



Effectively communicating
your education, skills,
experience,
and expertise to potential
employers.

Far West Section of the
American Physical Society
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Overview

- Understanding the employer's perspective
- Breaking down the job description
- Preparing your stories
- Tailoring your resume

Jobs for Physics Majors

- Web sites
 - Professional Societies: <http://careers.aps.org/jobs/>
 - Aggregators: Indeed.com, SimplyHired.com
- LinkedIn





Importance of the Job Description

- Requirements/qualifications are key to understanding what the employer is looking for . . .
- Guideposts on what you need to address
- What examples you need to prepare
- What to focus and emphasize
- Serves as filter

Full Time Research Assistant Position @ Stanford University

Research Assistant for Interdisciplinary Brain Sciences Research

The position involves leading/assisting with various aspects of multimodal neuroimaging studies in human including assessments, neuroimaging data collection, preprocessing and analysis as well as taking part in manuscript preparation. The focus of the computational neuroimaging studies is on investigating alterations in the organization of human connectome in health and disease (Alzheimer's, ADHD, Stroke, etc.) using state of the art neuroimaging techniques (fMRI, sMRI, DWI, fNIRS) combined with novel computational methods (graph theoretical and multivariate pattern analyses)

Requirements:

- Bachelors in Neuroscience, Psychology, Computer Science, Statistics, Physics or a related field.
- Experience with programming in Matlab, Python, and/or other related computing languages.
- Strong analytical skills.
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills.
- Familiarity with neuroimaging (fMRI, fNIRS) data collection and related analysis packages (SPM, FSL, AFNI, HOMER, etc.).
- Previous experience with human subject (behavioral/neuroimaging) research.
- Strong written communication skills.

Facebook – Battery Specialist

Responsibilities

- Create battery cell requirements based on system requirements and feasibility studies, specifying performance and SWaPC requirements.
- With the Sourcing team, identify viable suppliers and set up development contracts. Manage these projects and evaluate supplier capability and technical performance. Evaluate projections in terms of cost, durability, and reliability
- Manage testing and evaluation of cells
- Create models and simulations of cell and/or pack performance in representative conditions
- Create future projections of cell cost, durability, reliability, and performance.
- Drive the development of collaborative industry efforts.

Minimum Qualifications

- Ph.D in a relevant area (Chemistry, Physics, Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, etc.)
- 10+ years of experience in battery cell or pack research and development, including testing and design.
- Familiarity with the materials and technology of advanced secondary batteries, including (but not limited to) Li-ion cells
- Experience in working with vendors to deliver high-performance cells that meet cost targets. Project management experience.

Preferred Qualifications

- Excellent communications and interpersonal skills
- Experience in battery pack development and engineering would be highly valuable
- Experience with aerospace applications of energy storage
- Experience in technical due diligence evaluation projects.
- Experience in building collaborative projects with multiple partners.

Job Description

- Some have no specifics – research similar job descriptions
- Don't need to meet all the qualifications
- Top bullets are probably the most important
- What are they looking for?

Goal of Communicating to the Employer

- Convince the employer that you can solve their problems
- You have the technical and people skills needed by the employer
- You are genuinely interested in the company and the position

Assessing your assets. . . Your stories

- Experience with programming in Matlab, Python, and/or other related computing languages.
 - What are your best examples that would show the employer that you have experience programming?
- Strong analytical skills.
 - What would be examples that demonstrate that you have solved hard problems?
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills.
 - What are your best examples that show that you can work with a wide array of people including difficult people?
 - What are examples of your ability to organize?

Story Telling – Star Method Plus

When describing your examples,

- Introductory Statement: State what you're trying to illustrate
- Situation/Task
- Action: (you took, not the ambiguous “we”)
- Results: (You got a prize? Completed the project with time to spare . . .)
- Bring it Home: (optional: how is this related to the job)



Writing a Resume

Key Point:

Tailor your Resume

Common Resume Sections

- Header (Contact Info)
- Summary
- Education
- Relevant Coursework
- Experience (Research, Work, Professional, Leadership, Volunteer, Relevant)
- Publications
- Professional Development
- Activities
- Projects
- Skills
- Honors/Awards
- References. . .

General Tips

- Tailor your resume
- No personal pronouns
- No personal information, photos, age
- Don't include references
- Use keywords
- Proofread and have others proofread again

Strong Bullet Points

- Begin with action verbs
- Focus on YOUR role in a group
- Focus on accomplishments, results
- Quantify when possible

Formatting Basics

- .5 to 1 inch margins
- 10-12 point font (simple and consistent)
- Reverse chronological order
- 1 page (undergrad) or 2 pages (master's)



Brainstorm: Experiences, Activities, Courses, and Awards



Resume Samples

Tailoring Your Resume

What is the employer looking for?

| Employer | Me |
|------------------------------|---|
| Social Media Skills | Assisted with marketing campaign for collegiate conference |
| Leadership Abilities | Led campus club |
| Organizational Skills | Organized 3 events during internship |
| Time Management | Balanced coursework, extracurricular activities, and part-time job |



Contents

Layout options

- Title slides
- Slide layouts – options
- Background options
- Slide layouts – which to use

Design Elements

- Fonts
- Slide Transitions
- Color Palettes
- Graph & Chart Examples