Business Casual

(Brooke Cody) What does business casual mean to me. The first thing I would say that business casual to students who are prospective candidates for a firm or for an interview is it's never business casual unless someone tells you it's business casual. It's always business until they make it very clear that it's business casual. And when in doubt, you should always be in a suit and quite formal. So it's something I always talk to students about because it's certainly not casual. It's business smart, it's not wearing a suit, but wearing something that's very tailored, quite conservative, nothing too overly fashionable.

For women I would say, it's you know you don't want a short skirt, you don't want anything too tight, you want things that are well fitted. I would say you never want to be too sleeveless on top. You always want to think how do I want my colleagues and my peers to think about me. For men I think it's slacks and a collared shirt.

One of the things you don't want to be so much of an over-dresser, but you always want to air on the side of being closer to business and farther away from casual.

If you're going to intern in an organization, sometimes people who have been there for years, and are very comfortable, may take business casual a little bit looser. That doesn't mean you can.