

# Careers & Employability Career Crafting

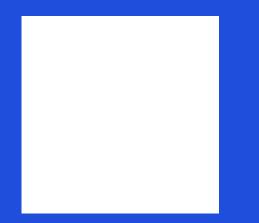
In this session we will explore value-led career decision-making, translating your practice and connecting with your professional audiences. We will use career crafting exercises to help develop your ideas around the sorts of professional opportunities you are seeking.

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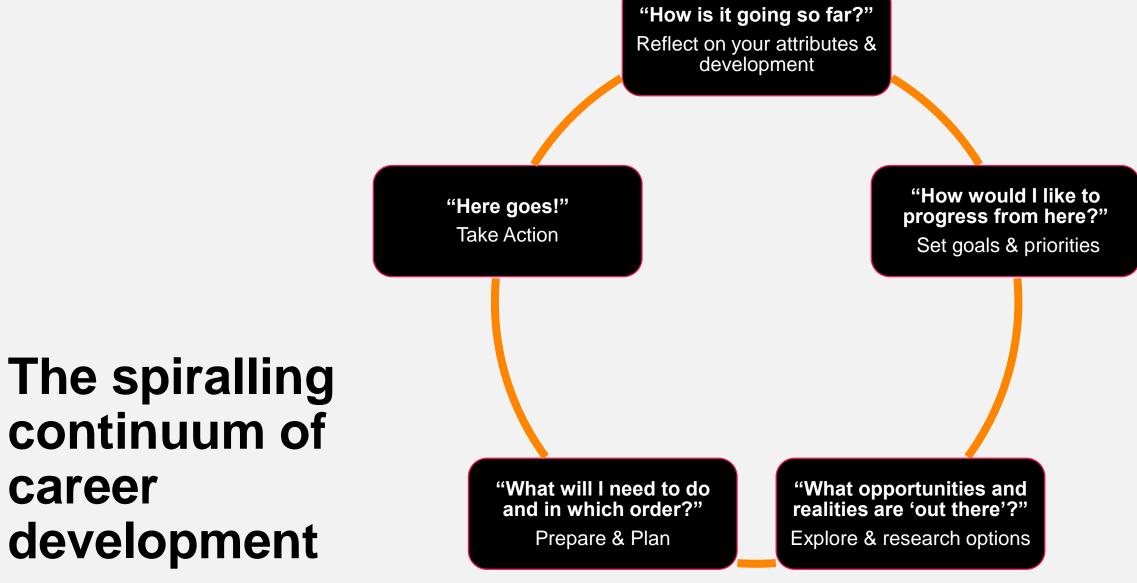


#### What does career development mean to you?



Careers and Employability 2025

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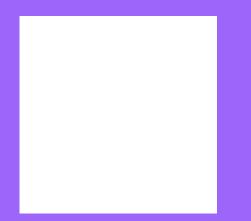
Careers and Employability 2025 4

#### **Career Crafting**

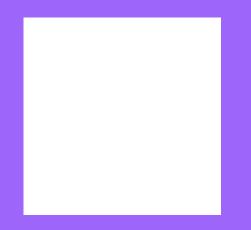
- An emerging area of career research which adapts to increasingly flexible and boundaryless careers, and increased career mobility
- "Proactive behaviours aimed at attaining optimal person— career fit" Tims & Akkerman 2020 Link
  - Involves Proactive career reflection & proactive career construction

#### **Career Crafting**

- Shifts locus of job/career decision-making from employer (which may change frequently) to individual agency and proactivity
- This has distinct benefits for those who may be writing their own job descriptions e.g. researchers and those whose work may be informing industry innovation



#### Value-led decision-making



Source: <u>https://www.bps.org.uk/psychologist/maslows-hierarchy-needs-sixth-level</u> and https://psychclassics.yorku.ca/Maslow/motivation.htm

#### Maslow's Hierarchy of needs (1943):

Intrinsic values: values which transcend the self

**Self-actualisation** : desire for self-fulfilment, inc. creativity, fulfilling potential

**Esteem:** achievement, self-confidence, worth, strength, capability

Love and belonging: giving and receiving, friendship, intimacy, affection

Safety: personal security, employment, resources, health etc

Physiological: air, water, sleep, shelter, food etc

# What do you value?

- You might find the words on the next page help you to get started, but also think beyond them to the specific values of your life and practice.
- Note down as many words as you can which reflect what is important to you.
- Think about what you do and consider where, how and why you do it and who you do it with.
- Consider values language from other languages and cultural contexts – they may better represent your values

#### Value vocabulary:

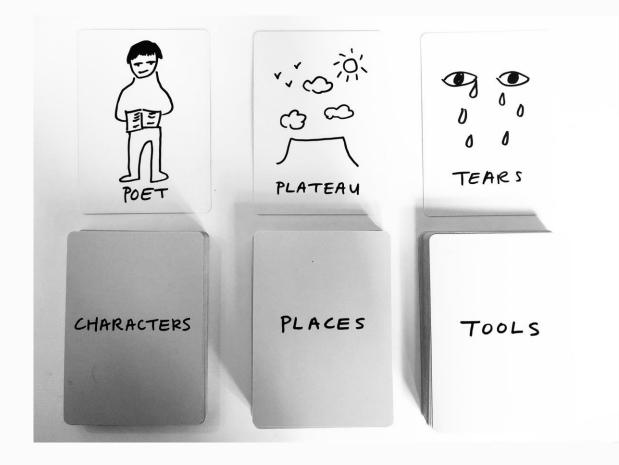
Abundance Acceptance Accountability Achievement Advancement Adventure Advocacy Ambition Appreciation Activism Autonomy Balance Being the Best Benevolence Boldness Brilliance Calmness Caring Challenge Charity Cheerfulness Cleverness Community Commitment Compassion Cooperation Collaboration Consistency Contribution Creativity Credibility Curiosity Daring Decisiveness Dedication Dependability Diversity Empathy Encouragement Enthusiasm Ethics Excellence Expressiveness Fairness Family Friendships Flexibility Freedom Fun Generosity Grace Growth Flexibility Happiness Health Honesty Humility Humour Inclusiveness Independence Individuality Innovation Inspiration Intelligence Intuition Joy Kindness Knowledge Leadership Learning Love Loyalty Making a Difference Mindfulness Motivation Optimism Open-Mindedness Originality Passion Performance Personal Development Proactive Professionalism Quality Recognition Risk Taking Safety Security Service Spirituality Stability Peace Perfection Playfulness Popularity Power Preparedness Proactivity Professionalism Punctuality Recognition Relationships Reliability Resilience Resourcefulness Responsibility Responsiveness Security Self-Control Selflessness Simplicity Stability Success Teamwork Thankfulness Thoughtfulness Traditionalism Trustworthiness Understanding Uniqueness Usefulness Versatility Vision Warmth Wealth Well-Being Wisdom Zeal

#### Value-tagging

"Quite simply, when you do allow your brain to be conscious of and focus on what you want in life, the raised awareness that results will work in your favor to automatically bring opportunities into your life. It's not magic – it's just that you are able to see the possibilities to move forward with your dreams in a way that your brain was hiding from you previously."

Tara Swart M.D. source: *What is Value Tagging? Its logical* and emotional elements, <u>Psychology Today</u> Oct 2019

#### Deck of Character



#### Plateau

SUPPORT, SACRED LAUNCHING PAD, HITTING A FLAT LINE IN YOUR JOURNEY, conquered throne, getting stuck, settling down, no longer striving to achieve things, ancient, full of breath, opening to new vistas, realizing you aren't climbing what you thought you were, a hard journey at first then the path is full of ease and effortlessness, a breather in the creative process, CLOSING A LIFE CYCLE, END TO ACCOMPLISHMENT, ENJOY THE VIEW.

#### Tears

RELEASE, sorrow, allowing yourself to feel the scary changes that lie ahead, owning up to things, connecting with your emotions, release of holding on to fear, releasing all attachments, insecurity, humanness, empathy, compassion, healing, honesty, A TURNING POINT IN THE CREATIVE PROCESS.

#### Poet

CREATIVE, AUTHENTIC SELF, LOVE, passion, self-expression, sharing self, literary influences, channeled wisdom, inspiration, high-self, romance, soul-purpose.

#### Task

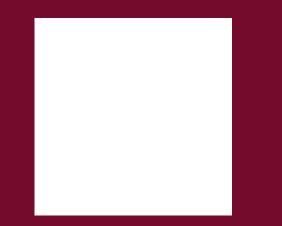
Draw yourself as a character that represents you in your career or practice



#### Task

Draw yourself as a character that represents you in your career or practice It should be quick and crude – don't overthink it! Consider:

- Who you are
- How you show up
- What you care about
- What you bring
- Your Values & Ethics



#### **Translating your SU Rep experience**



Your rep experience Think less about the actual task or activity and more about the skills and attributes that underpin it.

- These skills and attributes are transferrable
- Universal
- More open
- More personal

# Identifying your audience

- Mapping and Discussion activity
- Map out the potential professional audiences you see for your practice
- Work in pairs to discuss the currents and potential additional audiences that you and others identify for your practices.
- There are prompts on the next slide to help you.

Professional audiences:

ual:

Your professional audience is anyone who sees a value in your skills, practices, services or products. Think about the following when identifying your audience:

- Who do you want to see your work?
- Where do you want to see your work?
- Who might value your skills?
- Who could benefit from the practices and approaches you have developed?
- Who might buy your work?
- Who might pay for your services?
- Where could your research have impact?
- Which industries beyond the creative industries might value your approach?

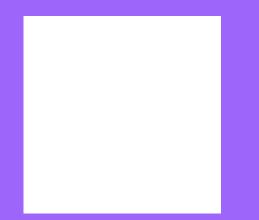
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#### **Communicating:**

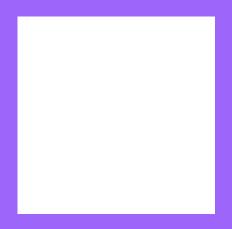
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- Where could your rep experience have impact?
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#### Action! 3 x 3 x 3



Activity 2 Slide 1/4

#### 3 x 3 x 3

You've established some of your skills and core values

## Write your own job description

Sketch out your own speculative person specification to demonstrate the tools and attributes that you would bring to the job.

Think about...

- the core and developing strengths, attributes, knowledges and skills that you are motivated to share
- how you enrich a team and workplace
- the functional and professional skills shape the way you work

## Write your own job description

Sketch out your main duties in a speculative role to map out the kind of work that would support your life, help you and you to thrive professionally and meet your individual needs in terms of format of work.

Think about...

- how you work best
- what you need to feel happy and supported in a role
- the professional goals and priorities you would like to work towards
- the learning, development and growth you would like to see
- who you would like to work with

### Write your own job description

Sketch out the organisation description to more fully draw the context and impact of your work. Try to keep it speculative, even if you base some aspects on existing organisations.

Think about...

- organisational size and culture
  - industry context
  - objectives impact, values and ethos
  - business model
  - who you would like to work with
  - location and sphere of influence



#### **Skills for career crafting**



#### Career Competencies

ual:

- Reflective: "awareness of one's motivation and qualities"
- Communicative: "effectively communicate to improve one's chances of career success"
- Behavioural: "actively exploring the environment in terms of employment and career opportunities, and to proactively plan and achieve career goals."

Blokker, et.al. (2018)

#### **Proactivity**

The initiative, hard work and passion required to make things happen in society, in the community, and in the workplace.



#### **Creative Attributes**





**Proactivity** – the initiative, hard work and passion required to make things happen in society, in the community, and in the workplace.



**Enterprise** – the mindset that takes measured risks and that perceives and creates opportunities, and the resourcefulness to pursue them in an ethical way.



Agility – the ability to embrace rapid change and retain an open mind.



**Communication** – the skills needed to present themselves, their work and their ideas, to inspire others and respond to feedback.



**Connectivity** – the ability to collaborate with others, create networks and develop and contribute to communities of practice.



**Storytelling** – the ability to demonstrate their unique abilities and experiences to others in an engaging manner.





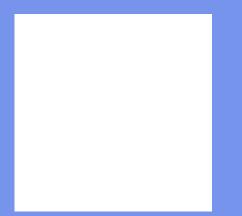
**Curiosity** – the enthusiasm to seek out new perspectives, to create and build on existing knowledge.



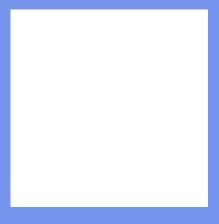
**Self-efficacy** – confidence in their abilities, and the ability to respond positively in various situations.



**Resilience** – the willingness to adapt and remain motivated, overcome obstacles, and deal with ambiguity, uncertainty, and rejection.



#### What's next?



Careers and Employability 2026

### Thank you

ual:

#### Find out more: arts.ac.uk/careers



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