



**THE  
VOL**

# **EDGE**



**NOVEMBER 2024**



PRODUCING ONE OF THE  
MOST TALENTED EMPLOYMENT PIPELINES IN  
THE NATION

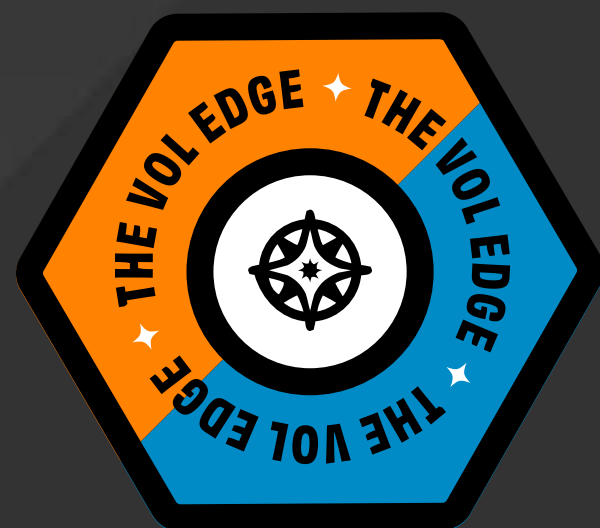


# PROGRAM GOALS

- **Self-Efficacy & Wellbeing:** Empower students by building on their strengths and supporting their well-being.
- **Storytelling:** Equip graduates to clearly communicate their skills, strengths, and experience to employers and graduate programs.
- **Experiential Learning:** Expand students' involvement in transformative, campus-connected experiences
- **Employer Engagement:** Deepen employer participation in student life-career readiness



# THE 5 LEARNING INTERACTIONS



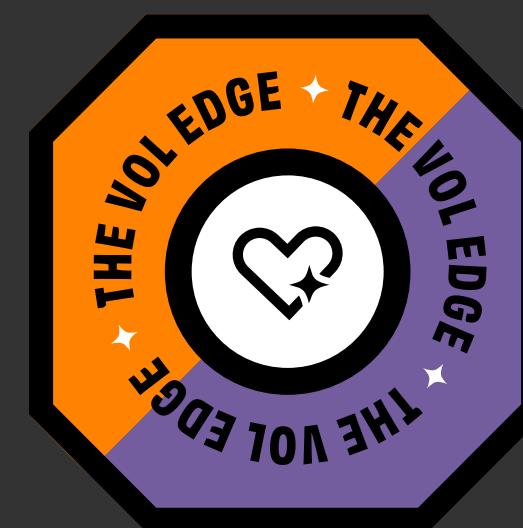
CHARTING A COURSE TO  
CAREER READINESS



YOUR VOL EDGE  
EXPERIENCE GUIDE



FOUNDATIONS OF  
CRAFTING CONNECTIONS



STRATEGIES FOR THRIVING



MAP YOUR  
IMPACT

# GROUNDED IN THE NACE COMPETENCIES



Career and Self-Development



Communication



Critical Thinking



Inclusive Excellence



Leadership



Professionalism

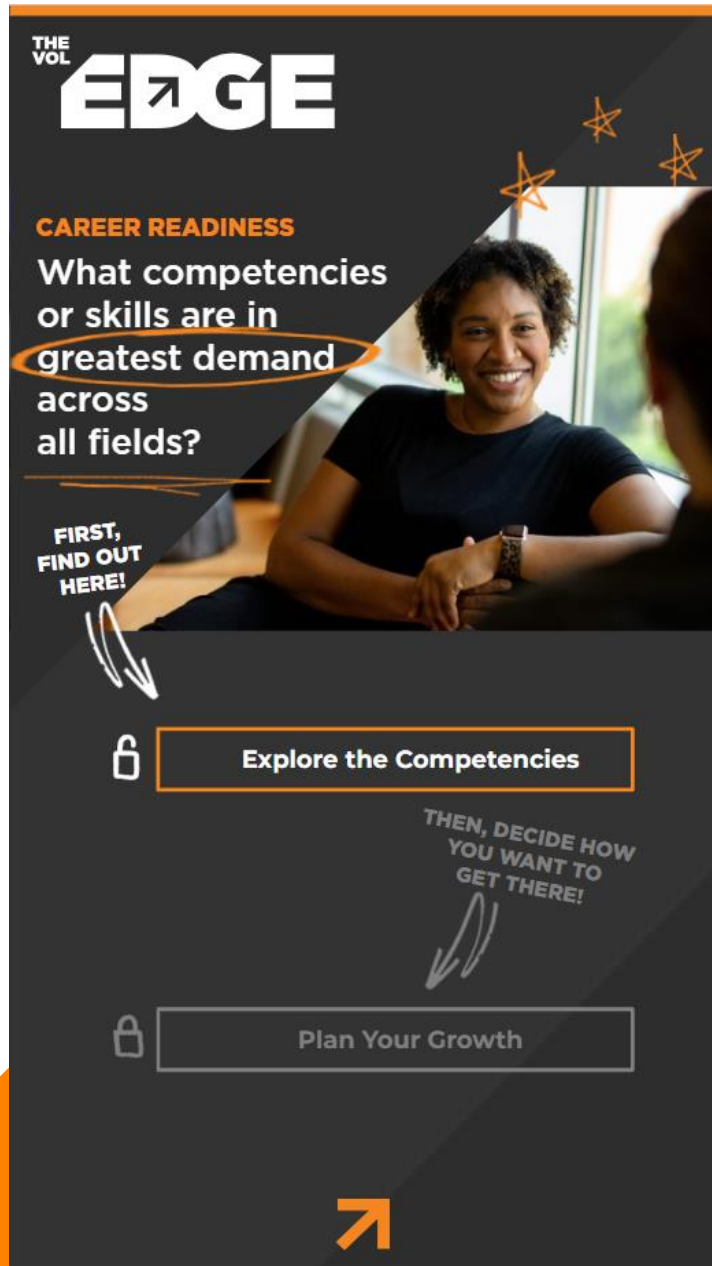


Teamwork



Technology

NACE - National Association of Colleges and Employers



**THE VOL EDGE**

**CAREER READINESS**

What competencies or skills are in greatest demand across all fields?

FIRST, FIND OUT HERE!

Explore the Competencies

THEN, DECIDE HOW YOU WANT TO GET THERE!

Plan Your Growth

## Critical Competencies in Coursework: Example Syllabus



### HDFS 210 Lifespan Human Development University of Tennessee, Knoxville

#### HDFS 210 Course Description:

Conception through adulthood in various social/ecological contexts. Interrelationships among various aspects of development—physical, cognitive, emotional, social. Normative and non-normative development.

#### HDFS 210

The class is a space where members of the learning community expand their minds and expand their thinking. Each individual develops differently as an individual and learns in different ways. In this class, all students' experiences are seen as relevant and valuable.

#### Critical Thinking

#### HDFS 210 Learning Goals:

- Students will identify and critique claims about human behavior and the dynamics of individual, political, and social issues.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of appropriate and ethical methods, technologies, and data that social scientists use to investigate and describe the human condition.
- Students will become familiar with current research in the form of developmental theories and conceptual frameworks, which provide various lenses through which to view individuals in each stage of life.
- Students will be able to identify cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional milestones of each stage of life.
- Students will grapple with their own development and will reflect upon how they hope to approach future life stages.
- Students will become more sensitive in their interactions with individuals in the various life stages, based on knowledge of the common aspects of each stage of development.
- Students will demonstrate their knowledge via in-class activities, online assignments, weekly quizzes, and reflection papers.

#### Course Communications:

**E-mail:** Students are responsible for all messages sent by email to the @vols.utk.edu email address. It is expected that students will check email *at least once* every 24 hours.

2. **Canvas:** <https://utk.instructure.com> This class will use Canvas for all online assignments, announcements, quizzes, etc. Each student

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# TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE



- Students engage in targeted High Impact Practices:
  - Internships (co-ops, apprenticeships...)
  - Education Abroad
  - Undergraduate Research
  - Service Learning

Plus...

- Transformational grants





# PEER CAREER ADVISORS



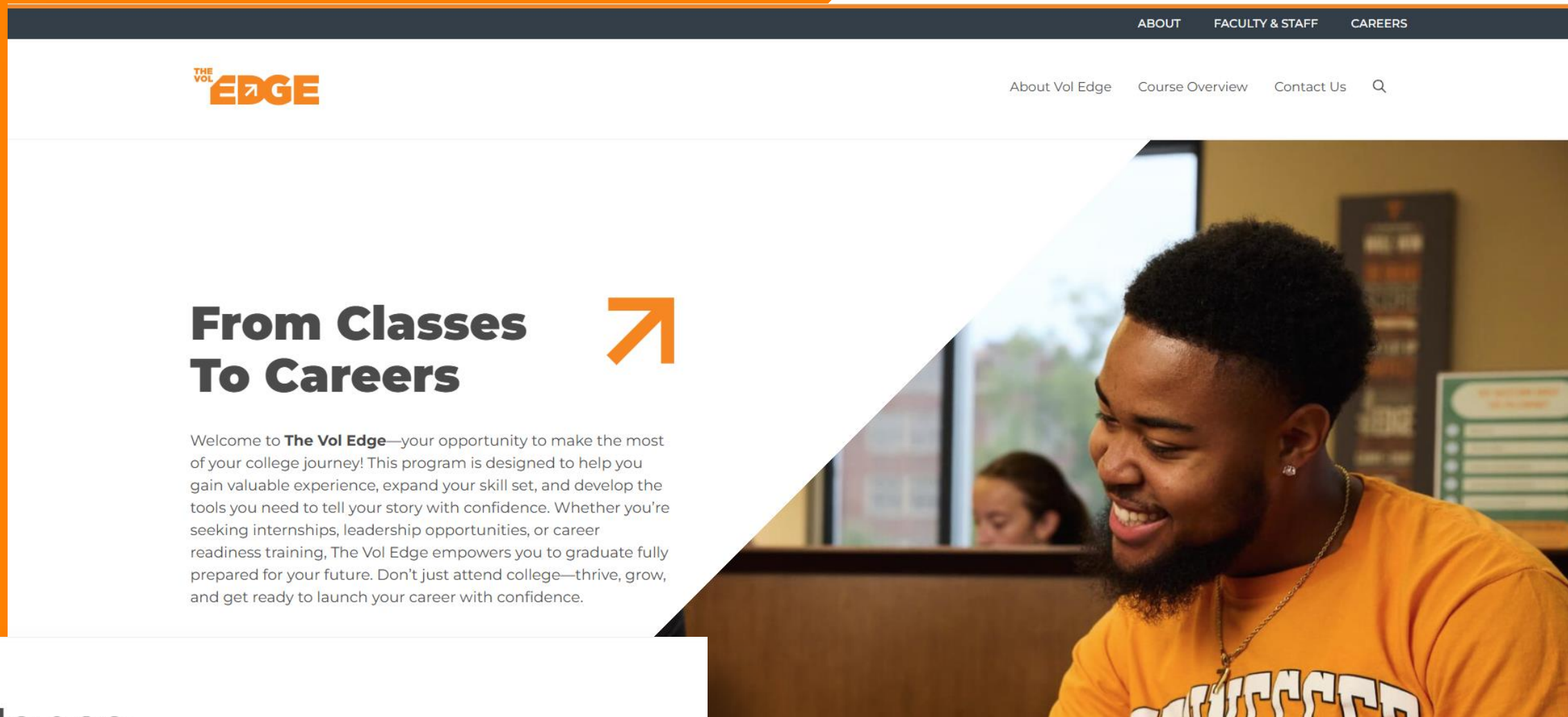
## GUIDED TRANSITION



- Students gain meaningful feedback from professionals in their areas of interest
- Engage in content regarding financial literacy in life beyond college.
- Students receive a shareable digital badge as well as a graduation distinction.



# THE VOL EDGE WEBSITE



## Your Path To Career Confidence Starts With The Vol Edge



### Connect with mentors who support your journey

Students have the opportunity to build valuable connections with faculty, staff, and mentors who are eager to guide them as they navigate their career paths.



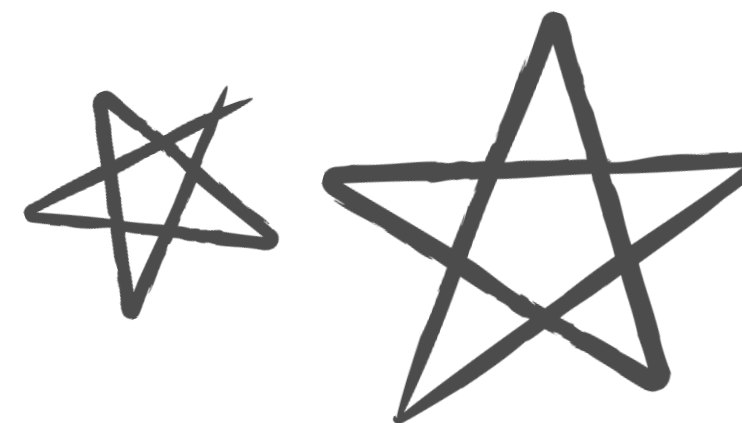
### Take Your Learning Beyond the Classroom with Real-World Experiences

Students will be empowered to connect their academic knowledge with practical applications, enhancing their career readiness. Through hands-on opportunities,



### Your Step-by-Step Guide to Career Success Starts Here

The Vol Edge program guides you through three key phases to ensure you're prepared for your future career. Access a toolkit of templates and guides to help you turn your career goals into reality!



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**EDGE**

**AMBER WILLIAMS**

**Vice Provost for Student Success**

