.



## Speaker session - 28 september



The Placement Cell of Miranda House showed its dedication to student development by facilitating an insightful seminar on preparation for CAT 2025. On 12th September 2024, the Placement Cell conducted a scholarship-based mock test in collaboration with Pratham Test Prep's "Let's CAT" initiative, which not only familiarize students with the proper structure and rigor of the CAT exam, but also gave students the opportunity to earn scholarships of up to 100%. By facilitating events like this, the Placement Cell continues to support

Cat 25 scholarship test -12 september and empower students in their pursuit of higher education and competitive career opportunities. Miranda House's Placement Cell, along with Prepp IAS, organized a webinar titled "UPSC CSE 2026: Day One to Exam Day Plan" on November 17, 2024. This session, delivered by esteemed educator Sourabh Sir, was specifically designed for students who wish to begin or have just begun their expedition in preparation for UPSC. The session discussed the plan for time frame, exam structure, and techniques for preparation that serve a more strategic purpose for student participants.

This initiative continued to underscore the Placement Cell's commitment to supporting students on diverse career paths and empowering students with expert guidance from the beginning.



### **UPSC CSE 2026 - 17th November**



The Placement Cell of Miranda House organized a two-day developmental workshop in collaboration with "Nation with NAMO" on October 7th and 8th, 2024. Focused on empowering students with essential career skills, the first day was dedicated to Resume Building, equipping attendees with tools to craft impactful résumés. The second day focused on Case Study Preparation, enhancing analytical and strategic thinking. The sessions offered practical guidance and hands-on experience, reinforcing the Cell's commitment to holistic student development and career readiness.

Resume building & case study preparation - 7 & 8 October

The Placement Cell of Miranda House hosted an insightful seminar in collaboration with Drishti IAS on November 21st, 2024. Titled "Start Before You're Ready: Navigating UPSC with Grit and Growth", the session aimed to demystify the UPSC preparation journey for aspiring candidates. With a focus on perseverance, strategy, and mindset, the seminar encouraged students to begin their preparation confidently—even amidst uncertainty.

The discussion included actionable tips on time management, resource selection, and building conceptual ground clarity from the up. The interactive of nature the allowed participants to clear doubts, seek guidance, and develop a stronger sense of direction. It served motivating entry point into one India's most competitive exams.



Start Before You're Ready: Navigating UPSC with Grit and Growth -21st November



On February 6, the Placement Cell of Miranda House organized a seminar with the collaboration of Drishti IAS, and Mr. Prashant Sharma, acclaimed faculty member and interview specialist. The seminar was about an important part of the UPSC journey, which is the personality test. Mr. Sharma, who knows interview processes and dynamics at the most basic levels, taught the students how to emerge from the interview process intelligently and with confidence. He spoke about the common problems in the interview process and made practical recommendations about how to

### Speaker session - 6th February

overcome these hurdles that ranged from how to frame a high impact answer to facial expressions and body language. The seminar was terrific for UPSC aspirants needing guidance on how to prepare for interviews with a directed and professional approach. Around the 10th of February 2025 The Placement Cell of Miranda House, in association with Pearl Academy, conducted an online webinar 'Digital Startups with Varun Duggal'. The webinar discussed the ongoing evolution of digital entrepreneurship and its challenges and opportunities. Varun Duggal, an expert on startup ecosystems, also spoke about actionable steps required to build and grow a digital venture in a fast-moving environment.

The webinar provided a complete end-to-end the on range of digital startup considerations from ideation product/market fit through to branding and growth hacking. For all aspiring entrepreneurs looking to build a digital venture, the webinar provided a fantastic learning experience. Participants received insights about using digital tools and pitching to investors, which helped them in understanding common pitfalls that occur early in a digital venture's creation - important takeaways for any wouldbe tech entrepreneur.



#### Digital Startups with Varun Duggal - 10th February 2025



On 22nd February 2025, Miranda House, in collaboration with Adda247, hosted an engaging online webinar titled "From Whiteboard to YouTube: Build Your Brand & Go Viral!" Led by Ashish Garg (Senior Manager – Content) and Divyashish Jindal (YouTube Growth Head), the session focused on the power of content creation in the digital age. The speakers discussed how educators and content creators can effectively transition from traditional teaching methods to creating impactful content on YouTube. The webinar offered expert guidance on brand building, audience engagement, content strategy, and tools for growth.

From Whiteboard to YouTube: Build Your Brand & Go Viral! -22nd February Attendees learned how to craft compelling educational videos and utilize analytics to scale their reach, making it a valuable event for aspiring digital educators and creators. The Placement Cell of Miranda House, in collaboration with Bajaj Capital, hosted an insightful seminar titled "Career in Financial Planning" On 24th February 2025. The session offered a comprehensive introduction to the world of financial planning, highlighting its growing importance in today's dynamic economy. Key focus areas included understanding financial planning as a crucial tool for wealth management, current industry trends, and diverse career avenues within personal finance.

Attendees gained clarity on how financial contributes planning to long-term financial stability and how professionals can carve a niche in this promising field. This event proved to be a valuable opportunity for students aspiring finance-related explore careers develop а deeper understanding practical financial strategies.



# Career in Financial Planning - 24th February

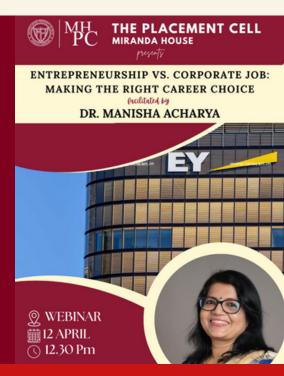


Global Trends in University Applications and Job Market -1 april

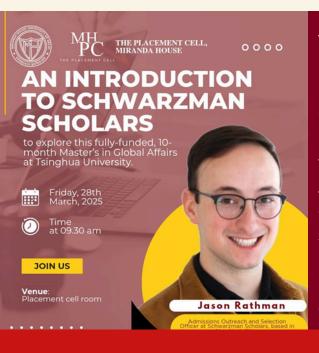
Miranda House, in collaboration with Rostrum Education, held a dazzling informative webinar on "Global Trends in University Applications and Job Market", presented by internationally recognized career strategist Gwyn Day on April 1st, 2025. Mr. Day, a specialist in undergraduate, postgraduate, and career planning, provided deep insights into the fast-changing landscape of global admissions and employment. The session covered changes in study destinations, to those for recruitment, identifying and unpacking the principal trends related to the academic and professional future of students around

the globe; supporting attendees, as they plan and navigate an increasingly competitive global landscape to help them make informed decisions, and to think strategically and flexibly! The Placement Cell of Miranda House organized a webinar on "Entrepreneurship vs. Corporate Job: Making the Right Career Choice" on 12th April at 12:30 PM, facilitated by Dr. Manisha Acharya. Currently the Project Director at EY for the Startup Odisha initiative, Dr. Acharya shared perspectives drawn from her 22 years of experience spanning life sciences research, corporate leadership, and innovation management. The session offered a balanced view of both career paths, helping students evaluate their interests, risk appetite, and long-term goals.

Her insights guided attendees on navigating early career choices with clarity and strategic intent. The webinar proved valuable for those exploring dynamic roles in today's evolving professional landscape.



Entrepreneurship vs. Corporate Job: Making the Right Career Choice - 12 april



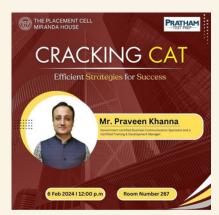
The Placement Cell, Miranda House hosted an insightful session on the Schwarzman Scholars Program, featuring Jason Rathman, Admissions Outreach and Selection Officer. Held on 28th March 2025, the session highlighted key aspects of this prestigious, fully-funded Master's in Global Affairs at Tsinghua University. Attendees gained a comprehensive understanding of the program structure, application process, and the unique academic and leadership opportunities it offers on a global platform. Rathman's guidance provided clarity for aspirants aiming to be part of

#### Schwarzman Scholars Program -28th march

this distinguished international cohort.

#### **PAST GLIMPSES**

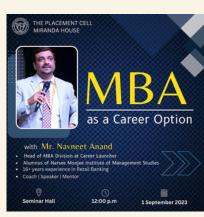
#### 





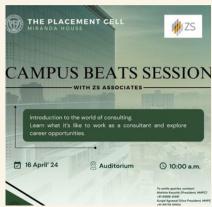


















# THE STATISTICS













TEACHFORINDIA ITC HOTELS













# 2023

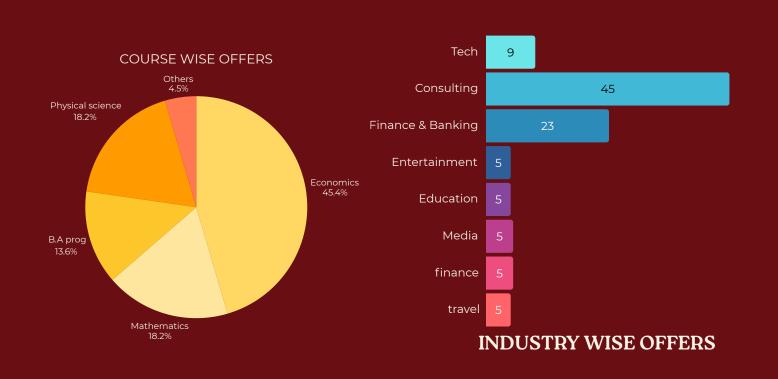


HIGHEST 21.5
PACKAGE LPA

AVERAGE 9.40 PACKAGE LPA

MEDIAN 8.97
PACKAGE LPA

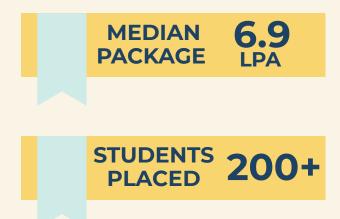
STUDENTS 200+



# 



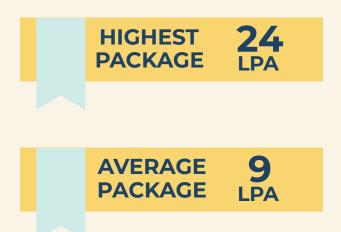


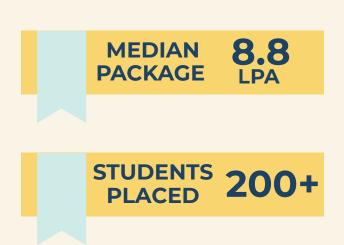


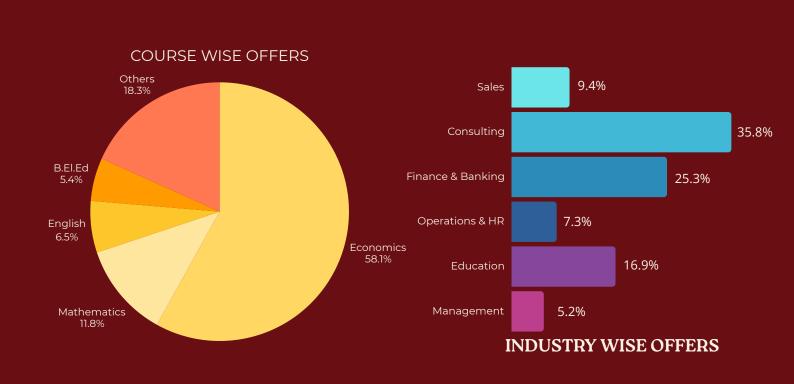


# 









# The Career Toolkit: From Classroom to Boardroom



#### Meet Grace: A Final-Year Student on a Mission

As Grace enters her final year at her college, the looming thought of "What's next?" starts creeping in. She's ambitious, talented, and eager to secure a great job—but she has no idea where to start. Like most students, she wonders: What skills do employers really look for? Should I take up an internship or freelance? How do I make my resume stand out? What if I fail in an interview?

Lets Join Grace as she embarks on her placement journey, tackling every challenge one step at a time.

# Chapter 1: The Skills That Will Matter in 2030 – Future-Proofing Your Career

Future skills: What employers will value in 2030

Work trends tend to change over the course of time. To keep up with this change, a new skill set is required. The requirement of a newer skill set depends upon the existing job trends, market demands, as well as the changing labor market. Education systems try to inculcate certain skill sets to prepare individuals for the job market. Education systems develop the primary skills required for any field such as critical thinking and analysis. However, with rapidly changing times, the notion of "21st century skills" has also changed and the inculcation of a newer skill set in the curriculum has been a little slow. Hence, people need to develop a whole new skill set on their own and not completely rely on education systems for gaining skills. Skills can be learnt through upskilling sessions and internships where the implementation of the skills is practical.

However, there are certain skills that are becoming more and more desirable.

• **Digital literacy:** It is very important to have a basic minimum understanding of digital technology. Even conventional jobs require the minimum criteria of digital literacy. This means that people need to know how certain basic IT tools work. Companies, agencies and government organizations as well look for people who can work with newer technologies. Technology has made it easier for multinational companies to work even more efficiently. Virtual collaboration has become a major way of connection and communication. The world is moving rapidly towards digitalization and in these times, a lack of digital literacy will put you at disadvantage.

- Creative thinking: It has always been an important skill. Creative thinking leads to innovation. In today's time, innovation has reached its peak. We get to know about the invention or creation of something new every other day. Employers look for people with creative thinking as they can be engaged in innovation and research and will lead to the creation of something new or a better version of already existing stuff. Creative as well as critical thinking is required to solve problems. As it is highly unlikely that AI will take on jobs completely by 2030, creative thinking still remains a crucial skill. With the rapid digitalization, new problems arise every day. To solve these problems, new ideas and new ways of solving it are required. For this, companies and organizations look for people who think "out of the box" thus making this an essential skill.
- AI and automation: It is a known fact that the future is AI. AI and automation has started coming into picture and in the next few years it is going to make rapid advancement. We have already started relying on AI tools such as chatbots. The market for AI is going to be huge in the next few years. Companies that focus on augmented working are looking for AI researchers and developers. This period provides immense opportunities to people who work with AI and hence, having the required skills to work on AI will be really beneficial for people.
- Cybersecurity: Cyber-awareness is very important in today's world. As we see the cases of cyber crimes increasing everyday, it is quite important to have cyber-awareness. Cyber attackers often get hold of electronic data which puts a customer or an organization at risk. Hence, organizations nowadays need cybersecurity professionals. Cybersecurity consists of all the technologies and practices that keep computer systems and the data stored in it safe. Companies are now at a risk of losing their data. At this crucial juncture, companies need the help of cybersecurity professionals, as safeguarding the data becomes the topmost priority.
- Leadership: It is one such skill which will always remain valuable. Any company or organization will always need leaders who can lead a team. In an organization, work management is highly important. There is also a need to divide and organize work efficiently which will require supervision. Strong leadership skills help in the supervision of workers. Leadership is very important as it is meant to leave an impact on the workers. The impact should be positive which in turn can help the workers to work more efficiently and innovatively.





Communication skill: Communication skill is one such soft skill that organizations will look for in an individual. always Communication is important as the organization needs to maintain a certain kind of image in front of people. Let's say, a business firm will hire an individual who has good communication skills as they can help create a positive image of the company in front of the buyers and consumers as well as other businesses.

Public relations require individuals who can have the ability to create a brand image and build a reputation. At the same time, it is important within an organization as well as it promotes effective understanding, cooperation and collaboration, and helps in problem solving. People with good communication skills can have a good career in HR.

- Sustainability: Sustainable development is the need of the time. It is important to inculcate sustainable practices to safeguard our future as well as our future generations. Since it is something that is being highly discussed in the current scenario, its relevance in the job market is significant. There is a demand for sustainable goods in the market nowadays. This shows that we have a market for sustainable goods. This will in turn lead to a rise in the companies dealing with sustainable products, and create more jobs. At the same time already existing companies also take sustainable initiatives. As sustainability has become something mandated by the government to be implemented everywhere, all the companies and organizations are going to hire professionals who deal with sustainability. At the same time, some of the sustainable practices are cost efficient, which leads many companies to hire people with experience in fields of sustainability.
- As we progress forward, the kind of jobs available in the market also changes. Hence, we see recruiters looking for a particular skill set which is required the most in the current time period. With time some jobs become obsolete or their relevance declines, but at the same time new jobs emerge as well. It is during this particular period when we have to upskill ourselves to fit the required criteria to bag a job in a world which is rapidly changing. Considering the fact that our world is becoming more and more digital, the digital job market is going to rise even further.

• As the usage of AI spreads far and wide, a threat to existing jobs looms in the corner. However, we must keep this thing in mind that the main focus of individuals today should be on upskilling themselves and to progress alongside the changing trends in order to stay recruitable.

Lesson: The job market is evolving, and the best way to stay relevant is to develop future-ready skills.

By: SHREYA SHREERUPA SAHOO

### CHAPTER 2

### Sharpening the Soft Skills – The Secret Sauce to Career Success

While technical skills get her foot in the door, Grace soon learns that how you communicate, lead, and collaborate is what sets you apart. She works on building confidence, emotional intelligence, and adaptability through real campus activities, group projects, and leadership roles.

ESSENTIAL SOFT SKILLS THAT WILL SET YOU APART IN ANY CAREER by-Samaira Sharma (1st year)

What's the similarity among Martin Luther King Jr., Barack Obama, Selena Gomez, Jimmy Fallon and Anupam Mittal? All five luminaries yet hailing from absolutely different career pathways intersect at the junction of possessing excellent soft skills. All of the hereinabove mentioned people are known for their eloquence, charisma, powerful communication and leadership skills.

Soft Skills as the name suggests, encompasses within its ambit personal attributes which enhance an individual's ability to interact effectively with others, communicate, and work collaboratively, making them highly valued in the workplace. In the recent decade, the essence of soft skills as compared to technical skills has taken over by a huge multiple. According to research, 85% of job success comes from having well-developed soft and people skills, while only 15% is attributed to technical skills. Be it internships or placements, a candidate well equipped with soft skills grabs every recruiter's attention. In fact, statistic from the Society for Human Resource Management suggests that 77% of organizations have prioritized improving soft skills to better meet the demands of today's changing workforce.

Here's a list of 5 essential plus 1 bonus soft skill which you must optimize upon to succeed in any career.

#### 1. EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION:

Good communication goes beyond the spoken word. It involves active listening, proper articulation, and the skill to adapt your message to different audiences. Written communication, such as reports and emails, is equally vital in today's globalized world. Being a master of persuasive communication, either through presentations or negotiations, can have a telling impact. The question arises: Is effective communication crucial in the realm of every career pathway?

Think of a salesperson who fails to sell its products to the consumers, a doctor who fails to deliver his/her services efficiently, a painter who fails to deliver the true essence of its painting to the folks. These instances speak for themselves and are testaments of the essence of effective communication.

#### 2. TEAMWORK & COLLABORATION

"Teams that work collaboratively are 5 times more likely to experience a significant increase in employee engagement" (Source: Gallup). According to a study conducted by Deloitte, companies that promote collaboration are 2 times more likely to be profitable and experience revenue growth. Teamwork and collaboration are the essential ingredients without which an individual's persona remains insipid. If you work in a team, teamwork and collaboration are essential soft skills required in any profession. They enable one to communicate with others for a common purpose. Not only these skills enhance proper communication, innovative thinking, and problem-solving but also boost productivity, creativity, and job satisfaction. Together, these different skills give the power to develop success in business and professional networking. The competencies are necessary when switching industries or careers, and are a barrier-free component of professional growth and development.



#### 3. ADAPTABILITY & FLEXIBILITY

Flexibility and adaptability are key competencies that drive career achievement, allowing professionals to maneuver the changing workplace, technological developments, and varying market trends. Through flexibility and adaptability, one is able to embrace new challenges, leverage new opportunities, and foster career development and progression. Flexibility and adaptability promote successful problem-solving, team working, and interpersonal relationships, which in turn result in career sustainability and success. As the job market changes, those who can learn to cope with new situations, challenges, and technologies will prosper, but those who cannot adapt will struggle to keep up. The ability to adapt in an ever changing world, helps survive disruptions in the short run and flourish in the long run.

28



#### 4. PROBLEM SOLVING & CRITICAL THINKING

Critical thinking and problem-solving are the abilities that can aid in the success of any professional career. Developing such skills can equip professionals to tackle complex issues, determine crucial areas, and find efficient solutions. This empowers us to make sound judgments, think creatively, and enhance efficiency and productivity. Employers appreciate professionals with high critical thinking and problem-solving capabilities, thus such skills are necessary for professional development and sustainable achievement. Whether in business, healthcare, technology, or any other profession, problem solving and critical thinking are essential skills for excellence and driving outcomes. These skills also help professionals navigate shifting situations, deal with ambiguity, and convey intricate ideas effectively. Through the development of problem solving and critical thinking skills, professionals can stand out, drive career advancement, and meet their objectives.

#### 5. TIME MANAGEMENT & ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

In a study conducted by McKinsey it came into light that employees who are good at managing their time are 50% more productive and have a 30% greater likelihood of being promoted. Additionally, a CareerBuilder survey revealed that 58% of managers feel that well-organized and time-managed employees are likely to be successful in their jobs. Poor time management, however, can result in lower productivity, higher stress levels, and a greater chance for burnout. Indeed, the American Psychological Association conducted a study that discovered employees with poor time management experience 50% more stress and have a 25% chance of burnout. Through effective time management and organization, whether through prioritizing tasks, establishing realistic goals, or avoiding procrastination, these skills can be maximized, ultimately contributing to increased career accomplishment and overall well-being.

#### 6. EMPATHY & EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Emotional intelligence and empathy are essential to professional success, allowing individuals to manage the dynamics of the modern workplace. In research conducted by Goleman (a preeminent philosopher), emotional intelligence was found to be twice more critical than technical knowledge and IQ in measuring success in a person's career. Furthermore, another study conducted by TalentSmart reported that emotional intelligence contributes to 58% of work performance and is thus a significant aspect of professional success. Specifically, empathy is one of the core elements of emotional intelligence, enabling people to get in touch with and relate to colleagues, clients, and customers. A Catalyst study discovered that workers who feel they are experiencing empathy from their managers are 76% more likely to say they feel engaged and motivated in the workplace. By developing empathy and emotional intelligence, people can establish more effective relationships, achieve business outcomes, and become more successful in their careers. Indeed, employers now even give priority to emotional intelligence when hiring or developing employees.

#### Conclusion

Having the proper technical skills is no longer sufficient in today's competitive work environment to secure one's success. Employers now are more and more searching for individuals with that special mix of technical skills and critical soft skills. With the acquisition of important soft skills like effective communication, teamwork, and being flexible, you can differentiate yourself from other individuals in your profession and become more successful. Don't forget to practice self-awareness, get feedback, and take courses or training programs to learn the important soft skills. With practice and commitment, you can acquire the necessary soft skills required to thrive in any profession.

Lesson: In every workplace, your soft skills are your superpower.

by -SAMAIRA SHARMA

### CHAPTER 3

### Crafting the Perfect Resume & Cover Letter – Making the First Impression Count

8

With experience under her belt, Grace faces her next challenge: crafting a killer resume and cover letter. She drafts her first resume, but it feels bland and uninspiring. After multiple rejections, she realizes:

- Tailoring resumes for each job matters.
- -Numbers, achievements, and keywords make a difference.
- -Cover letters shouldn't repeat the resume—they should tell a story.

After reworking her application, she finally gets shortlisted by top recruiters!

#### How to Build a Standout Resume and Cover Letter for Campus Placements

A well-crafted resume and cover letter play a crucial role in landing a job during campus placements. They serve as your first impression, showcasing your skills, experience, and potential. Below is a step-by-step guide to creating an effective resume and cover letter that can set you apart from other candidates.

#### 1. How to Build a Standout Resume

#### 1.1 FORMAT

The resume should be one page long, formatted professionally and highlight most relevant skills and experiences.

- Try to stick to a **one-page format** unless one has extensive internships or projects that are truly relevant.
- Use **language that is easy to understand**. Avoid overly technical terms and use short and simple sentences that are easy to scan.
- Avoid fancy fonts and use professional and readable ones like Arial, Calibri, or Times New Roman with sizes between 10-12 for body text and slightly larger for headings.
- Use **proper and consistent line spacing** (1.0–1.15) for a clean look. Avoid filling too much information and ensure there's adequate white space.
- Use **bullet points** to list achievements or skills—this makes it easier for recruiters to slide through.

#### 1.1 CONTACT INFORMATION

#### What to include:

- Full name
- Phone number
- Email Address (professional format)
- LinkedIn Profile URL (if available)

#### **Example:**

Abc Xyz

abcxyz@example.com | +91-9876543210 | linkedin.com/in/abcxyz

#### 1.2 RESUME OBJECTIVE OR SUMMARY

This is an optional addition that can be an effective way of telling recruiters who you are and what you're seeking.

As a fresh graduate student, a **well-worded summary** to outline career goals and the skills most useful to the company. For campus placements, keep this section targeted and straightforward.

*Example*: "Motivated economics student with a passion for data analysis and financial research. Seeking a role in a dynamic organization to apply academic knowledge and contribute to impactful projects."

#### 1.3 EDUCATION

Recruiters pay special attention to this section, especially when hiring fresh graduates.

- Mention education in reverse chronological order (most recent first).
- Include degree, university, year of graduation, CGPA and relevant coursework.
- If pursuing a master's programme, ensure to mention the name of the university or institution.

#### Example:

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Economics, XYZ University

Graduation: 2025 | CGPA: 8.5/10

Relevant Coursework: Public Economics, International Trade, Financial Economics

#### 1.4 SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Skills and certifications provide recruiters with a quick overview of your technical expertise and soft skills. Customize it to align with the specific job role you're applying for.

#### Example:

#### Skills:

- Data Analysis (Excel, R)
- Market Research,
- Financial Modeling
- Problem-solving
- Communication & Teamwork
- Public Speaking

#### Certifications:

(Include the issuing organization)

- Google Data Analytics Google
- Digital Marketing HubSpot Academy
- Financial Markets Yale University (Coursera)
- Excel for Business and Finance Corporate Finance Institute (CFI)

#### 1.5 EXPERIENCE & INTERNSHIPS

A graduate employee may be limited in their work experience – if they have any at all. Employers are aware of this and may look favourably on achievements outside of traditional work experience, such as:

- volunteer positions
- freelance assignments
- part-time or casual work (be discerning with what you list here,rather than including everything, focus on the experiences relevant to the job position)
- internships
- memberships to organisations such as university clubs

Lack of full-time professional experience can be compensated by mentioning some internships or industry training you might have gone through in your course.

#### Here's what to highlight:-

- Name of the company/organization or project title.
- Brief but impactful descriptions of your roles, responsibilities, and outcomes—use action verbs like "designed," "improved," or "led."
- Quantify achievements whenever possible (e.g., "Increased engagement by 30%").

#### Example:

Intern-Social Media Marketing

ABC Agency (Jan 2025 – Present)

- Created content calendars, increasing engagement by 30%
- · Managed social media pages and tracked analytics

#### 1.6 ACHIEVEMENTS & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In this section showcase your qualities like leadership, creativity, and dedication, proving you're more than just your academics. Instead of just listing activities, explain how they added value.

#### What to add:

- Academic awards, distinctions, competitive exam ranks or scholarships.
- Extracurriculars showcasing teamwork or creativity, such as drama, sports, or competitions.
- Leadership roles and participation in college societies, clubs, associations, or voluntary organizations.

#### Example:

- President, Economics Society, XYZ University (2023-2024)
- Research Paper on Stock Market Trends Used statistical tools for analysis
- Winner, [Any relevant competition] Secured 1st position among 500+ teams
- Senior PR Associate Placement Cell, XYZ University (2023-2024)

#### HOW TO WRITE AN EFFECTIVE COVER LETTER

Attaching a cover letter can help your application stand out. It allows you to showcase your qualifications and alignment with the role or company. To be effective, a cover letter should be properly structured and customized for each job application.

As with your resume, be clear and concise with the points in your cover letter. Show, don't tell, by using evidence-based claims to demonstrate that you have the right qualities for a role.

Consider using a matching design and colour scheme for both your resume and cover letter, for a professional, cohesive look.

#### 2.1 Cover Letter Format

- 1. **Introduction** State the job role and express interest.
- 2. Why You? Highlight relevant skills and experiences.
- 3. Why This Company? Show knowledge of the company and enthusiasm.
- 4. Closing Express availability for an interview.

#### **2.2 Format Cover Letter**

Below is a template to guide you in crafting an effective cover letter.

#### [First name] [Last name],

[Phone number] | [Email address] | [City], [State]

[Date]

[Company name]

Dear [Hiring manager's first name] [Hiring manager's last name]/ Hiring manager (if name not known)

[Start by expressing enthusiasm for the opportunity, mentioning the job title and company name.] [Briefly explain why you're interested in this role, how it connects with your career aspirations, and what specifically attracts you to this company.]

[Discuss your relevant skills and experience without simply restating your resume.]

[Highlight one or two key achievements, preferably with measurable results, to showcase your impact.] [Explain why your background makes you a strong fit for the company and the role.] [If applicable, address any career transitions or gaps in employment.]

[Express gratitude]. [Summarise your qualifications]. [Restate your interest in the role]. [Use a call to action and include your availability and preferred contact method.]

Sincerely,

[Signature]

#### 2.3 Example Cover Letter

Here is an example of a cover letter to help you write your own:

Abc Xyz

+91 9876543210 | abcxyz@gmail.com | Patna, Bihar

July 13, 20XX

Asian Paints Ltd.

Dear Hiring manager,

I am a final-year B.A. Economics student at the University of Delhi, and I am writing to apply for the Strategy Analyst position at Asian Paints Ltd XYZ. With a background in economics and a strong analytical mindset, I am eager to contribute to your team by providing data-driven insights and strategic recommendations.

In my previous internship at [Company/Organization Name], I assisted in developing business reports and conducting competitive analysis, where I gained experience in refining operational strategies. I am comfortable working with large datasets, using tools like Excel and SQL, and presenting findings in a clear and structured manner.

I am eager to bring my analytical skills and problem-solving approach to your company and contribute to its strategic initiatives. I am available for an interview at your convenience and look forward to your response. I am also attaching my resume for your reference.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Abc Xyz

#### ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Avoid overloading and stick to the essentials
- Use bold and italics to draw attention to key points
- After building the resume, save the file as a PDF
- Give the PDF a professional sounding title, such as "firstname-lastname-cv"
- Proofread for spelling and grammatical errors.
- Lesson: A well-crafted resume and cover letter can open doors faster than qualifications alone.

by- PARIDHI YADAV

### CHAPTER 4

## The Big Interview – Facing the Toughest Questions

8

The day arrives—Grace's first big interview. She's nervous but prepared. She's practiced the top 10 most common interview questions and learned how to:

- -Showcase her strengths without sounding arrogant.
- -Tackle tricky behavioral questions with real examples.
- -Negotiate salary without hesitation.

The interview goes well, but she doesn't get the job. Rejection stings. She starts doubting herself.

#### **Top 10 Common Interview Questions and How to Answer Them**

Answering interviews is scary, but you can prepare for that. Common interview questions asked by the Interviewer include questions to get more details on the competencies of experience and to know why and how you fit for the role of application, below are the 10 Most Commonly Asked Interview Questions and two sample answers to personalize your usefulness.

#### 1. Tell me about yourself.

It sometimes is the first question to be asked in an interview, as it sets the tone for the conversation. One major exclusivity to an interviewer is to keep the length of the reply first brief, secondly relevant, and lastly, interesting.

Sample Answer 1:

"I'm a Computer Science final-year student at Miranda House and have always had a knack for using computers to help solve problems. I interned with XYZ Company and worked on front-end (learned to react) and interface of an internal tool. The development served as a strong platform for what I am capable of developing and functioning optimally in a fast-paced workplace. An active member of the placement cell, I was also able to boost soft skills such as leadership and deal with clients by coordinating different recruitment drives. "I am excited to use my talents in an organization that values innovation and collaboration."

Sample Answer 2:

"Got a really good academic background in marketing/creating content. Owned social media campaigns for several college events that drove engagement 40% higher. My ability to read the audience and build content that would be appealing allowed us to reach out. I just finished some digital marketing certificate courses last month where I got to work with SEO and data analytics. I get so hyped to channel my analytical and problem-solving skills into a position that stimulates but also gives me space to do some good."

### 2. Why do you want to work for our company?

Companies want to know what research you have been doing on them and also whether your objectives/vision aligns with theirs.

Sample Answers:

"I have been watching you guys for a while and appreciate the creativity and sustainability in your innovations. The latest AI solutions projects blew me away. Being a data analyst/programmer, opportunities for me to contribute are way far more when compared when learning from the pros in that industry. I am super excited to be a part of such an innovative and visionary community!!

"I just value how this organization places its employees at the forefront of growth and development. The mentorship programs and initiatives in this area catch my eye. I think this position would be ideal to work in a dynamic team using my skills while developing and making an impact on projects."

### 3. What are your strengths?

You should state your strengths relevant to the position as well as substantiate them with examples.

Sample Answer 1:

"One of my biggest strengths is adaptability. I was given a project outside of my expertise during my internship and took it as a challenge to learn and implement the skills required to complete the project by the deadline. I rapidly learned a new framework and conquered this assignment on time."

Sample Answer 2:

"My problem-solving skills have always given me a leg up over the competition. In fact, during a current project in college, we found that we had one day left before we were set to submit, and there was a huge bug in our project. I took the lead in diagnosing the problem's root cause and efficiently solved it. That experience helped me further understand how to remain calm under pressure while I used my problem-solving skills."

### 4. What is your biggest weakness?

Be real in an area of weakness but specify how you are working to improve it.

Sample Answer 1:

'I can get bogged down in the minutiae of the work because sometimes I slow myself down,' but I have employed productivity methods that include imposing limits of time on the various tasks to keep everything moving at an efficient pace without sacrificing quality.

Sample Answer 2:

'Public speaking made me very nervous before, causing me to hesitate when I would join in on meetings. Now, I joined a debate club to participate actively in discussions so that, over

time, I can improve myself. I have come to believe that it has helped me become a lot more confident in expressing my ideas.'

### 5. Describe a challenging situation and how you handled it.

This question will determine the skill of a person in problem-solving and also in resilience. *Sample answer 1:* 

"During my internship period, we were working as part of the team within a very tight deadline concerning a major project, and there seemed to be overwhelming amounts of the workload. So, I suggested that we break that down into smaller tasks and distribute them properly among ourselves. This helped us finish the project on time without compromising quality."

Sample answer 2:

"I was putting up a program with a few colleagues, and just at the very last moment, a very important sponsor dropped out. Immediately, I contacted other sponsors, pitched the program through, and secured funding. And much has been learned in the line of rapid-fire decision-making and resource-acquiring."

### 6. Where do you see yourself in five years?

Employers will always try to sell to you the future aspects that are going to make an impact in your career and in the long run align you with their vision.

Sample Answer 1:

"In five years, I will assume leadership responsibility and strategic decision-making within the field. I want to work my way to becoming an expert in the area and finally mentor junior colleagues to help them progress in their careers."

Sample Answer 2:

"I am looking for learning opportunities and skills development through a change in my working environment. I hope to get into some new projects, which will force me to innovate for the benefit of the entire team."

### 7. Why should we hire you?

Such changes can be drawn in order to make it evident that you are the right candidate for the post.

Example answer 1:

"I'm certainly strong on a technical foundation, a penchant for learning, and a collaborative state of mind. I believe that my skills and dedication can contribute to your team." *Sample Answer 2:* 

"Creativity, analytical skill, and quick adaptability make me very suited for the position. I possess fresh ideas and a strong work ethic. I want to contribute to the company."

### 8. Tell me about a time you worked in a team.

Since employers strive for the ability to work in harmony with others, they expect the following:

Sample Answer 1:

"We were all feeling very different about the approach during this group project. I encouraged discussion and offered everyone a chance to speak. In the end, we combined our strengths and produced a good project."

Sample Answer 2:

"As part of my college's placement cell, I worked along with other departments in the organization of a job fair. Together with teamwork and communication, we made the event very smooth and successful."

### 9. How do you handle stress and pressure?

Answers should reflect one's ability to stand firm and solve problems.

Sample Dialogue 1:

"I would prioritize tasks and break them down into manageable pieces so that I can concentrate and not feel so stressed."

Sample Dialogue 2:

"On handling stress, I take a more proactive approach. As part of a demanding project, I tracked progress with a checklist and distributed tasks effectively and on time, leading to a successful completion."

### 10. Do you have any questions for us?

The best thing is always to be ready with the right good questions you can ask your interviewer and mentally prepare yourself to fight them out.

Sample Answer 1:

"What are the critical factors that will make a candidate successful in this role?" Sample Answer 2:

"In what ways does the company ensure continued education and career mobility?

#### Conclusion

A well-rehearsed candidate leaves an indelible mark on his or her interviewer. The candidate becomes confident in answering standard questions and this sets the stage for him or her to clearly articulate skills/ experience. The main thing is to be real, provide specific examples, and show excitement for the role. If you are well-prepared, you'll be well on your way to acing your next interview!

• Lesson: Every rejection is a step closer to success.

PARIDHI YADAV

# CHAPTER 5

# Bouncing Back from Rejections – The Road to Resilience

8

Grace faces multiple rejections, but she refuses to let them break her. She seeks feedback from interviewers, works on her weaknesses, and keeps applying. Slowly, her confidence builds. One day, she gets the email she's been waiting for—a job offer from a company she loves! She did it.

### How to Deal with Job Rejections and Keep Moving Forward

Getting rejected from a job is possibly one of the most disheartening feelings that a person can experience, especially when they have tried their best to prepare for it and give it their all. It may lead to feelings of insecurity, anxiety and create confusion and doubt regarding one's capabilities. One may start to overthink and fall into a deep pit of self-doubt. Such was the case with Grace, who felt dejected after being rejected from multiple jobs. However, job rejections are a part of life, and one must not get stuck on rejections and lose hope. What is important is that one must try to understand what could have been better, how they can improve their skills, and to understand their own goals for a job. Here are some ways to handle job rejections.

- 1. Acknowledge your emotions- It is normal to feel upset, hurt, or confused after experiencing rejection from your dream job. What is not normal is ignoring these emotions and burying them deep down. By allowing yourself to feel these emotions properly, you can move out of that negative headspace and move into a more positive mindset, in order to stay focused on your goals.
- 1. **Ask for feedback-** Asking the interviewer or employer for feedback regarding your interview and application is a good way to understand what they are looking for and where you are lacking. You can send them an email and politely ask them the reasons behind your rejection, which will help reveal their requirements for that position. This information can help you improve your performance for the next job you apply to and understand how to prepare well for interviews.
- 1. **Review the feedback-** While it may be tempting to ignore criticism, you should make sure to incorporate it while working on your performance. It is important not to get defensive or offended upon receiving negative feedback- rather, you should consider it as an opportunity to learn and improve. Improving can include attending mock interviews, updating your resume, gaining more knowledge about the field you wish to enter and finding trustworthy guidance.

- Stay objective- Sometimes, it is not you that is lacking in any aspect, but it is simply the presence of a better candidate that leads to rejection. Companies are professional spaces. They make agreements on the basis of experience, education and knowledge. It is necessary not to take rejections personally for this reason- it may be that you had performed well, but a more experienced candidate was chosen in your place.
- Stay positive- The most important thing to do after a job rejection is to keep trying and not lose hope. One or two rejections should not demotivate you. Instead of taking it as rejection, look upon it as an opportunity to learn more and get a better job. Keep applying for similar jobs and be active to avoid missing out on a good opportunity, and you might just land a better deal than the one you lost.
- Broaden your options- If you get rejected from a job which you considered your goal, you should also consider whether that job utilises the skills you are offering or not. Perhaps the kind of job you would be the best fit for is not the one you are currently trying to get. Rejections thus can help with finding out better job opportunities and understanding what kind of work is best suited to you.
- Build your online social network- Using platforms like LinkedIn to find industry experts in your field of interest and apply for internships boosts your connections and builds your network. Several profiles on LinkedIn also provide advice and guidance regarding such topics, which will help you understand how to move on with the help of a professional's advice.
- Talk to your loved ones- Spending time with your friends and family can help take your mind off your rejection. By discussing what has happened and sharing your emotions to them, you can help relieve yourself of your emotional burden and maybe even learn about similar situations that happened with them. This will certainly help boost your morale and help you get back into an active and positive mindset.

Dealing with rejection is difficult and upsetting, and while you may feel as though you are lagging behind, it is imperative to understand that letting out your emotions is an incredibly important step in your journey to success. What is also necessary is understanding that one rejection does not define your talents, achievements or capabilities. Every rejection has its internal and external factors that influence it, and your job is to find out those internal factors and utilise them to bring yourself to a position from which it will be difficult to push you off. Resilience is what will keep you moving forward after a job rejection, and building this resilience will enable you to take on any challenge.

• Final: Rejections don't define you—your persistence does.



by: Vidushi Agarwal

# INKED AND SPILLED

## HOW AI AND AUTOMATION ARE CHANGING THE JOB MARKET



Artificial Intelligence [AI] refers to computer systems designed to mimic human intelligence- performing tasks like learning, problem-solving, and decision-making-while Automation involves using technology to complete tasks with minimal human intervention. Throughout history, technological advancements have reshaped the job market, from the Industrial Revolution replacing manual labor with machines to computers transforming office work. Each wave of innovation has displaced certain jobs while creating new ones, requiring the workforce to adapt. This article explores how AI and Automation are continuing their trend, analyzing their impact on different industries, the jobs they might replace or create, and how workers can prepare for an evolving and more challenging job market.





# 01

# HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries was a benchmark time period which marked a pivotal shift from agrarian to industrial societies by introducing machinery that transformed the manufacturing process, led to rise of factories, urbanisation and changes in labour dynamics. Those times have had a profound impact on the contemporary situation as well where gradually over the years, automation has reshaped industries like manufacturing. The integration of robotics and AI has enhanced efficiency, precision and safety on production on floors. For instance, Mercedes-Benz is investing in humanoid robots to perform labour tasks to improve efficiency and productivity. Similarly, China's adoption of "dark factories" with fully automated facilities operating without human intervention exemplifies the impact of technological advancements in shift towards continuous, error-reduced production.

Yet, all advancements come with challenges, including workforce displacements and the need for reskilling workers. The current wave of automation, often referred to as the Fourth Industrial Revolution, parallels historical industrial shifts by disrupting traditional employment patterns and necessitating adaptation to new technologies.



# CURRENT IMPACT

Just like manufacturing, AI and Automation has impacted numerous sectors in the current scenario including finance, agriculture, healthcare and creative professions. In the financial sector, AI is utilized to detect fraudulent activities and predict market trends, enhancing decision-making and operational efficiency. On the other hand AI applications in agriculture include growing healthier crops, controlling and sensing pests, and monitoring soil conditions, leading to increased yields and sustainable farming practices. Healthcare industries have also inculcated AI into its working infrastructure very well. AI and Automation are transforming healthcare by improving diagnostics, personalising treatment plans, and optimising administrative workflows, thereby enhancing patient outcomes and operational efficiency.

Today, AI has successfully acquired an essential position in majority fields in various sectors. It feels impossible to go back to the traditional ways now.



### **FUTURE TRENDS**

There have been several major debates surrounding AI's impact on the job marketwith perspectives ranging from optimistic to deeply cautious.

People with an optimistic view tend to suggest that AI creates entirely new roles-AI trainers, data analysts, ethics consultants. As automation handles routine tasks, people shift to more complex, creative, and interpersonal work. Some also believe that AI-driven automation allows businesses to grow faster, which can lead to expansion and more jobs, especially AI support, development and oversight roles. Many argue that Ai will push the workforce to develop more advanced skills, making jobs more fulfilling and reducing repetitive labour.

A pessimistic view also states that AI-driven economic growth may concentrate wealth in hands of tech companies and highly skilled workers, leaving lower-skilled workers behind and unemployed some time in future. Critics warn that AI will replace many low and middle skill jobs, especially in manufacturing, transportation and customer service. SElf-driving trucks and cashier-less stores are prime examples. Skeptics also argue that reskilling programs may not keep pace with AI advancements, leaving many unemployed.

A report from the World Economic Forum predicts AI could displace 85 million jobs by 2025- though it may create 97 million new roles.

# OH ADAPTATION

To adapt to the rapidly evolving job market shaped by automation and AI, workers need to priorite continuous learning and skill development. As technological skills become increasingly vital- from basic digital literacy to advanced programming-staying updated with emerging technologies is essential. Equally important are social and emotional skills, like leadership, negotiation, and empathy, which remain uniquely human and in high demand across industries like healthcare, education, and management. Workers should also focus on enhancing higher cognitive abilities such as creativity and complex problem-solving, which automation struggles to replicate. Meanwhile, roles relying on basic cognitive tasks, like data entry, and manual labour are declining, pushing workers to upskill or transition into more resilient career paths. With an estimated 75-375 million people potentially needing to switch job categories by 2030, embracing lifelong learning, retraining and adaptability is crucial for staying competitive and thriving in an increasingly automated world in the coming future.



# CONCLUSION

AI is reshaping the job market, blending automation with human expertise to create a new landscape of work. While repetitive and routine jobs may decline, emerging roles in AI development, data analysis, and system management are on the rise. The demand for uniquely human skills- creativity, emotional intelligence, the problem-solving-remains strong, highlighting the need for continuous learning and adaptability. With technology evolving rapidly, workers who embrace reskilling and innovation will stay resilient. Ultimately, AI is not replacing work entirely- it is transforming it, redefining the value of human contributions and paving the way for a more dynamic, skilled workforce.

### REFERENCES

**WEF Report** 

McKinsey and Company reports on automation trends
The Economist articles,OECD reports on labour market changes, World Bank Reports
IBM article on future trends in AI

by- GAURI SHARMA

# Strategic Portfolio Reinforcement and Opportunity Exploration in the Corporate Sphere : A Comprehensive Guide.

### INTRODUCTION

Developing one's professional portfolio strategically becomes not only advantageous but essential in a time of relentless upheaval in the level of innovation and changing financial models. Learning that directive and using a cleverly developed strategy to multiply corporate possibilities by creating a strong career path supported in digital integrity, cognitive flexibility, and domain-specific knowledge is urgent.

Accepting a flexible and adaptable career growth strategy approach to career growth assures both precision and long-term stability in today's professional environment.

This highly dynamic arena witnesses frequent realignments in different fields of expertise & people who do not upskill are at risk of falling behind. Take classes that will let you hone your abilities. A research shows that 70 percent of best managers wish to recruit staff committed to lifelong learning. Investing in continuous learning pays off whether one is mastering data analytics, digital marketing, or leadership skills.

Knowledge is power and knowing where your sector is going gives you a competitive advantage. Use channels like Glassdoor and sector-reports to stay current. According to McKinsey, people who follow market trends are likely to have 30% more job chances than people who don't. What skills are needed by this behavior is known.

Before you rush into submitting job applications, slow down and consider what you can offer. Recruiters usually spend around 6 seconds per resume (LinkedIn Talent Solutions, 2024), so a well-defined personal brand is vital. What sets you apart? What defines you in terms of skills and experience? Revise your elevator pitch, update your LinkedIn page, and customize your material to match your knowledge.

# PORTFOLIO REINFORCEMENT : A STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE.

Enhancing one's professional portfolio goes beyond merely accumulating credentials; it involves aligning one's skills and experiences with the evolving demands of the corporate environment.

• Continuous Professional Development: Engaging in ongoing learning initiatives, such as advanced certifications and executive education programs, ensures the maintenance of relevant skill sets. John Olusegun's Study (2020) highlights that continuous learning is key to

keeping employees skilled and competitive. Organizations that invest in upskilling create a culture of growth and innovation, leading to better performance and job satisfaction. The research emphasizes that mentorship, training programs, and digital learning tools help employees stay adaptable and contribute effectively to their workplaces.

**Strategic Project Engagement**: Deliberate participation in projects that align with organizational values not only strengthens one's portfolio but also reinforces corporate culture. Study by Justin F Willett, Danielle LaGree, Haejung Shin, J Brian Houston, Margaret Duffy (2023) of 1,512 U.S. employees explored how leadership communication influences workplace respect, engagement, and well-being. While it didn't directly impact engagement or well-being, it did foster a culture of respect—both general and achievement-based. However, it was linked to lower occupational resilience, showing the nuanced effects of leadership communication in the workplace.

**Networking Proficiency:** Building a robust professional network is crucial. Engaging with industry peers across various sectors can uncover unforeseen opportunities, as cross-disciplinary interactions often lead to innovative insights. A study conducted by Al-dalahmeh, M., Masa'deh, R., Khalaf, Rana K., Obeidat, B Obeidat et al. (2018) on 429 IT employees in Jordanian banks examined how employee engagement especially vigor, dedication and absorption impacts organizational performance, with job satisfaction as a mediating factor fostering engagement and satisfaction to enhance overall success and suggested further studies in different industries and cultures.

# NAVIGATING CORPORATE OPPORTUNITIES : A PROACTIVE PARADIGM

The corporate world is dynamic, and opportunities often favor those who anticipate and prepare rather than react. A proactive approach means staying ahead of trends, identifying risks early, and making strategic moves to capitalize on emerging possibilities. Unlike reactive strategies that address challenges after they arise, proactive planning helps professionals and businesses stay resilient and competitive.

According to The Strategy Story "professionals who actively engaged in networking and cross-industry interactions tend to uncover unexpected career opportunities." Their insights highlight that strategic networking is not just about expanding connections but also about fostering meaningful relationships that can lead to innovation and career growth.

One of the key elements of proactive opportunity exploration is Risk assessment and Identification. By regularly evaluating potential risks, organizations and professionals can mitigate challenges before they escalate, ensuring smooth career and business growth. Similarly, research from <a href="CoAdvantage">CoAdvantage</a> highlights that "proactive planning in the workplace leads to the reduced uncertainty and improved decision-making." Additionally, trend analysis and scenario planning allow individuals to anticipate market shifts and adapt accordingly, preventing stagnation in a rapidly evolving environment. According to a study by <a href="AuditBoard">AuditBoard</a>, "Organisations that actively engage in risk identification and mitigation are significantly more resilient to market fluctuations."

Another powerful tool in opportunity exploration is leveraging data analytics. Institutions like Marquette University, the Pragmatic Institute, and William and Mary emphasize data-driven decision-making and strategic analysis, showcasing how leveraging analytics can enhance corporate efficiency, optimize operations, and drive informed business strategies.

# ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK IN PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

To effectively manage and strengthen professional portfolios, strategic decision-making ,enabling professionals to optimize risks ,allocate resources efficiently, and identify growth opportunities it is essential to adopt structured analytical approaches. Below are some key theories that offer a comprehensive understanding of portfolio management and corporate strategy:

Modern Portfolio Theory: Introduced by an economist named Harry Markowitz in 1952 who wrote his dissertation on "Portfolio Selection", a paper which contained theories which transformed the landscape of Portfolio Management, emphasizing diversification to balance risk and return, widely used in corporate investment strategies.

GE-McKinsey Matrix: It is also known as the "nine-box matrix", developed by McKinsey for General Electric, this nine-box matrix evaluates business units based on industry attractiveness and business strength, aiding in resource allocations. (<u>RÄfzvan, 2013</u>)

BCG Growth-Share Matrix: a strategic tool for portfolio analysis developed by Bruce Henderson of the Boston Consulting Group in 1970 which categorizes business units as Stars, Cash Cows, Question Marks or Dogs helping the companies understand their portfolio's strengths and weaknesses, identifying the areas of weaknesses and determining the products or business units to maintain, develop or divest.

Market Opportunity Navigator: another tool developed by Prof. Marc Gruber and Dr. Sharon Tal Itzkovich in 2017, this tool helps businesses assess and prioritize market opportunities systematically.

### LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS

Incorporating technological advancements is essential for strengthening professional portfolios and exploring corporate opportunities.

Digital Networking Platforms: Utilizing platforms like LinkedIn, Glassdoor, and industry-specific forums enables professionals to expand their networks, engage with industry leaders and access job opportunities.

Online Learning: Enrolling in digital courses, webinars, and certification programs helps individuals stay updated with industry advancements. Platforms such as Coursera, edX and Udemy offer specialized courses that enhance skill sets and improve career prospects.

AI and Data Analytics: Leveraging AI-powered tools and data analytics can optimize decision-making processes, identify market trends, and streamline professional growth strategies.

By integrating these technologies, individuals can enhance their professional visibility, acquire relevant skills, and make informed career decisions in an evolving corporate landscape.

### CASE STUDY: REACHE2's STRATEGIC EXPANSION

To illustrate these concepts in actions, let's delve into the case of Reach52, a social enterprise founded in 2016 by Edward Booty to improve healthcare access for marginalised populations in Asia and Africa. It distributes health products through community health workers and provides data for targeted health campaigns.

### **Expansion Into India:**

In 2023, reach52 entered the Indian market by acquiring part of a social business, expanding its reach in healthcare distribution.

### **Operational Model In India:**

It follows a low-cost, high-volume model, sourcing affordable medicines from generic manufacturers. By 2023, it supplied 26,000 rural pharmacies and clinics, offering 47 healthcare products and reaching 500,000 people monthly through health events.

### **Strategic Partnerships and Innovations:**

It collaborates with Aditya Birla Health Insurance and Tata 1mg to provide affordable health insurance and medicines. Its health chatbots on WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger supported 100,000+ rural users during COVID-19.

### **Impact and Future Growth:**

Reach52 continues expanding in India (e.g Gujarat) through public-private partnerships, digital solutions, and community-driven healthcare initiatives, strengthening its portfolio and impact in the corporate healthcare sector.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ASPIRING PROFESSIONALS

To adapty reinforce our portfolios and explore corporate opportunities ,followings points need to be considered: Firstly, to Commit to Lifelong Learning: to stay relevant by pursuing advanced certifications, executive programs, or skill-specific courses. According to LinkedIn's 2024 workplace Learning Report,89% of professionals believe continuous learning is essential for career growth.

Secondly, Expand Your Network: Industry connections open doors to new opportunities. A study by Harvard Business Review found that 85% of jobs are filled through networking.

Thirdly ,to Utilize Analytical Tools: Frameworks like the GE Multifactorial Analysis and Market Opportunity Navigator help in making informed career and business decisions, ensuring strategic growth.

Fourthly ,Embrace Technology: Digital tools like LinkedIn, Coursera and AI-Driven career platforms can enhance skill-building and professional visibility. The World Economic Forum's 2023 report highlighted that tech-savvy professionals are 1.5 times more likely to secure leadership roles.

# CONCLUSION

Reinforcing our professional portfolios and strategically exploring corporate opportunities require a proactive and multifaceted approach. By committing to lifelong learning, expanding our networks, employing analytical frameworks, and leveraging technological advancements, we can position ourselves effectively in an evolving corporate landscape. The journey may be complex, but with the right tools and mindset, we can navigate it with confidence and foresight, unlocking new possibilities for growth and success.

### REFERENCES

- •Henderson, B. (1970). <a href="https://web-assets.bcg.com/img-src/BCG">https://web-assets.bcg.com/img-src/BCG</a> The Product Portfolio tcm9-139921.pdfThe Product Portfolio. Boston Consulting Group.
- •Markowitz, H. (1952). "Portfolio Selection" "Journal of Finance."
- •Gruber, M., & Tal, S. (2017). Where to Play: 3 Steps for Discovering Your Most Valuable Market Opportunities. Pearson.
- •<u>RÄfzvan, 2013</u>. Enduring Ideas: The GE–McKinsey Nine-Box Matrix.
- •RH-52K. (2023). <u>Reach52's Expansion and Impact in India: A Case Study on Healthcare Distribution and Strategic Growth.</u>
- •Willett, J. F., LaGree, D., Shin, H., Houston, J. B., & Duffy, M. (2023). The Influence of Leadership Communication on Workplace Respect, Engagement, and Well-Being: A Study of 1,512 U.S. Employees.
- (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/373539032 The Role of Leader Communication in Fostering Respectful Workplace Culture and Increasing Employee Engagement and Well-Being)
- •(<u>Olusegun, J. (2020</u>). The Impact of Continuous Learning on Employee Skill Development and Workplace Performance.
- •Al-Dalahmeh, M., Masa'deh, R., Khalaf, R. K., & Obeidat, B. (2018). <u>The effect of employee engagement on organizational performance via the mediating role of job satisfaction: The case of IT employees in Jordanian banks. International Journal of Business and Management, 13(12), 1-14.</u>
- •The Strategy Story. (n.d.). The power of strategic networking in career growth. (https://thestrategystory.com/category/stories/)

# Future–Proofing Your Career: Essential Skills for 2025 and Beyond

In an ever-changing global economy, the landscape of work is being influenced by groundbreaking technologies, evolving societal demands, and innovative business models. As industries transform and workforce requirements evolve, ensuring the longevity of your career has become increasingly vital. The foundation for success in this dynamic environment lies in recognizing and developing the skills that will be sought after in the future. This article will examine the essential skills anticipated for 2025 and beyond, providing insights into the future of work and strategies for preparation

### The Evolving Work Environment

Prior to exploring the specific skills that will be crucial in the future, it is essential to grasp the overarching factors that are reshaping the workplace. These factors include:

- 1. Technological Innovations: Automation, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and blockchain technology are already transforming traditional sectors and will continue to alter job roles and expectations in the coming years.
- 2. Remote and Hybrid Work Models: The global pandemic has expedited the transition to remote and hybrid work setups. Many organizations are now adopting flexible work arrangements, a trend that is likely to endure. Consequently, the demand for digital collaboration, self-management, and effective communication skills has intensified.
- 3. Demographic Changes: An aging global population is impacting industries such as healthcare and finance, while younger generations with distinct values and skill sets are entering the workforce, thereby influencing organizational culture and work dynamics.
- 4. Commitment to Environmental and Social Responsibility: There is an increasing focus on sustainability, diversity, and corporate social responsibility. Companies that prioritize these areas will seek employees with expertise in green technologies, social equity, and ethical leadership.

As these trends continue to develop, future-proofing your career necessitates the ability to adapt to and anticipate these changes.

1. Digital Literacy and Technical Skills

Digital literacy is no longer optional—it is a fundamental requirement for most job roles. As technology continues to advance, proficiency in digital tools and platforms is critical. This includes a range of skills from basic computer knowledge to more advanced abilities in areas like programming and data analytics.

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: Understanding AI and machine learning is becoming
increasingly valuable. Industries ranging from healthcare to finance are using these technologies for
predictive analytics, automation, and customer service enhancements. Professionals with the ability
to develop, implement, or optimize AI-driven solutions will be highly sought after.



- Data Science and Analytics: As organizations collect more data than ever before, they need skilled professionals who can interpret and extract actionable insights. Proficiency in data analysis, statistical modeling, and data visualization will remain critical in fields such as marketing, finance, and healthcare.
- Cybersecurity: As cyberattacks become more frequent and sophisticated, the demand for cybersecurity experts will continue to rise. Professionals skilled in securing digital infrastructures, managing risks, and responding to cyber threats will be integral to any organization's success.

### 2. Adaptability and Continuous Learning

In an era of rapid change, the ability to learn new skills and adapt to evolving circumstances is essential. Professionals who view learning as an ongoing process will have a distinct advantage. This is particularly true in fields where new technologies are rapidly reshaping the landscape.

- Lifelong Learning: Companies are placing a premium on workers who demonstrate a
  commitment to continuous learning. Whether through online courses, certifications, or in-house
  training programs, the ability to upskill and reskill quickly will be a key differentiator in your
  career.
- Resilience and Problem-Solving: The future will present complex challenges that require creative problem-solving and resilience in the face of adversity. Workers who can remain calm under pressure, think critically, and innovate will be highly valued by employers.
- Cross-Disciplinary Knowledge: The most successful professionals in the future will be those who
  can blend expertise from multiple fields. For example, a marketing expert with knowledge of data
  science, or a healthcare professional familiar with AI, will be able to offer more holistic solutions
  to modern challenges.

#### 3. Emotional Intelligence and Interpersonal Skills

As automation takes over repetitive tasks, the need for human-centered skills will only increase. Emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills are uniquely human traits that are difficult for machines to replicate. These skills will be essential in nearly every professional role, especially in leadership, customer service, and team-based environments.

- Communication and Collaboration: As remote and hybrid work models continue to dominate, strong communication and collaboration skills will be crucial. Professionals who can articulate their ideas clearly, listen actively, and work effectively with diverse teams will be in high demand.
- Empathy and Conflict Resolution: Emotional intelligence, including empathy, is essential for building strong relationships, fostering teamwork, and managing conflicts in the workplace.
   Professionals who can navigate complex interpersonal dynamics will be more effective leaders and collaborators.
- Leadership and Mentoring: As organizations become more diverse and complex, there will be a growing need for leaders who can inspire, motivate, and guide teams. This includes not only managing people but also being able to mentor others, helping them develop their own skills, and supporting their growth.

### 4. Creativity and Innovation

Creativity will continue to be one of the most valued human traits, particularly in industries that rely on innovation to stay ahead of the competition. As automation handles routine tasks, creative problem-solving and the ability to generate new ideas will set professionals apart.

- Design Thinking: In a world of complex problems and rapid technological change, design thinking will be an important skill. This approach to problem-solving emphasizes empathy, iteration, and collaboration to come up with innovative solutions that address user needs.
- Creative Leadership: Innovation doesn't only happen in R&D labs or design studios. Every business function, from
  marketing to finance, will need leaders who can think creatively about challenges and opportunities and guide their teams
  to implement creative solutions.
- Entrepreneurial Mindset: Even within established organizations, having an entrepreneurial mindset will be increasingly valuable. Professionals who are able to identify new business opportunities, adapt quickly to market changes, and drive growth will be essential to the future of work
- Sustainability and Green SkillsAs environmental concerns become more pressing, the demand for professionals with sustainability expertise will grow. Workers who can drive sustainable business practices, develop green technologies, and help organizations reduce their environmental footprint will be in high demand.
- Green Technologies: As the world transitions to renewable energy sources, professionals skilled in fields like solar energy, wind power, and energy storage will be needed to design, implement, and maintain these technologies.
- Environmental Policy and Advocacy: There will be a greater need for professionals who understand the legal and regulatory landscape surrounding environmental sustainability. Careers in environmental law, policy-making, and advocacy will continue to expand as companies and governments seek to meet environmental standards.
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Companies are increasingly expected to act in socially responsible ways. CSR
  experts who can develop strategies that align business goals with social and environmental responsibility will be integral to
  organizational success.
- Cultural Competency and Global Awareness As globalization continues, professionals who can navigate diverse cultural environments and understand global markets will have a competitive edge. This is particularly true for organizations operating internationally or those that serve a multicultural customer base.
- Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusion: In a globalized workforce, being culturally aware and inclusive will be crucial.
   Professionals who can work effectively with diverse teams and understand different cultural perspectives will be valuable assets to any organization.
- Global Business Acumen: Understanding global markets, international trade policies, and global supply chains will be increasingly important. Professionals with a broad understanding of international business dynamics will be better equipped to lead in the global marketplace.

### Conclusion

As we look toward 2025 and beyond, the future of work will be shaped by technological advances, shifting societal expectations, and the need for a more diverse and adaptable workforce. The key to future-proofing your career lies in cultivating a blend of technical, interpersonal, and creative skills that can evolve with the changing landscape. By embracing lifelong learning, honing your emotional intelligence, staying current with technological trends, and fostering creativity and adaptability, you can position yourself for success in an increasingly dynamic and unpredictable job market. The skills that are in demand today may evolve, but the ability to continuously learn, adapt, and collaborate will always remain essential in securing a thriving future for your career.

# Internship to full time offer: Strategies that work

In present job market an internship has played key role as probable gateway for getting full time position. Nowadays every company wish to hire that individual who is already experienced through working under corporate sector and get little experience. Statistics reveal that business companies hire 70% of their interns to full-time roles, making the internship one of the most promising channels to acquiring that elusive first job. Unfortunately, not every intern gets offered return. What sets those in favor apart from those who do not?

### Introduction

A popular tactic used to attract potential full time employees, many employers offer summer internships. While internships are a way to gain skills and exposure to a particular career area, they also act as a means for candidates to be tested by companies. This article explores some proven strategies that transform a temporary internships into a full time offer.

First impression: Setting the foundation

In order to leave a long-lasting impression, don't limit yourself to your task only. Go to your supervisor and tell him how much you want to do more. You can also leave a good impression by dressing up and acting professionally. Try to be friendly with all people because it will help you to mingle. By doing these activities, one can easily get involved with company culture easily. Strong Relationships

Research indicates that conversion rates are greater for interns who forms relationships beyond their immediate team. Reaching out to professionals in professions one find interesting about their career path and responsibilities will give some insights and handful experience.

A mentor can be career changer for an individual career development. Find someone whose career you respect and is willing to share their experience and knowledge. He/She can guide you through the professional world, ultimately improving your chances of getting a full time job.

### Demonstrating your value

In today's world market every company wants to invest in the employees who exhibit the potential and willingness to grow. You may keep a learning journal, pursuing stretch assignment, being proactive and interested in covering learning knowledge gaps to sustain personality development. Express your growth commitment by actively seeking chances to develop new skills and taking feedback to enhance yourself. It will leave an lasting impact on your image and help you to stand out among crowded competitions.

Fit into company culture

Being able to observe and adjust to the workplace setting is key to being accepted. Participating in the company's activity is an excellent way to gain rapport and express your commitment and involvement. Such interactions can improve your relationships and emphasizes your eagerness to belong to the team.





Meeting timeline is an very crucial step for creating an positive feedback. One should always try to be punctual for meetings and adhere to deadlines. A positive attitude and strong work ethic can greatly influence hiring decisions. Try to help your colleagues, demonstrating collabrative spirit can significantly boost your chances of being considered for full time roles.

# The Final push

Clearly expressing your willingness for a full time position is also extremely important. In one to one sessions with your boss you can use this as approach to show your appreciation and willingness. Always remain in touch with your boss and team members to keep professional relations through linkdein and sporadic check ins.

Finally always ask for constructive feedback on your performance by your team members and manager so that you take them as suggestions and made improvements, utilize that experience and feedback to enhance your personality for other jobs, whether at same organization or else.

# Conclusion

These strategies of converting an internship to a full time offer are only stairs for any individual. One must climb those steps to reach finally to their last destination. By going through your internship with deliberate and strategic intent, you not only enhance the chances of conversion but build a professional toolkit that will serve you for the duration of your professional lifespan.

Always attempt to learn something new and work in some innovative and fresh way, accept criticism as improvement tool and always try to go beyond expectations. By having every moment of this learning process instead of taking stress and aggravating heath issue makes the best of each opportunity that reaches us.

# Group Discussions 101: Tips to Stand Out Without Being Aggressive

### Introduction

"The way we communicate with others and with ourselves ultimately determines the quality of our lives." – Tony Robbins

Group discussions (GDs) are a decisive factor in placements, business school admissions, and corporate hiring. They evaluate how well you can articulate ideas, respond to different viewpoints, and collaborate within a team. Many candidates mistakenly assume that being the loudest in the room ensures victory. However, recruiters prioritize clarity, confidence, and composure over mere dominance.

The real challenge is standing out without being aggressive. How do you contribute meaningfully while ensuring your voice is heard? Let's break it down.

## Understanding the Purpose of a GD

Before delving into strategies, it's crucial to understand what evaluators look for in a GD.

These discussions are not just about knowledge but also about:

- 1. Analytical thinking How well do you assess and interpret the topic?
- 2. Communication skills Can you express your thoughts concisely and clearly?
- 3. Collaboration Do you acknowledge others' points and build upon them?
- 4. Leadership Can you steer the conversation constructively without overpowering others?

According to a study by the Harvard Business Review, 80% of hiring managers believe that strong interpersonal skills, demonstrated in discussions, are more important than technical knowledge in leadership roles. This highlights why mastering the GD is crucial.

### Start with Impact: The First Impression

A strong start sets the tone. If given the chance, initiating the discussion can make you stand out, but only if done effectively.

Consider a GD on "Is Artificial Intelligence a Threat to Jobs?" Instead of starting with a generic statement like, "AI is taking over jobs," a compelling opening would be:

"The World Economic Forum predicts that AI will displace 85 million jobs by 2025 but will also create 97 million new ones. The question isn't whether AI is a threat, but how we can adapt to this transformation."

This approach not only provides factual credibility but also introduces a fresh perspective. However, if someone else starts the discussion, don't panic—listen actively and build upon their point strategically.

# The Art of Listening: A Case Study

During an MBA admission process, two candidates were evaluated in a GD. One spoke aggressively, interrupted frequently, and dominated the discussion. The other spoke only four times but summarized key arguments, acknowledged others' views, and structured his points logically. The latter was shortlisted. Why? Because active listening is as crucial as speaking.

Instead of thinking about what to say next, focus on:

- Absorbing what others are saying.
- Noting gaps in the discussion where you can add value.
- Avoiding repetition and unnecessary arguments.

A study by UCLA found that 93% of communication is non-verbal. This means your facial expressions, body language, and attentiveness matter just as much as your words.

### <u>Assertiveness Over Aggression: Striking the Right Balance</u>

Confidence is an asset, but aggression is a liability. Many candidates fall into the trap of mistaking dominance for leadership.

Here's how to ensure you are assertive without being overpowering:

- Control your tone. A calm, steady voice commands more respect than a loud, overpowering one.
- Choose words wisely. Instead of saying, "That's incorrect," say, "That's an interesting perspective, but I have a different take on it."
- Address interruptions professionally. If someone cuts you off, a polite but firm response like, "I'd like to complete my point before we move ahead," works well.

A real-life example of this comes from the corporate world. Indra Nooyi, former CEO of PepsiCo, was known for her ability to lead discussions with a balance of authority and empathy. Her approach to communication made her one of the most respected business leaders globally.

### **Structure Your Points for Maximum Impact**

A structured argument is easier to follow and leaves a lasting impression.



One effective technique is the PREP model:

- Point: Clearly state your argument.
- Reason: Justify it logically.
- Example: Provide a real-world instance or statistic.
- Point (restate): Conclude with a takeaway.



- 1. Point: Remote work increases productivity.
- 2. Reason: A Stanford study found that remote workers are 13% more productive than their office counterparts.
- 3. Example: Companies like Twitter and Shopify have adopted permanent remote work models.
- 4. Point (restate): Flexibility and technology make remote work a viable long-term model.

However, not all arguments require rigid structuring. Sometimes, a conversational approach works better, especially when discussing abstract topics.

### **Encourage Participation Without Losing Ground**

True leadership in a GD is about fostering discussion, not monopolizing it.

A simple yet powerful way to do this is by engaging quieter participants:

- If someone hasn't spoken, bring them in: "We'd love to hear your thoughts on this."
- Summarize and redirect: "So far, we've looked at the benefits of AI. Perhaps we should also consider the risks."

In a recruitment GD at a global consulting firm, a candidate who facilitated participation rather than just speaking continuously was selected over others who dominated the conversation. The evaluators valued his ability to create a collaborative environment—an essential skill in teamwork-driven workplaces.

#### The Power of a Strong Conclusion

A well-articulated conclusion can leave a lasting impression.

If given the opportunity, summarize key points concisely:

"Today's discussion highlighted the dual nature of AI in the job market. While automation may replace some roles, it also paves the way for new opportunities. The challenge lies not in resisting change but in preparing for it through skill development and adaptability."

A good conclusion doesn't have to be lengthy. It simply needs to reflect the essence of the discussion and end on a strong note.



Key Takeaways: The GD Success Formula

- 1. Preparation matters. Stay informed about current affairs and industry trends.
- 2. First impressions count. Begin with confidence and a fresh perspective.
- 3. Listening is as powerful as speaking. Engage meaningfully rather than just talking.
- 4. Be assertive, not aggressive. Confidence wins over confrontation.
- 5. Structure your arguments. Use logic, facts, and real-world examples.
- 6. Encourage participation. Leadership is about collaboration, not control.
- 7. End with impact. A strong conclusion leaves a lasting impression.

## Final Thoughts

"The most powerful person in a room is not the one who speaks the most, but the one whose words carry the most weight."

Excelling in a group discussion is not about overpowering others but about making meaningful contributions. It's about clarity, confidence, and composure. The ability to listen, analyze, and articulate ideas with respect is what sets great communicators apart.

So, the next time you step into a GD, remember—it's not about being the loudest voice but the most impactful one. Speak with purpose, listen with intent, and lead with confidence. Success will follow.

### Conclusion

Group discussions are not about who speaks the most or who dominates the conversation. They are about demonstrating clarity of thought, confidence, and the ability to engage meaningfully with others. The best candidates are those who listen actively, present their points with conviction, and foster constructive discussions.

Success in a GD comes from a balanced approach—being informed, speaking with impact, and respecting diverse viewpoints. Recruiters and evaluators look for individuals who can think critically, communicate effectively, and collaborate seamlessly.

Ultimately, the goal is not just to be heard but to be remembered for the value you add to the discussion. The ability to articulate ideas with confidence and composure will not only help you stand out in a GD but also in your professional journey ahead.

by- TAMANNA GUPTA

# Internships vs Freelancing: What's Your Career Pick?

Ever been caught in the tug-of-war between internships and freelancing? One offers structured learning, the other freedom and flexibility. One teaches you the rules, the other lets you rewrite them. So, which one really suits you best? Let's decode it.

# Internships: Learning the Ropes

Internships have long been seen as the traditional bridge between academic life and the corporate world. They offer structured training within an organization, allowing students to understand how industries function, what workplace expectations look like, and what it's like to collaborate in a professional setting.

The biggest benefit? Exposure. Interns work on real-world projects, under the mentorship of experienced professionals. For someone who has only been in classrooms, this can be a game-changer. Another plus is networking. Interns meet people from the industry — from employees and managers to even clients. These connections can turn into job opportunities later. Many organizations use internships as a hiring pipeline, offering full-time roles to promising interns. And let's not forget the resume boost. Recruiters often prefer candidates with prior work experience, and a solid internship signals initiative, reliability, and industry knowledge. However, not all that glitters is gold. Many internships are unpaid or offer modest stipends. Add long hours and fixed schedules to the mix, and it might not be ideal for someone looking for flexibility. Plus, interns may have limited creative freedom due to close supervision and rigid hierarchies.

# Freelancing: Freedom with Hustle

Freelancing is the newer, more independent path. It allows students to pick projects they're passionate about, set their own work hours, and work with clients across the globe — all from their laptop. For many, freelancing means creative control and financial independence. Payment is based on project quality, so skilled freelancers can earn well. Taking up multiple projects also increases earning potential. Freelancers also get to build personal brands and portfolios. Unlike internships, where the credit often goes to the company, freelancers own their work — especially useful in fields like content writing, graphic design, digital marketing, and development. Freelancing helps develop entrepreneurial skills like client communication, pricing, and time management. Some freelancers even transition into business owners. That said, freelancing comes with its own set of challenges. There's income instability, lack of employee benefits, and often, no mentorship to fall back on. Beginners might feel lost without a structured learning environment.

### Finding Your Fit: One Size Doesn't Fit All

Here's a quick comparison to help weigh your options:

Skill Developmen t	Industry- specific, formal training	Practical, entrepreneurial skills
Networking	Access to professional s and mentors	Limited, unless self-initiated
Career Impact	Better for traditional career paths	Strong for creative/portfolio -based careers

Criteria	Internships	Freelancing
Structure	Guided, structured learning	Self-managed, independent work
Flexibility	Fixed hours and schedule	Choose your own hours and workload
Income	Often unpaid or modest stipend	Paid per project, earnings vary

So, What Should You Choose? The choice between internships and freelancing isn't about which is better — it's about what works best for you. If you're someone who thrives in structured environments, wants industry insights, and dreams of climbing the corporate ladder, internships can lay a solid foundation. They're especially useful in fields like finance, law, tech, or medicine where formal experience is critical. If you're more drawn to flexibility, self expression, and entrepreneurship, freelancing can be an exciting path. It allows you to take control of your time and finances — great for students who want to build portfolios or test business waters. Still unsure? You don't necessarily have to choose. Many students juggle both — interning during the semester and freelancing during breaks or weekends. That way, you get the best of both worlds.

# Final Takeaway: Build What Works for You

In the end, your career journey is your own. So here's what to remember:

- Be adaptable Try different things before settling.
- Explore both options Each has its unique advantages.
- ☐ Focus on growth, not perfection Whether interning or freelancing, what matters most is what you're learning.
- ☐ Reflect on your goals Ask yourself what you enjoy and where you see yourself heading.
- ☐ Stay open-minded The professional world is evolving fast, and new opportunities are everywhere.

No matter which path you choose, let your curiosity, passion, and long-term vision guide it. After all, careers aren't built in a day — they're built with decisions like these.



by- NANDANA MURALI

# PLACEMENT STORIES



It was a wonderful experience at the placement cell, everything was well communicated and end to end help was provided whenever required .The members were good, and provided help and guidance in each and every step.

### Khushi Gupta

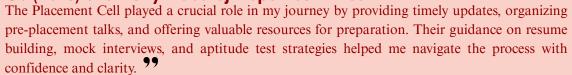
#### **BA(Hons) English-I-PAC**



The Placement Cell played a pivotal role in my placement journey, as it was only through their efforts that this opportunity came my way. The constant guidance and support from the President were invaluable, providing me with personalized advice, ensuring I stayed on track, and boosting my confidence throughout the process.

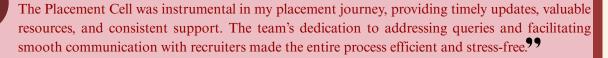
### **Prerna Singh**





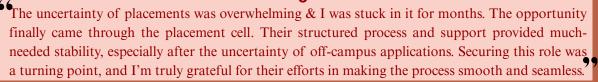
### Kritika Bhattacharya

#### **B.A (Hons) Economics - Barclays**



#### Vartika Rawat

#### **BSc Life Sciences - Showtime Consulting**



### **Molly Shrimali**

**B.A (Hons) Economics- Barclays** 

66The placement cell provided insights about companies, their hiring process, & our preprations. Their timely updates about the placement process and guidance on how to approach different interview rounds were extremely helpful. I am grateful for the support ,efforts ,structured approach and constant encouragement which made the entire process smoother and more manageable.

#### Pakhi Goel

### **B.A (Hons) Economics- KPMG India**

The Miranda House Placement Cell has been really helpful and accommodating in all our requests. All the members were responsive and guided us throughout the hiring process.

#### Surabhi Chadha

### B,A (Hons) Economics- KPMG India

The placement cell has been extremely helpful, providing constant guidance and support throughout the recruitment process. Their organized and cooperative approach ensured smooth coordination for all students, making the experience seamless.

#### Vaishnavi

### **B.A (Hons) Economics - Barclays**

From handling anxious calls and texts to ensuring smooth communication with the company's HR, the placement cell was there every step of the way. This year brought more opportunities than before, thanks to the team's hard work. Special thanks to Manya Jain, Vanshika Vij, and Manini Mishra for their dedicated efforts.

### Somya Sinha

### **BSc Life Sciences - Uniqlo**

The Placement Cell has been incredibly supportive throughout the journey. Their efficient management of multiple company recruitments while ensuring a seamless experience for students was truly commendable. Their dedication and coordination played a crucial role in making the process smooth and successful. Kudos to their efforts.

### Rishika Aggarwal

B. Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics - PWC

There were a lot of seminars throughout the year conducted by the placement cell, helping us with the prep. The cell was helping the students, answering their queries, supporting them at every step of the way.

### Vanshika Vij

B. Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics - PWC

The Miranda House Placement Cell has been really helpful and accommodating in all our requests. All the members were responsive and guided us throughout the hiring process. 99

### Navya Dabas

B. Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics - ZS Associates

The informative seminars that were organised throughout the session very really helpful. I personally got to learn a lot of things from them . 99

### Siya Sharma

**B.A (Hons) Economics - Accenture** 

••The Placement Cell brought companies to campus, shared important information, and made the process smooth and well-organised. I appreciate their efforts in creating opportunities for students. Their support made it easier for us to connect with recruiters and go through the selection process with confidence \*\*

### Vanshika Vij

B. Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics - ICICI Bank

••The Placement Cell played a crucial role in my placement journey. Their timely updates, insightful sessions, and continuous guidance helped me navigate the process smoothly. From resume-building workshops to mock interviews, their support was invaluable. Their structured approach and seamless coordination made the entire experience efficient.

# CEM GΑ























# PORUI



McKinsey





Deloitte.





































































whitepanda<sup>\*</sup>







Dr.Prof. Bijayalaxmi Nanda Principal Miranda House



Dr. Prof. Hena Singh Convenor



Ms Shruti Sharma Sethi Co Convenor

# CO-ORDINATORS



Dr. Surabhi



Dr. Tarun



Dr. Rekha Gupta



Dr. Ceejun

# ADVISORS SORS

# MEET THE TEAM





### **President**

What you seeks eventually seeks you, the idea to see myself on the post of the President of Placement Cell was a hidden desire for me, a thought that came when we saw our seniors on that post.

Manya Jain

### Vice-President

They say "Growth begins at the end of your comfort zone." For me, that was the Cell. It taught me leadership, patience, teamwork — but most importantly, belief in myself.

**Ananya Pandey** 





### **General Secretary**

The most defining part of my second year was undoubtedly the Placement Cell.

Suriddhi Negi

### **Treasurer**

Impediments are like fire: they can burn you down to ashes, but they also teach you to rise like a phoenix.

Priyanshi Goyal



# **ADMINISTRATIVE HEADS**



**AADYA AGARWAL** 



**AYERAH AHMED** 



**YASHVI SINGH** 



**AANCHAL** 



SRISHTI PRASAD SNEHA SHARMA





SAFNA D S



RHEA ARORA



PRANATI GOSWAMI



**AMULYA** 



**MAHI MISHRA** 



**KANIKA SINGH** 



**JIGISHA** 



**ANJANA** 

# CREATIVE & DESIGN HEADS



**ASHNA** 



SUHANI SRIVASTAVA



**RIYA GUPTA** 



**SAKSHI** 



**PRAKRITI** 



**MEHAK GUPTA** 



**ANGEL DHAMA** 



**GOPIKA SAJI** 



**GURNOOR** 



**DEEPTI** 



KIRTIKA CHAURASIA



**BHUMI DHAMU** 

# FINANCE & SPONSORSHIP HEADS



**SANYA NARANG** 



**ADITI MISHRA** 



KHUSHI SINGH



**SANYA NARANG** 



BHOOMIKA SHARMA



**BHUMIKA JAIN** 



**GUNJAN SINGH** 



NAINA BABBAR



PRANJAL WALA



**PRIYA** 



**SARA KUMARI** 



VANESSA AHUJA

# **HUMAN RESOURCES HEADS**



**VANSHIKA VIJ** 



**MANINI MISHRA** 



YASHYA ANKIT



TISKA SHARMA



**TIYA GARG** 



**TEESHA SHARMA** 



**SUHANI SINGH** 



**RIMPI PHUKON** 



**RAKSHITA BHOLA** 



**PRISHA CHIKHIKARA** 



PRANJAL WALA



**PIHU TOMAE** 





PALAK AGRAWAL MEHAK GUPTA

# HUMAN RESOURCES SUB-HEADS



**KAVYA JAIN** 



**KANAN** 



LAVANYA KARKI



**KINZA** 



**DISHA GURJAR** 



**ANUSHA** 



**AYONIJA MISHRA** 



ANANYA CHAKRABORTY



**AIYANA PARVESH** 



ALANGKRITA GOSWAMI

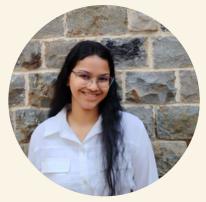


**ABHIPRITI SEN** 



PRISHA PACHAURI

# PR & RESEARCH HEADS



**KHUSHI JAIN** 



KRISHNA VASHISHT



VIDUSHI AGARWAL



TAMANNA GUPTA



RITISHA BEHL



**SAMAIRA SHARMA** 





SHRUTI SINHA SHREYA KAMBOJ



PRIYAL JAIN



PARIDHI YADAV



**SHREYA SHREERUPA** 



**SHREYA NIGAM** 





NANDANA MURALI GAURI SHARMA









**BHAVNA SINGH ARYA GUPTA** 





