

Frequently Asked Questions about Career Pathways:

The big picture: **Pathways inspire your career vision, Concentrations deepen your skills, and electives, labs, and clubs give you the edge to stand out.**

1. What is a *Pathway*?

A Pathway is a **career-oriented track** that helps you explore functional job categories (e.g., Finance & Investments, Strategy, Marketing, Sustainability, etc.). Each Pathway gives you:

- Guidance on career areas (specific job clusters)
- Access to relevant companies, events, and fairs
- A clear structure to understand how your skills align with career opportunities

Think of it as a **career lens** that shapes how you prepare for the job market.

2. What is a *Concentration*?

A **Concentration** is an academic track within the program—a focused set of courses that deepen your knowledge in a specific area. Think of it as the skills and knowledge you decide to strengthen during your studies.

When choosing a concentration, consider two things:

- **Your background** (bachelor's degree and past experience)
- **Your career goals** (the career pathway you want to pursue)

Often, the best choice is to **develop the area where you are weakest or least experienced**—the skills you'll need to succeed in your target career pathway.

Example: If your career pathway is **Finance & Investment**, and you already have finance experience but little exposure to **Sustainability** or **Impact Investing**, then selecting the **Sustainability Concentration** can help you build the complementary expertise required.

- **Pathway = Career direction** → the type of roles you're aiming for.
- **Concentration = Academic focus** → the coursework that builds the skills to get there.

3. How do Pathways and Concentrations connect?

They complement each other:

- Your **Pathway** helps you understand career possibilities and how to position yourself.
- Your **Concentration** provides the **academic foundation** to strengthen skills relevant to those career areas.

Example: You may follow the **Finance & Investments Career Pathway** while choosing a concentration in **Digital Business & Innovation** to build skills at the intersection of finance and technology.

4. Besides Concentrations, what other choices do I have to build skills?

You also shape your learning journey through:

- **Electives** – Tailor your expertise (e.g., Financial Modelling, Marketing for Sustainability).
- **Labs** – Hands-on, practical projects (e.g., Business Impact Lab, Tech Lab, Startup Lab).
- **Clubs & Extracurriculars** – Networking, competitions, and events with peers and industry experts.
- **Certifications & Additional Resources** – Recognized credentials (e.g., CFA, Google Data Analytics, Six Sigma).

These options allow you to gain a **competitive edge** and build your personal brand.

5. Can I combine elements from different Pathways?

Yes. You can explore across pathways through concentrations, labs, electives and extracurricular activities. Your career path doesn't have to follow a single, linear track—you can design it to fit your unique ambitions.

6. Do I have to commit to a Pathway?

No. The **Pathway Discovery Day**, pathway panels and subsequent advising sessions are designed to help you explore before defining your career goal. Many students refine their direction throughout the year.

7. What is the best way to use Pathways?

- **Attend Pathway sessions & events** to understand opportunities.
- **Leverage advising and career classes** to refine your direction.
- **Connect with alumni & companies** to validate your career plan.
- **Choose your Concentration** to build skills and test your interests.
- **Engage in labs, clubs, and electives** to gain practical experience.