



Virtual Field Trip Two: The Job Search Begins

Companion for the Online Job Search

Module Objectives

The purpose of this module is to accomplish the following:

- Provide tips on using online resources during the job search process.
- Learn about the job search process from engineers.
- Gather information from major job Websites.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this module, students will be able to:

- Search for job information using a variety of online resources.
- Briefly discuss the information technology (IT) job market.
- Dissect and describe one or two job opportunities.

Suggested Virtual Field Trip Itinerary

The following outline is one way to incorporate the Virtual Field Trip into your classroom. Feel free to adjust the times and agenda items to suit your needs.

Total time: Approximately 50 minutes

Topic	Amount of time	Notes
Instructor preparation	7 minutes	Take these three steps to prepare for your Virtual Field Trip: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Download the video to your computer's hard drive and review the video prior to class. • Print out one worksheet for each student. • Ensure that a computer with an Internet connection is available for each student or small group of students.
Introductory discussion	5–10 minutes	Open class with a review of the various job titles in the IT industry (see below). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer Support Engineer • Customer Support Engineer • EDI Specialist • Help Desk Specialist • Information Systems Auditor • Infrastructure Manager • IT Engineer • IT Security Specialist • LAN/WAN Engineer

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Database Specialist • Network Engineer • Network Manager • Network Messaging Specialist • Network Research and Analysis Manager • Network Systems Analyst • Operations Analyst • Pre-sales Support • System Administrator • Systems Architect • Systems Engineer • UNIX Network Specialist/Administrator <p>Ask students to discuss similarities and differences between several job titles.</p>
View video	9 minutes	Dim the classroom lights so students can see the screen better, but make sure there is enough light to take notes.
Exploring IT Careers: The Online Job Search (student worksheet)	25 minutes	<p>Distribute the student worksheet and provide students with an explanation of the assignment. Tell them that they will be researching jobs on various Websites and determining the academic and certification requirements, salaries, and skills.</p> <p>This exercise will take students more than the allocated class time to complete. Students may continue to work on their own at school or home.</p>
Conclusion	5-10 minutes	<p>Ask your students the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did you have difficulty locating positions with these exact titles? • Did you find that any of the job titles had conflicting certification or skill requirements? • Which position title appeared to have the greatest salary? Which position title appeared to have the lowest salary? Did you find a significant difference in the level of education or experience needed for the (two above) positions?



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Exploring IT Careers Student Worksheet for the Online Job Search

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

This worksheet will help you learn more about careers in the networking field through online research,

Online Research

Complete the tables below, using the following job boards to help you research key networking positions:

- <http://www.monster.com>
- <http://www.fedworld.gov/jobs/jobsearch.html>
- <http://www.dice.com>
- <http://hotjobs.yahoo.com/>
- <http://www.careerbuilder.com>

Network Engineer

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

Help Desk Specialist

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

LAN/WAN Engineer

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

UNIX Network Specialist/Administrator

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

Network Messaging Specialist

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

Network Database Specialist

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

IT Security Specialist

Job Description	Academic/Certification Requirements	Salary	Skills and Years of Experience

Discussion Questions:

1. Did you have trouble locating positions with these exact titles?
2. Did you find that any of the job titles had conflicting certification or skill requirements?
3. Which position title appeared to have the highest salary? Which position title appeared to have the lowest salary?
Did you find a wide difference in the required level of education or experience for the positions with the highest and lowest salary?

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