SLS1409 - Professional Pathways in the Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Fall 2022 - Asynchronous Online

Instructor  
Ryan Braun

Email  
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Office Location & Hours  
Tuesdays, 3-5pm in either Farrior 1025, by appointment, or https://ufl.zoom.us/j/3903577877

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
- State your personal definition of “professionalism”
- 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
- Discussion Posts (8) - 10%
- SDS Assessment - 5%
- Values/Skills/Goals Reflection - 10%
- Skill Profile + Position Posting - 5%
- Possible Lives - 10%
- Resume - 10%
- Cover Letter - 10%
- Communicative Presence Reflection - 10%
• 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 Delivery**

This is an online, asynchronous course, which means that you will never be expected to show up at a particular place at a specific time. However, there will be many options for synchronous engagement throughout the semester. In addition to my office hours I can meet with you by appointment, and many assignments (resume review, cover letter review, interviewing) can be done with me via Zoom as well if you wish.

**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, and readings. The entirety of the module content (in most cases) is due every other Friday, though the entire course is available should you choose to work ahead.

Module 1: Introduction and Career Values (DUE September 2)

READ
- Syllabus
- “Moving from College to Career” by Katharine Brooks

WATCH
- “Career Values” Lecture
- “SDS Assessment” Lecture

DO
- Discussion Post: Introductions + Career Values
- Assignment: SDS Assessment and upload score report

Module 2: Skills and Goals (DUE September 16)

READ
- Excerpt from The Case Against Education by Bryan Caplan

WATCH
- Watch “Skills” Lecture

DO
- Discussion Post: “Skill Development in College”
- Assignment: Values/Skills/Goals Statement

Module 3: Developing Professional Value (DUE September 30)

READ:
- “What the Economy Needs, What Employers Want” by Jeffrey Selingo

WATCH:
- Watch “T-Shaped Professionals” Lecture
DO:
- Discussion Post: T-Shaped Professionalism
- Assignment: Skill Profile + Position Posting

Module 4: Professional Materials (DUE October 14)

READ:
- “UF Resume Guide”
- “UF Cover Letter Guide”

WATCH:
- “Resume” Lecture
- “Cover Letter” Lecture

DO:
- Discussion Post: “Resumes and Cover Letters”
- Assignment: Submit Resume
- Assignment: Submit Cover Letter + position posting

Module 5: Professional Communication (DUE October 28)

READ:
- “Guide to Professional Communication”
- “LinkedIn Guide”

WATCH:
- “Communication” Lecture
- “Interviewing” Lecture

DO:
- Discussion Post: “Constructing Behavioral Interview Answers”
- Assignment: Communicative Presence Reflection

Module 6: Personal Branding and Professionalism (DUE November 10)

READ:
- “Professionalism, Prejudice, and Personal Taste”

WATCH:
- “Professionalism” Lecture
- Watch “Personal Branding” Lecture

DO:
- Discussion Post: “Personal Branding and Professionalism”
• **Assignment:** LinkedIn

**Module 7: Resilience and Grit** - *(Due November 22)*

**READ:**
- Read “The Rise and Fall of Motivation 2.0” from *Drive* by Daniel Pink

**WATCH:**
- Watch “UF Failure video”
- Watch “Motivation and Mindset” Lecture

**DO:**
- Discussion Post: “Failure”
- **Assignment:** Possible Lives

**Module 8: Launching your Professional Life** *(Due December 7)*

**DO:**
- **Assignment:** Recorded Elevator Pitch
- Discussion Post: Career Advice

**WATCH:**
- “Networking and References” lecture
- Each other’s Elevator Pitches
- Discussion Post: Career Advice

**Final Assignment:**
- Developmental Plan, **DUE Wednesday, December 14**, by 11:59pm