CAREER ROADMAP:
HUMANITARIAN AID

Description of Field:
Humanitarian aid describes work that focuses on assisting to people in need. This type of work can be seen in many different forms, from assisting with those affected by natural disasters, to migration of refugees, to local homelessness, to victims of wars and famines. The purpose of humanitarian aid is to save lives. Humanitarian aid can span from a global scale to efforts within a local society. Humanitarian aid can be carried out with material items, such as food and items for basic survival or with logistical assistance like relocation services or helping individuals reenter society after a life changing episode.

General Skills:
Flexibility, resiliency and responsibility, complex problem solving, social perceptiveness and active listening

Insider Advice:
While it is common to think that humanitarian aid is something that is found overseas in third world countries or war torn territories, it is possible to participate in humanitarian efforts right in a local community. Look for local opportunities to help if unable to move abroad. This will also give a great introduction into how projects and funding are implemented. Also try to narrow down what your idea of “helping people” might be. This can be seen in many different forms and all are equally important. Deciding how and where to help people will be key in a successful experience.

Learn about Yourself & Career Options

What Can I Do With This Major:

Sample UF Majors:
International Studies, Anthropology, Psychology, Public Health, Economics, Sociology, Criminology and Law, Fire and Emergency Services, Political Science, Women’s Studies

Career Planning:
Our Career Planning staff can help you explore interesting major/career options, prepare for and start an internship/job search. Log in to view the ways we can help!

Build Experience

UF Organizations:
Amnesty International, Red Cross Gators, Heal the World

Professional Organizations:
Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection, Foreign Policy Association, International Association of Emergency Managers

Sample Local Opportunities:
The Salvation Army, Children’s Home Society of Florida, Bread of the Mighty Food Bank, United Way of North Central Florida

Prepare for Your Next Step

Sample Job Titles:
Grants Writer, Consultant, Outreach and Engagement Advisor, Communication Officer, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Program Assistant (specific to program or organization), Emergency/First Aid Responder

Search for Internships & Jobs:
Reliefweb, DevNetJobs, Wango.org

Sample Employers Recruiting at UF:
Latin American Foundation for the Future, ShelterboxUSA, Habitat for Humanity, World Teach

Log into Gator CareerLink to search for employers hiring UF students and additional resources