IDS4930 - Professional Pathways in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
Spring 2020 - Online

Instructor: Ryan Braun  Email: ryanbraun88@ufl.edu  Office Location & Hours: Tuesdays, 10-1, Farrior Hall 1025, also by phone (352-273-4071) or by appointment.

Course Description
This course is an exploration of career readiness through Liberal Arts and Sciences. We will investigate the modern world of work and the cultivation of transferable and professional skills through theory and practice. Through this course, you will learn about career development and practical professional skills, but you will also learn about your individual professional identity and how the two intersect. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Articulate the value of a Liberal Arts and Sciences Education
- Identify key elements of career development in Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Apply transferable skills to multiple career contexts
- Construct effective professional materials to communicate transferable skills
- Distinguish between multiple theories of career development
- Deliver a clear and effective “elevator pitch”
- Confidently pursue and interview for professional opportunities

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) - 10%
- Skill Reflection - 10%
- Possible Lives Assignment - 10%
- Quizzes (6) - 10%
- Resume - 10%
- Cover Letter - 10%
- Statement of Goals - 5%
- LinkedIn - 5%
- 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 17)
- Read syllabus
- Discussion Posts: Introduction and SDS Reflection
- Watch “SDS Assessment” Lecture
- Watch “Work Values” Lecture
- Read “Moving from College to Career” by Katharine Brooks
- Assignment: Take SDS Assessment and upload score report
- Module 1 Quiz

Module 2: Skills (DUE January 31)
- 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 14)
- 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 February 28)
- 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 13)
- Discussion Post: Communication
- Watch “Communication” Lecture
- Watch “Interviewing” Lecture
- Assignment: LinkedIn
- Module 5 Quiz

Module 6: Goal-Setting and Decision-Making (DUE March 27)
- Discussion Post: Goal-Setting
• Watch “Goal-Setting” Lecture
• Watch “Decision-Making” Lecture
• Module 6 Quiz

Assignment: Statement of Goals

Module 7: Resilience and Grit (Due April 10)

• 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 22)

• Discussion Post: Personal Branding
• Read “How not to get a job” from Designing your Life by Burnett & Evans
• Watch “Personal Branding” lecture
• Watch “Networking and References” lecture
• Assignment: Recorded Elevator Pitch (1:30–2:00 minutes)
• Assignment: Developmental Plan Final (DUE 4/30 at Noon)