**COUN 1000**

Career Orientation & Exploration

**Fall 2016**

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**Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling/School Psychology**

**College of Education**

Instructor Information

**Mary anne Messer, M.S.**

Counselor Education & Supervision Doctoral Student

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Office Hours

**Thursday 8:45-9:45**

and

By Appointment

**Office: Haley Center**

**Room 2002**



**AUBURN UNIVERSITY**

**SYLLABUS**

Course Number: COUN 1000

**Course Title: Career Orientation & Exploration**

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 2 semester hours credits/Graded

Class Meeting Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Section 002 - 10:00am-10:50am

Section 001 – 11:00am-11:50am

Class Location: Haley Center Room #1435 (Section002)

Haley Center Room #2423 (Section 001)

Instructor: Mary Anne Messer, M.S.

Office: Haley Center Room 2002

Office Hours: Thurs 8:45-9:45 and by appointment

**E-mail: mzm0149@auburn.edu**

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| *The course syllabus is a general plan for the course.*  *Deviations may be necessary and will be communicated to the class in a timely manner.* |

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**:

This course offers an opportunity for receiving information and acquiring the skills necessary for academic and career planning. Processes of self-assessment and self-exploration are critical components of this course that contribute to your making educated academic and career decisions. In addition to traditional classroom activities, the content is presented in an experiential manner through interactive discussions, individual projects, and contact with campus resources.

## OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will explore interests, values, and personality in relation to academic and life planning.
2. Students will research a selected major and related career.
3. Students will increase their knowledge of the skills and experiences that are attractive to future employers.
4. Students will learn to utilize websites and other resources to begin making educated career choices.

**ASSIGNMENTS & READINGS:**

To make this class meaningful and useful, you must keep up with the readings and assignments as outlined in this syllabus. You will get out of this course exactly what you put into it; i.e., if you endeavor to learn about yourself, your unique interests and strengths, and the myriad opportunities available to you as a student-athlete at Auburn, you will be on track toward a successful academic career. The readings and assignments are designed intentionally to help you along that path; they are not designed to be “busy work.”

Please note that pop quizzes may be given on assigned reading material, and unannounced checks on the completion of assignments may be performed during the semester.

There will be additional material included in the lectures and powerpoints that is not from your assigned textbook. You will be responsible for this supplemental information.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

1. Getting From College to Career: 90 Things to do Before You Join the Real World, Revised Edition, by Lindsey Pollak.

**ASSESSMENTS**:

Each student will be **required** to complete personal and career assessments during this course, including the STRONG Interest Inventory (SII) for a fee of $30 which will be billed to the student’s bursar account. These assessments are designed to foster insight into the career options that best match your unique interests and personality traits.

**COURSE POLICIES:**

1. Students are expected and required to attend all classes and to arrive on time unless pre-approved by instructor. Attendance is vital to your success in this class; therefore,attendance is required. **Students are allowed to miss 1 day of class for personal reasons without grade penalty.** Two or more absences will result in grade deduction. *See grading policy for outline of points.*
2. Policies regarding excused absences (as per the criteria listed in the *AU Tiger Cub*) are as following:
   1. If possible, students must notify instructor prior to absence and make arrangements to get assignments and/or projects due.
   2. Students must provide instructor with a written excused absence *within one week* after students have returned to class.
3. All electronic devices including, but not limited to, cell phones, Ipod, mp3 players, IPad, laptop and tablets *must* be turned off before class starts. Please do not use any of these devices during class!
4. Incomplete grades will be *considered* only for excused (Doctor’s excuse) medical reasons.
5. Written reports will be submitted to the instructor typed (size 12 font) and double-spaced via **Canvas**. All reading and assignments are due prior to the beginning of class.
6. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work.
7. **Assignment submission policy:** All assignments, unless otherwise specifically stated in the syllabus, are to be submitted electronically via Canvas before the start of class on the assigned date. Each assignment will have a (1) one week “open” period in which assignments may be submitted at any time during a one-week time period. Due to the nature of this assignment submission policy, there will be no excuse tolerated for late assignments nor will make-up work be allowed with the exception of extenuating circumstances that will be considered at the instructor’s discretion. Please see the following sections for further clarification.

If Canvas is not working for unexpected reasons, students may email assignments directly to the instructor. However, the email must be received by the time/date set on Canvas to receive credit. **Auburn University email must be utilized for all email communication with instructor.**

1. **Make-up** **Policy:** No in-class assignments, take-home assignments, or quizzes will be accepted late or allowed to be made-up. The only exception is of extreme emergencies with proper documentation or if previous arrangements have been made to turn an assignment in early in the case of a planned absence. No assignment will be accepted for grading past the due date. This *includes* the SII, MBTI, presentations, and final projects.
2. **Late assignments will NOT be accepted.**
3. **Accommodations:** Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).
4. **Honesty Code:** Auburn University expects students to pursue their academic work with honesty and integrity. Students are bound by the policies outlined in the Student Policy e-Handbook. You should become familiar with them if you are not already. They may be found here: www.auburn.edu/student\_info/student\_policies/
5. **Professionalism:** As faculty, staff, and students interact in professional settings, they are expected to demonstrate professional behavior as defined in the College’s conceptual framework. These professional commitments or dispositions are listed below:
   1. Engage in responsible and ethical professional practices.
   2. Contribute to collaborative learning communities.
   3. Demonstrate a commitment to diversity.
   4. Model and nurture intellectual vitality.
   5. Auburn’s policy on classroom behavior can be found here: https://sites.auburn.edu/admin/universitypolicies/Policies/PolicyonClassroomBehavior.pdf

1. At any time throughout this class, if you would like to meet with me about your career plans or issues/difficulties you are having regarding your career decision-making or job search, please feel free to visit me during my office hours or set up an individual appointment. Appointments to see the instructor may be made by e-mail.
2. **Participation:** All students are expected to participate in class, contribute to group discussions, and take part in in-class assignments. Participation will be reflected in the final grade.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. **Current Events Articles**

Students will be required to discuss one (1) current event article with the class. The student’s chosen article will connect current events and the career field of the student’s choice. The instructor will provide further specifications on topics in class.

Locate any current article (newspaper, magazine, online journal) pertaining to your college major or career area of interest. You are to read, print and bring the article to class and be prepared to discuss:

* 1. Key Factual information contained within the article
  2. The implications of that information for future employees

*Please submit the link to your article on Canvas, prior to coming to class if using electronic article version. Also, bring in a hard copy of the article to share in class.*

1. **Academic Major Research Paper**

You are to research an academic *major* at Auburn University, not a specific career. This may be a major of your choice that you are interested in. For this assignment, you must interview an advisor from the department that you are researching. You may not interview a family member or friend. This paper should be 3-6 pages. Your paper should consist of 3 sections:

Section 1 Curriculum Research

What is the major?

What types of courses will you need to take?

Is there a minimum GPA requirement to be admitted or retained in the major/college?

Will you have to complete an internship or co-op?

What careers directly relate to this major?

Will you need to obtain a graduate degree for entry into the job market?

Section 2 Academic Advisor Interview

Begin with a brief description of the person you interviewed (name, position in the department, other interesting facts).

What did you learn from the interview?

Ask the person additional questions such as:

What do you wish you had known about your career at my age?

Do you have any advice for a freshman/sophomore starting out?

Section 3 Your Reflection

Describe why you are/were interested in this major?

What did you learn about the curriculum that surprised you?

Do the courses interest you?

How do you feel the interview went?

Are you still interested in this major/field?

1. **Interview Worksheet**

The Interview Worksheet will be posted on Canvas. This assignment will be completed in class, therefore, attendance is mandatory to receive full credit for the assignment. NO MAKE-UPS will be permitted with the exception of emergencies considered with the instructor’s discretion. Students will be required to prepare for this assignment outside of class time. The instructor will give further instructions in class before the due date.

1. **Resume**

You are to develop a working resume.

Your resume should include the following information:

* + 1. Contact Information
    2. Objective Statement
    3. Education
    4. Experience
    5. Skills

Students are encouraged to utilize the AU Career Center for additional support in editing their resume. Business students may utilize the OPCD in Lowder Hall for additional support. \*\*This is only provided for additional help and is NOT required as part of the assignment’s grade\*\*

1. **Reflective Journals**
   1. This is an on-going assignment throughout the semester where you are to reflect on what you are learning about yourself, career goals & aspirations and the working world. You are required to turn in seven (7) journals throughout the semester via Canvas. You may choose to complete one extra journal to receive additional credit towards your final grade. Some journals will be provided with a specific journal topic that the instructor will discuss in class. Other journal entries that are not assigned a specific topic may either 1) be reflective in nature, meaning that the the journal reflects the student’s experience with the classroom learning and/or their career exploration process, or 2) follow one of the provided topics listed below.
   2. Each journal should be at least 1 page in length. Less than one full page will result in points deduction.
   3. Journal entries are to be submitted via Canvas by midnight of the specified due date. Journals are due every-other Thursday (see assignment calendar for specific due dates).
   4. Additional Journal Topics:
      1. A Look Into the Crystal Ball

Answer and reflect on the following questions

* + - * 1. In the best of scenarios, what do you see as the perfect career for yourself?
        2. What is it about the career that is most appealing to you?
        3. Do you believe your ideal career to be a realistic choice?
        4. What short-term educational goals should you set now to point you toward the achievement of your dream career?
    1. Money vs. Happiness

Which is more important to you? Which would you rather have if you could only one & why?

* + 1. Heroes

Identify at least 3 Career heroes - list people whose careers you admire or are intrigued by in some way (can be someone you know/don’t know, family, famous,

List at least 2 reasons why you listed each person. In 2 or 3 sentences describe their careers.

* + 1. Work Philosophy

What does work mean to you?

Is it a way of giving back? Self-expression? Achievement?

What do you believe about work?

What is your attitude towards working?

Do you live to work or do you work to live?

Should you do what you like or love…or does it even matter?

* + 1. John Holland Code

What is your Holland Code? What does this code mean to you? Did you learn anything surprising about yourself? What jobs does the O\*NET Interest Profiler say are related to your code? Reflect on the suggested careers and whether or not they interest you.

* + 1. Personal Values/Work Values Worksheets

Reflect on these two worksheets that you completed in class. Did you learn anything new or surprising about yourself? What value(s) seemed to stand out as the most important for you? Will you factor that value(s) into your career exploration? Why or why not?

* + 1. MBTI Reflection

Overall, what did this assessment tell you about your personality, interests and preferred work settings?

How well did this assessment reflect your interest and personality?

What does this assessment say would be a good career or major match for you? How do you feel about this?

* + 1. SII Reflection

Overall, what did this assessment tell you about your personality, interests and preferred work settings?

How well did this assessment reflect your interest and personality?

What does this assessment say would be a good career or major match for you? How do you feel about this?

* + 1. Guest Speaker: Career Center Orientation OR Interview Skills

Did you learn anything new from the guest speaker? What is something that the guest speak talked about that you have been able to apply to your own life? What did you learn that you can apply to your future? Was the guest speaker helpful to you in better understanding the benefits of the career center/learning new interview skills? How or how not? Do you think this is a relevant speaker for future classes?

1. **Auburn Colleges Group Project**

Students will be assigned into groups of colleges offered at Auburn University. Groups are asked to present to the class a brief educational and informational session regarding their assigned college. Each group will present to the class for approx. 12-15 minutes. Each group presentation must include use of multimedia, such as PowerPoint, Prezi, video, etc. Handouts for each class member with information from the presentation are preferred but optional. Each group member is expected to contribute evenly to the project. All group members will receive one overall grade based on the in-class presentation. Each group member is *required* to present some aspect of the group project. All projects must be submitted via Canvas *before* the time of presentation. The instructor will provide students with an outline of the specific project requirements in class.

1. **Creative Career Project/Presentation**

You will choose 1 career that is of interest to you. You will have 5-7 minutes for your presentation which must include a handout to be provided for each student and the instructor. You are welcome and encouraged to be as creative as you can! A suggested outline for the content of the presentation is provided below; you may change the order around if you wish, just be sure to include the main points.

**\*\*Attendance for the presentation is mandatory. Absence on this day will automatically result in a zero for the assignment.\*\***

***For this presentation, you must be dressed in Business-Casual Attire***

Content:

* + 1. Clearly describe the career field on which you are presenting.
    2. Describe what someone does in this field, that is, the nature of the work.
    3. Describe where the work typically takes place, that is, the working conditions.
    4. List the background, training, and education needed to work in this field.
    5. Describe the job outlook for this field. Is it growing? Stable?
    6. Describe the kind of earnings you could expect to make *starting out*, as well as the overall *average* salary. These earnings should reflect both national AND the state/region you wish to work in.
    7. Include other facts that you found interesting (including related occupations, benefits advantages to that line of work, anything in your research that surprised you or inspired you to do further research).
    8. If you conducted an informational interview with a professional in the field: Describe the person you interviewed and some key points you learned through the interview. OR, provide TWO questions that you would like to ask a professional in the field.
    9. Discuss why you chose this field. Are you still interested in it after learning more about it?
    10. Does this career satisfy your work values (from the work values activity in class?)

1. **In-Class Assignments/Homework Assignments/Quizzes**

In-class assignments and quizzes will be given periodically throughout the semester in class, as well as small assignments that will need to be completed outside of class. All inventories/assessments including the John Holland Code, Type Focus, and STRONG are a part of this grading category. The nature of these assignments is spontaneous and will given as the instructor feels necessary. Therefore, there will be NO MAKE UPS allowed for these assignments/quizzes.

1. **Class Participation**

This course marks the beginning of your career development. Therefore, it is expected that everyone participate in class discussions, assignments, and activities. Student’s participation will be reflected as part of the final grade.

**GRADING**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignments** | **Maximum Points** | **Earned Points** |
| Current Event Article | 20 |  |
| Reflection Journals (7 x 5 pts each) | 35 |  |
| Academic Research Paper | 45 |  |
| MBTI & Interpretation Attendance | 25 |  |
| SII & Interpretation Attendance | 25 |  |
| Interview Worksheet | 30 |  |
| Resume | 40 |
| Auburn Colleges Group Project | 40 |  |
| Final “Creative” Career Project | 50 |  |
| In-Class Participation/  Assignments/Quizzes | 40 |  |
| Attendance | 100 |  |

**Total: 450 Sub-total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Bonus Points Earn + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Final Points:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Final Grade:­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Grading Scale:**  A: 405-450  B: 360-404  C: 315-359  D: 270-314  F: 269 or below |

**Class Calendar: Topics and Assignments**

*Because guest speakers will be invited into class periodically, the schedule below may necessarily change in accordance with the respective speaker’s availability. You will be given an updated calendar as necessary.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Topic** | **Activities/Assignments** | **Assignment/**  **Readings Due** |
| **Class #1**  **8/16/16** | **Class Introduction** | Review Syllabus and class introductions |  |
| **Class #2**  **8/18/16** | **Career Theory** | Career theories: Self-Concept Theory |  |
| **Class #3**  **8/23/16** | **Career Development** | Career theories: CIP Approach | **Chapter 1** |
| **Class #4**  **8/25/16** | **Issues in the Working World Today** | Class discussion of current events related to students’ specific career interest areas | **Current Event**  **Take MBTI by midnight** |
| **Class #5**  **8/30/16** | **Personality & Career Choices** | How personality and self-esteem impact career development  Assessing personality traits using the John Holland inventory | **Journal 1** |
| **Class #6**  **9/1/16** | **Values & Qualities** | How values and qualities impact career development  Complete Work Values and Personal Values worksheets in class |  |
| **Class #7**  **9/6/16** | **MBTI** | MBTI interpretation by CC  Guest Speaker: AU Career Counselor will bring class results and discuss implications for career development  **(Class absence will result in an assignment grade of ZERO)** | Bring printed MBTI results to class  **Complete SII online by Midnight** |
| **Class #8**  **9/8/16** | **MBTI Review** | Class discussion of MBTI | **Chapter 3**  **Journal 2** |
| **Class #9**  **9/13/16** | **Skills & Interests** | How skills and interests impact career development  Using iSeek.org for career skills assessment | Bring computer to class |
| **Class #10**  **9/15/16** | **SII** | SII interpretation: AU Career Counselor will bring class results and discuss implications for career development  **(Class absence will result in an assignment grade of ZERO)** |  |
| **Class #11**  **9/20/16** | **What does Auburn have?** | Exploration of majors offered at Auburn  Explore the Career Center’s website and review the link of “What Can I Do With A Major In”  Discuss available campus resources | Bring computer to class |
| **Class #12**  **9/22/16** | **Exploring Career Resources on Campus** | Guest Speaker from the AU Career Center | **Journal 3** |
| **Class #13**  **9/27/16** | **Exploring & Researching Careers** | Using Occupational Outlook Handbook and O\*NET to learn about careers  World of Work | **Chapter 6** |
| **Class #14**  **9/29/16** |  | Group Presentations |  |
| **Class #15**  **10/4/16** |  | Group Presentations |  |
| **Class #16**  **10/6/16** | **Starting Your Personal Brand** | How to transition from being a student to being a professional  Develop an email signature in class  Class discussion of Chapter 2 | **Chapter 2**  **Journal 4** |
| **Class #17**  **10/11/16** | **Developing a Resume** | Building a resume: The do's and don'ts of developing a resume  Class discussion of Chapter 7 | **Email instructor with your email signature by class time** |
| **Class #18**  **10/13/16** | **Developing a Resume** | Continue discussing resume tips as needed | **Chapter 7** |
| **Class #19**  **10/18/16** | **Building a Resume** | Building a resume: Edit resume in class | **Hard copy of Resume due in class** |
| **Class #20**  **10/20/16** | **Preparing for an Interview** | Interview skill development  Class discussion of Chapter 9 | **Academic Major Paper Due**  **Chapter 9**  **Journal 5** |
| **Class #21**  **10/25/16** | **Practice Interviews** | **Interview Activity:** Complete Interview Worksheet in pairs during class  **(Class absence will result in an assignment grade of ZERO\*)** |  |
| **Class #22**  **10/27/16** | **Catch Up Day** | We will use this day to catch up on materials presented until this point. |  |
| **Class #23**  **11/1/16** | **Importance of Networking** | Understanding the importance of networking and how to begin networking as a student  Class discussion of Chapter 4 | **Chapter 4** |
| **Class #24**  **11/3/16** | **Library Day** | **Use this day to work on your Career Presentations** | **Journal 6** |
| **Class #25**  **11/8/16** | **Career Presentations** | Student Presentations | **ALL ppt presentations due online by start of class** |
| **Class #26**  **11/10/16** | **Career Presentations** | Student Presentations |  |
| **Class #27**  **11/15/16** | **Career Presentations** | Student Presentations |  |
| **Class #28**  **11/17/16** | **Career Presentations** | Student Presentations | **Journal 7** |
| **Class #29**  **11/29/16** | **Career Presentations** | Student Presentations |  |
| **Class #30**  **12/1/16** | **Wrap Up** | Review career theories and individual developments made in class |  |