

Career Life Connections

Winter Semester 2020

Instructor: Mr. Truman

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Office Location/Hours: Room 110 - Hours after school or by appointment



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.

Career Life Connections focuses on the following 5 Big Ideas:

- Career-life development includes ongoing cycles of exploring, planning, reflecting, adapting, and deciding.
- Career-life decisions influence and are influenced by internal and external factors, including local and global trends.
- Engaging in networks and reciprocal relationships can guide and broaden career-life awareness and options.
- A sense of purpose and career-life balance support well-being.
- Lifelong learning and active citizenship foster career-life opportunities for people and communities.

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.

Evaluation Scheme

- Participation: 20%
- Assignments: 30%
- Capstone Project: 50%

Class Rules and Expectations

1. Come on time! If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent.
2. Bring a notebook and pen and any other basic school supplies to every class. There is no excuse for coming to class unprepared!
3. Do not use your phones in class unless I say you can! If I permit you to use your phones, that is strictly for class work, which means translation, research or group work. This does not mean snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, or any other social media!
4. If I see your phones out when they're not supposed to be, I will take them away. If I take your phone away more than three times, they will stay with me for an entire day.
5. Assignments have due dates! If you hand in your work late, I will deduct 10 percent from your grade. If you have a good reason for handing things in late, such as illness or an emergency, I will need either a doctor's note or an email from a parent/guardian.
6. Plagiarism is not tolerated under any circumstances. If you copy from your work from an online source or classmates, your assignment will be given a grade of zero.
7. Attendance is important! If you are sick, please send an email to your advisor. If you miss a class, please check to see what you missed. Serious illnesses which cause you to miss more than two classes will require a doctor's note.
8. Bring a laptop/tablet with a charger to school everyday!!!