

## Professional Dress

Your appearance and attire are an important part of making a positive first impression with employers at career fairs, job interviews and networking events. Often employers complain that students are under-dressed when attending employer related events.

### Types of Dress

#### **Business Professional**

This is the most conservative type of business clothing commonly expected as daily dress in conservative businesses and is typical for job interviews. Examples:

- Business suit (pant or skirt) in black, dark grey or navy; fabric of both top and bottom should match.
- Skirt length should be no more than 2 inches above your knee.
- Shirt necklines should be near your collarbone to ensure they are not too revealing.
- Tights or nylons are worn with closed toe, closed heel, and low-heel dress shoes.
- Button-down dress shirt and a tie. (If you don't know how to tie a necktie, simply look online for tutorials.)
- For pant suits always wear a belt and dark socks. Belt, socks and shoes should all match (black or brown).

#### **Business Casual**

Is the most common type of dress. Business casual dress is slightly less conservative type of dress commonly expected as daily dress in businesses. Examples:

- Dress pants in brown, black, grey or other neutral colors.
- Skirts should be at or just above your knee or longer.
- Tops can include button down shirts, blouses, sweaters and/or jackets.
- Button-down dress shirt with or without a tie, sweaters with a collared shirt beneath, and/or blazers.
- Shirts are always tucked in and wrinkle-free.

#### **Casual Dress**

Casual dress is less conservative type of business wear. Casual is often reserved for Fridays in companies. Always ask about the dress code prior to dressing casual. Examples:

- Nice jeans, corduroy and khaki pants are common.
- High quality tops, sweaters and polo shirts are typical.
- Avoid jeans with holes/tears and avoid wearing sweatpants or wind pants unless you are in a field which requires athletic apparel.
- Avoid "beach wear" type items such as shorts & casual flip flops.

