IDS4930 - Professional Pathways in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
Spring 2019 - Online

Instructor Email Office Location & Hours
Ryan Braun rbraun@advising.ufl.edu Thursdays, 2:00-4:00,
Thurdays, 2:00-4:00,
Farrior Hall 1025, also by
Farrior Hall 1025, also by
phone (352-273-4071) or by
phone (352-273-4071) or by
appointment.
appointment.

Course Description
This course will introduce and examine career and professional development in the
context of a Liberal Arts and Sciences education. Using Liberal Arts and Sciences
disciplines as building blocks, we will embark to develop the kinds of skills that are
cultivated in the classroom but become incredibly powerful in the workplace. We will
find out how to translate academic discovery to professional preparation. In this course
we will work together to accomplish these essential goals:

- Gain fundamental understanding of the workforce and career development
- Understand the value and benefits of a Liberal Arts and Sciences education
- Develop basic professional skills
- Learn how to translate skills to professional environments
- Make connections between your academic pursuits and your professional ambitions
- Use these connections to explore career communities and construct a professional
  pathway and portfolio

Course Materials
There are no books to purchase for this course. Readings will be provided in PDF format
by the instructor through the Canvas course site.

Course Assignments
- SDS Assessment - 5%
- Discussion Posts (8) - 15%
- Skill Reflection - 10%
- Possible Lives Assignment - 10%
- Quizzes (6) - 15%
- Portfolio (Resume, LinkedIn, Cover Letter, Statement of Goals) - 20%
- Elevator Pitch - 10%
- Developmental Plan - 15%
Notes for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Late Assignments

The goal of this course is for you to develop skills, and that development is more important than deadlines or grades. However, submitting work by the posted deadline is crucial. Late work will be accepted up to ONE WEEK after the deadline but will automatically be assessed one full letter grade deduction. As always, please communicate with me if extenuating circumstances impact your ability to submit your work in a timely fashion.

Grading Policies and Grade Points

Please refer to the UF Catalog for information on grading and GPA: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at http://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/

Course Schedule

This course is broken up into eight modules. Each module contains various assignments, lectures, discussion posts, readings, and a quiz. The entirety of the module content is due every other Friday, which is the same day that the next module will become available.
Module 1: Introduction and Career Values (DUE January 18)
- Read syllabus
- Discussion Posts: Introduction and SDS Reflection
- Watch “SDS Assessment” Lecture
- Watch “Work Values” Lecture
- Read You Majored in What? by Katharine Brooks
- Assignment: Take SDS Assessment and upload score report
- Module 1 Quiz

Module 2: Skills (DUE February 1)
- Discussion Post: Why College?
- Read excerpt from The Case Against Education by Bryan Caplan
- Watch “Skills” Lecture
- Assignment: Skills Reflection
- Module 2 Quiz

Module 3: Majors and Career Communities (DUE February 15)
- Discussion post: Majors and Career Communities
- Read “What the Economy Needs, What Employers Want” by Jeffrey Selingo
- Watch “Majors and Careers” Lecture
- Module 3 Quiz
- Begin investigating resumes/refining your current resume in preparation for Module 4

Module 4: Professional Materials (DUE March 1)
- Discussion Post: Resumes and Cover Letters
- Read “UF Career Center Cover Letter guide”
- Watch “Resume” Lecture
- Watch “Cover Letter” Lecture
- Assignment: Submit Resume
- Assignment: Submit Cover Letter
- Module 4 Quiz

Module 5: Professional Communication (DUE March 15)
- Discussion Post: Communication
- Watch “Communication” Lecture
- Watch “Interviewing” Lecture
- Assignment: LinkedIn
- Module 5 Quiz

Module 6: Goal-Setting and Decision-Making (DUE March 29)
- Discussion Post: Goal-Setting
- Watch “Choice, Happiness, and Spaghetti Sauce” TED Talk
• Watch “Goal-Setting” Lecture
• Module 6 Quiz

Assignment: Statement of Goals

Module 7: Resilience and Grit (Due April 12)
• Discussion Post: Failure
• Read “The Rise and Fall of Motivation 2.0” from Drive by Daniel Pink
• Watch “UF Failure video”
• Watch “Grit and Mindset” Lecture
• Assignment: Possible Lives

Module 8: Launching (DUE April 24)
• Discussion Post: Personal Branding
• Read “How not to get a job” from Designing your Life by Burnett & Evans
• Watch “Personal Branding” lecture
• Assignment: Recorded Elevator Pitch (1:30–2:00 minutes)
• Assignment: Developmental Plan Final (DUE 5/2)