

UTSA Teaching & Learning Services

10 Tips to Link Classroom to Career

Unfortunately, many students fail to see the relevance of their college learning, in their future work and personal life. The importance of relevance and linking learning from classroom to career led the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to declare, “By the year 2030, all graduates from Texas public institutions of higher education will have completed programs with identified marketable skills.” The good news is that our classes are already filled with relevant learning and skills development. The challenge comes from creating student awareness. Here are ten tips to help you encourage students to link their classroom experiences to life after college.

1. Make it a habit to relate learning outcomes to career options in your field.
2. Create a reflection paper that asks students about their career aspirations and how your class might be useful.
3. Share data about the skills employers want and where you cover them in your class.
4. Connect students to people outside of the university who can share their experience.
5. Create experiential learning opportunities such as service learning, project based learning, or internships.
6. Let students know how the course material relates to life after college, even if it isn't for a career.
7. Talk about [UTSA Career Services](#). A lot. Better yet, bring them into class.
8. Talk about internships in your field, particularly paid ones. Many students may see internships as too pricey or hard to get. Help them find affordable options.
9. Remind them that writing, teamwork, critical thinking, leadership, work ethic, and public speaking are essential to life after college.
10. Get to know the [UTSA Classroom to Career initiative](#).