

Video 1: Balancing Passion and Competitive Advantage to Cultivate Success

Laura talks a lot about the importance of finding work that you are both passionate about and skilled at. This video will cover her advice for using these factors to inform your career exploration, job search, and ultimate career path.

- 6:25- how did you transition away from investment banking? Her year in investment banking was the first year in which she didn't feel happy. It felt like she was a cog in the machine and that she was learning a very generic skillset and it wasn't intellectually stimulating and it wasn't something that she was passionate about or uniquely good at. I like this a lot!! Great advice about finding your passion
- 8:20- do you think that competitive advantage and passion sometimes differ? Yes, but you should find the overlap. Could go well with previous question/answer
- 16:08- what one piece advice would you give to college students? Do more soul searching and always return to what you love and what you're good at. Think about work more qualitatively rather than specifically about job functions. This is great advice! It would pair well with her answer at 6:25
- 23:57- Have you seen an instance in which passion has overridden competitive advantage? Or do you need to have both? They're both important and it is important to know what you know and know what you don't. Could be included with answers at 6:25 and 16:08

Video 2: Mentorship

This video would focus specifically on Laura and her mentor Peter. Her mentions of him were often somewhat indirect so I am not sure whether this video would be coherent enough once put together, but I thought that it would be a good one to try regardless.

- 8:40- She felt like a lot of other people could do the same thing she was doing and feel more inspired by the work. She left to go find her inspiration. Mentor Peter introduced in this answer. A bit repetitive
- 9:55- did you seek out a mentor, or was it good luck? She serendipitously met her mentor. Way too short to include
- 10:15- how should you go about the job search? She is driven by people and so she let that drive her job search. I like
- 11:10- did you feel prepared when you entered your new career path? Not at all. Her mentor helped her. Very specific to her and investment banking so I don't think it's particularly relevant to most students.
- 12:28- often people look at jobs for what they are rather than what they could be. IR (investor relations) ended up being a good fit even though she didn't see that initially. Good, but still very investment banking specific
- 19:20- You believe in standing out from the herd, yes? Yes, and her mentor helped her a lot with that.
- 20:05- How can young people prepare themselves for leadership roles? Seek out people that you admire even if they aren't perfect. Learn from those around you, be curious, and be honest about what you don't know. Not bad!

Video 3: Entrepreneurship

This will be a short video focusing on advice regarding entrepreneurship for students and recent graduates.

- 22:13- For students interested in starting their own companies, what kind of advice can make them successful? Or should students get a job before starting a company? It is very person-specific. This is really good but specific advice. Could work for a short one-off video

All notes:

3:00- first job out of college, way too short

3:30- how'd you find tech? Being in Cali. Nope

3:42- she didn't feel educated on the kinds of jobs available to her. Nah

4:30- how has your viewpoint on career paths changed? She thinks that colleges should provide more career education on the different options. No

5:37- you came from the east coast. How has it been transitioning to life on the west coast? She encourages people to live in different parts of the country. She loved where she grew up but moving gave her a different perspective. Okay, but not the most relevant. Short, maybe tie into something else

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13:15- how did your career path evolve from there? 4 years in to her time there, venture capital really began talking off. She had the option to move over to venture capital and that was a springboard for her. What started as a primarily fundraising role transformed into a more organizational and managerial role. Not bad

15:28- what have been your biggest takeaways from that experience? Trust your gut and learn to trust yourself. Good advice, but perhaps too short

16:08- what one piece advice would you give to college students? Do more soul searching and always return to what you love and what you're good at. Think about work more qualitatively rather than specifically about job functions. This is great advice! It would pair well with her answer at 6:25

17:08- Do you recommend students focus on more broad studies or more specific skillsets? Young people are too often drawn to what others are doing or what is 'popular.' Lean into what interests you and what you're good at. At least make sure that you learn how to think and learn how to write. Not my favorite but I still like this answer

18:30- What are interesting areas that entry level VC employees can focus on? VC is more top-of-market than a good place to be starting. Nope

19:20- You believe in standing out from the herd, yes? Yes, and her mentor helped her a lot with that.

20:05- How can young people prepare themselves for leadership roles? Seek out people that you admire even if they aren't perfect. Learn from those around you, be curious, and be honest about what you don't know. Not bad!

21:17- What kind of self reflection should students focus on? Step back and be proactive about your goals and aspirations. Not bad, maybe include with the above answer

22:13- For students interested in starting their own companies, what kind of advice can make them successful? Or should students get a job before starting a company? It is very person-specific. This is really goof but specific advice. Could work for a short one-off video

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24:36- Any advice for women in STEM? Do what you want to do and don't see yourself as any different from the men around you. Nope

25:13- Do you think that there are a lot of opportunities in tech now and that there will be in the future? If tech interests you, do it. Otherwise, don't. Nah

25:57- Can you share a story on something that was a big learning moment for you? (Answer at 26:37) quitting investment banking was going against the grain but she trusted her gut. Nope

27:21- For someone who might not be in a geographic location that is good for tech, how can they meet mentors and grow their abilities? More and more is happening outside of Silicon Valley and hopefully that will continue across the country

28:21- wrap up