Background – The UI Students to Employed Professional (STEP) course was piloted during Summer, 2013 and implemented as 1 credit hour sections during Fall, 2013. In the Fall of 2016, UI STEP will be an A-F grade, 2 credit hour course. To this point, 191 students have completed the certificate course successfully.

Survey Content – Students completed a pre/post survey regarding their confidence in their career preparation, application of information from the class to real life, and the extent to which the course prepared them for professional life.

Key Findings

- 100% of UI STEP participants would recommend the course to their peers.
- Students uniformly cited the useful information the course provided, particularly:
  - Job search strategies
  - Networking practice
  - Resume writing techniques
  - Mock Interviewing/Interview tips
  - Information on being a successful employee
  - Personal Branding
- Pre-Post measures indicate significant* changes in confidence about career planning.

"How confident do you feel with the direction of your current career preparation and planning?"

Confidence Comparison--Before/After

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Rating</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5-point Likert scale, 1=not at all confident, 5=extremely confident. *p =< 0.001
To what extent have you applied what you learned in STEP to your everyday life?
5-point Likert scale, 1=not at all, 5=very much

“Before I came into the classroom I had some ideas of how I would go about my future employment search, but this course gave me specific skills and tips on what I should be doing right now to improve my odds. I think taking this course gave me that much more confidence and a better idea of how I should be going about things over the next few years as I get closer to graduation and into the working world.” – UI STEP student

How much has UI STEP prepared you for life as a career professional?
5-point Likert scale, 1=not at all, 5=very much

“I just wanted to personally thank you for all your help this semester. I was just offered and accepted my dream job as a pediatric hematology oncology nurse at the American Family Children’s Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin. I know for a fact this class helped set me apart from other candidates and made me more confident throughout the whole process!”

– UI STEP student

Summary

- The UI STEP course:
  - Increases student confidence about career planning
  - Provides students with tangible skills they can directly apply to their lives
  - Prepares students for successful job searches and for life as a career professional
  - Supports students with helpful information they can use now in their roles as student employee

4.24 out of 5.0
Applying skills to everyday life

4.58 out of 5.0
Preparation for life as a professional