

Career Life Connections



Fall Semester 2018

Instructor: Mr. S. Arthurs

Email: shayne.arthurs@pattisonhighschool.ca

Office Location & Hours: Room 109, 08:15 - 16:45

Extra office hours: By appointment or after school

Course Objective:

For students to create a concrete, well-thought, post-secondary/graduation plan that can be presented at the end of the year in a cohesive capstone presentation.

Course Description:

Career-identity is an emergent educational concept of great importance that is continuously challenged in the modern era. Post-secondary models – whether they be university, corporate or industrial companies – now stress that professionals in the 21st century be able to solve problems upon graduation. As a result, employers in many sectors of society (including post-secondary institutions) are hiring young-professionals who are authentic, curious, dynamic, empathetic, motivated and resilient in their respective career-roles. In response to this demand, Career Life Connections has been developed to teach students about the universal skills required to understand the forces that inform the concept of “professional-identity” in the 21st century and, subsequently, how that post-secondary identity is highly desired by employers who exist in a world where social, international, cultural, technological, and religious systems intersect and - in some situations - conflict. Overall, this course will be especially beneficial to students who intend to enter into universities or jobs immediately after high school.

Throughout this course, students will have an advanced understanding of the following:

1. How to locate, research, contextualize, collect and present information that can be used to self-describe post-secondary futures.
2. Develop, critically analyze and communicate how global, communal and local trends inform the role of career-professionals in the 21st century.
3. How to create documents such as resumes, cover and admissions letters, while simultaneously practicing how to prepare for job-interviews, public speaking, debates and academic defenses.
4. The ways by which we examine, interact, experience, share and self-advocate post-secondary opportunities in multiple contexts.

Course Overview:

More specifically, Career Life Connections covers 6 major units and culminates in a final major project called a capstone. During the semester, students will continuously self-assess and critically analyze each

other in the following units as they prepare for their capstone project:

1. How personal and professional identities are developed, expanded upon and communicated in post-secondary environments as an example of social capital.
2. Examination of how large scale political, social, global, educational and economic systems externally influence sustainable career-life development along with individual career decision making.
3. The design and completion of resumes, cover letters along with how to find, apply for and secure intern, work-study and job placements.
4. To understand the process of establishing long term goals derived from interests, values and perspective while exploring how to utilize post-graduation resources to improve social capital within the context of healthy social, emotional and mental well-being management.
5. How to introduce one-self, gather information and hone post-secondary strategies through ongoing consultation and exposure with professional mentors.
6. Self-reflect, analyze, prepare and present a Capstone project in the students chosen format.

***Note:** For students who plan to return to their respective home countries during the semester break, please note that the Capstone presentations will be held the final week of classes. In essence, although it may seem a large inconvenience to you and your family, please do not book flights home between December 7/2018 – 13/2018 as this time is reserved for us to present our final projects!

Assessment Guideline:

1. Journaling: 10 %
2. Logbook: 10 %
3. Written Assignments: 15%
4. Seminar/Focus Group Participation: 20%
5. Capstone Project: 45%

***Note:** Subject to change.

Class Rules and Expectations:

1. Attendance & Punctuality

- a. Be on time and notify the teacher when you will be absent.
- b. If you are sick, notify the teacher via email and do not come to class. You will require proof of sickness in the form of a note that is either signed by your parent, home-stay guardian or a doctor. You must also leave a contact number for the person who signs the note.

2. Zero Smart-Phone Policy During Class

- a. No use of smart phones during class. Although the teacher can't force you to place your phones in baskets at the beginning of class, I will award extra-credits over the course of the semester to students who wish to comply.

3. Plagiarism & Academic dishonesty

- a. Plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstance. From the Teacher's perspective, it is very simple to recognize when a student is not using original work.
- b. Write your own work! Original work will always be graded better. This is an essential skill for students who plan to pursue further education in university.

4. Missed Work & Grades

- a. If you have missing work, your grades will be negatively affected. The teacher will always give students the chance to make up work (within reasonable circumstance), or to earn better marks. However, be prepared to defend your position as to why you should have the privilege to re-do or make up work.

5. Participation & Class Conduct

- a. Discussion, synthesizing information and sharing thoughts are essential for an educated citizen. My classes purposely give participation a high grade weight – you're expected to contribute!
- b. Always respect yourself, the teacher and fellow students when engaging in conversation.