**AUBURN UNIVERSITY**  
**SYLLABUS**

Course Number: COUN 1000

Course Section: 002

Course Title: Career Orientation & Exploration

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 2 semester hours credits/Graded

Class Meeting Times: Mon/Wed 10:00 am – 10:50 am

Class Location: Haley Center, Room 1212

Instructor(s): Brittney Barnett, LPC, NCC

Office: Haley Center, Room 2070

Office Hours: Wednesday 11 - 12:00 pm or by appointment

E-mail: [brb0066@auburn.edu](mailto:brb0066@auburn.edu)

**Course Description**  
  
Welcome to Counseling 1000! This course will help you in acquiring the skills necessary for successful academic and career planning. Self-assessment and self-exploration are critical components of this course designed for introspection and reflection in order for you to make the educated academic and career decisions tailored to fit your unique gifts and abilities. In addition to traditional classroom activities, the content is presented in an experiential manner through interactive discussions, individual projects and contact with campus resources. I’m looking forward to being a part of your journey here at Auburn University.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To explore interests, values and personality in relation to academic and life planning.
2. To explore majors available at Auburn.
3. To research a selected major.
4. To increase awareness of decision-making processes.
5. To learn to utilize websites and other resources to begin making educated choices.

**PHILOSOPHY OF ASSIGNMENTS & READINGS:**   
  
To make this class meaningful and useful, readings outlined in the syllabus are required. You’ll find the course readings and assignments are designed so that you learn about yourself, your unique interests and strengths and the opportunities available to you as a student at Auburn encouraging your successful academic career at Auburn University. The readings and assignments are designed intentionally to help you along that path. Please note there may be additional assigned reading material, in-class assignments and material included in the lectures and Power Points that is not from your assigned textbook. You will be responsible for this supplemental information.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

Getting from College to Career: Your Essential Guide to Succeeding in the Real World, Revised Edition, by Lindsey Pollak. **Please feel free to use the audio version instead.**

Reading and assignments are outlined in the syllabus. Additional reading, assignments and activities will be communicated throughout the semester and/or posted on Canvas.

**ASSESMENTS:**

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. The student will access the assessment online and will need to budget about 30 minutes for completion. The SII report (14 pages long) will be printed by the presenter and provided to the class at the time of the interpretation. The TypeFocus is a free version of the MBTI and will also take about 30 minutes to complete online. Students will need to print their results and bring them to the interpretation. These assessments are designed to foster insight into the career options that best match your unique interest and personality traits. Career Services offers scholarships for students unable to pay the assessment fee. Please email me if this is the case, and I will coordinate this for you.

**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 and tardiness (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. If a student is late more than 20 minutes of the class time, they are considered absent for that day which is unexcused unless extenuating circumstances are presented.
3. **To receive an attendance grade for each class, all electronic devices including, but not limited to, cell phones, iPod, mp3 players, iPad, laptop and tablets must be turned off before class starts and out of sight.**
4. Students are not allowed to have any food during class time. However, water and drinks are allowed.
5. Incomplete grades will be considered only for excused (doctor’s excuse) medical reasons or extenuating circumstances.
6. Written reports will be submitted to the instructor typed (Times New Roman size 12 font) and double-spaced via **Canvas**. All reading and assignments are due at the due date which is posted on Canvas under assignments.
7. Students are responsible for initiating arrangements for missed work within one week of the missed assignment.
8. **Assignment submission policy:** All assignments, unless otherwise specifically stated in the syllabus, are to be submitted electronically via Canvas on the assigned date by 11:59 pm. Most assignments will have a (1) one week “open” period in which assignments may be submitted at any time during a one-week time period.

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 or take-home assignments 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:** Assignments (with the exception of in-class assignments) are deducted 20% for every day late.
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>
6. At any time throughout this class, if you would like to meet with me about your academic plans or issues/difficulties you are having regarding your major exploration, 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.
7. **Communication:** All students must use their Auburn email to communicate with me. I cannot respond to any emails that are not from your Auburn email address. Please allow me 48 hours to respond to an email. I will not be able to respond to emails after 9:00 pm or on the weekends.
8. **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 via the attendance grade.
9. **Extra Credit Opportunities:** I will present you all with a few extra credit opportunities throughout the semester.

The College of Education has a subject pool operated through SONA system. The system provides students access to sign up for research studies for course extra credit. These studies can be in person or online. You received an email from the SONA administrator asking that you login to the system and create a password. If you are struggling to access this, please email sona@auburn.edu.

For every SONA credit you earn, you earn 2 cumulative bonus points (i.e., not points on your final grade). No more than 6 extra credit points can be applied to your grade through SONA. If you have questions about how these extra credit points are applied please email me. If you have questions about participating in studies, please email sona@auburn.edu

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

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 and 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. Journals #1-5 topics are listed under item (e) below. Journal entries #6-7 are not a specified topic. They are to be reflective in nature, meaning that the journal reflects the student’s experience with the classroom learning and/or their career exploration process.
   2. Each journal should be at least 1 page, double spaced and Times New Roman 12 pt. font. Less than one full page will result in point deductions.
   3. **Journal entries are to be submitted one week from the assigned day via Canvas by 11:59 pm (see assignment calendar for assigned days).**
   4. **Additional Journal Topic Options for Optional Journal #8:**

A Look into the Crystal Ball: In the best of scenarios, what do you see as the perfect major for yourself? What is it about the major that is most appealing to you? Do you believe your major to be a realistic choice? What career might this major lead you to?

Motivation: What drives you? Identify at least 3 motivations for attending Auburn. How will these motivating factors impact your time here?  
  
Heros: Identify at least 3 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.  
  
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. Journals #1-5:

Journal #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.

Journal #2: 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?

Journal #3: TypeFocus 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?

Journal #4: Guest Speaker: Career Center Orientation - Did you learn anything new from the guest speaker? What is something that the guest speaker 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? How or how not? Do you think this is a relevant speaker for future classes?

Journal #5: 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. **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. 8-10 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. **Academic Major Presentation**

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 presentation should be 7-10 minutes. Your presentation 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. **Professional Development Project** (Choose one of the following options)

**OPTION ONE:**

Visit the Career Center and write a two-page reflection, one page should be written BEFORE you go for your appointment and one page AFTER.

Your paper should include the following information:

What I hope to get out of my visit with the Career Center. What advice/information the Career Counselor shared. What I have done with the information.

**OPTION TWO:**

Create a two-page paper on a career that interests you.

Your paper should include the following information:

Clearly describe the career field on which you are presenting. Describe what someone does in this field, that is, the nature of the work. List the background, training, and education needed. Describe the kind of earnings you could expect to make starting out as well as the average salary. Discuss why you chose this field. Are you still interested in it after learning more about it?

**OPTION THREE:**

Develop a working resume.

Your resume should include the following information:

Contact information, objective statement, education, experience, and skills.

1. **Decision-Making/CASVE Paper**

You are to write a 3-6 page paper about your own career/academic decision-making process using the CASVE Cycle discussed in class from the Cognitive-Information Processing Approach. The main objective is for you to develop a greater understanding of your decision-making. A more detailed explanation and outline of this paper will be provided in class.

1. **One-Year Action Plan**

Create a one-page paper about your short-term goals for the coming year. If everything goes well, what will Spring 2021 look like? What will you know about yourself then? What decisions will you have made? What steps do you need to take this year to be able to accomplish these goals?

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

In-class assignments and readings will be given periodically throughout the semester in class, as well as small assignments that will need to be completed outside of class. The nature of these assignments is spontaneous and will be given as the instructor feels necessary. Therefore, there will be no make-ups allowed for these assignments.

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

**Class Calendar and Topics**

*Because guest speakers may 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.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Topic** | **Activities/Assignments** | **Assignment** |
| **Class #1**  **1/8** | **Class Introduction** | Review syllabus and class introductions |  |
| **Class #2**  **1/13** | **Introduction to College and Career** | Getting from College to Career: Introduction and Chapter 1, Get Started lecture and class discussion |  |
| **Class #3**  **1/15** | **Career Theory** | Self-Concept Theory |  |
| **Class #4 1/20** | **NO CLASS** | NO CLASS |  |
| **Class #5**  **1/22** | **Self-Assessment: Interests** | Assessing personality traits using the John Holland inventory | **Journal #1** |
| **Class #6**  **1/27** | **Self-Assessment:**  **Skills** | How skills and interests impact career development  Using iSeek.org for career skills assessment | **Complete SII online and put screenshot of confirmation screen on Canvas.** |
| **Class #7**  **1/29** | **Self-Assessment: Personality** | How personality and self-esteem impact career development |  |
| **Class #8**  **2/3** | **Self-Assessment: Values** | How values and qualities impact major choices  Complete Work Values and Personal Values worksheets in class. | **Journal #2**  **Complete TypeFocus online and put screenshot of confirmation screen on Canvas.** |
| **Class #9**  **2/5** | **Options Knowledge: Exploring and Researching Careers** | Auburn Colleges Group Project discussed  Bring laptops to class. Break off into groups for Auburn Colleges Project to divide up responsibilities. |  |
| **Class #10**  **2/10** | **TypeFocus** | TypeFocus Interpretation: AU Career Counselor will discuss implications for career development.  **(Class absence will result in an assignment grade of zero)** | **Bring printed TypeFocus results to class.   Journal #3** |
| **Class #11**  **2/12** | **Resources on Campus** | Guest Speaker from the AU Career Center | **Journal #4** |
| **Class #12**  **2/17** | **Options Knowledge: What does Auburn have?** | Exploration of majors offered at Auburn: Guest Speaker from the Exploratory Advising Center, David Adkison |  |
| **Class #13**  **2/19** | **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.)** | **Journal #5** |
| **Class #14**  **2/24** | **Practical Knowledge:**  **Finding Opportunities** | Getting from College to Career: Chapter 8, Find Opportunities lecture and class discussion part 1 | **Chapter 8** |
| **Class #15**  **2/26** | **Practical Knowledge:**  **Finding Opportunities** | Getting from College to Career: Chapter 8, Find Opportunities lecture and class discussion part 2 |  |
| **Class #16**  **3/2** | **CASVE Cycle: Making Career Decisions** | CASVE Cycle lecture and class discussion  Discussion of Decision Making/CASVE Paper and Academic Major Presentations |  |
| **Class #17**  **3/4** | **Practical Knowledge: Networking** | Getting from College to Career: Chapter 4, Talk. Listen. Repeat. lecture and class discussion | **Chapter 4** |
| **Class #18**  **3/9** | **NO CLASS** | NO CLASS |  |
| **Class #19**  **3/11** | **NO CLASS** | NO CLASS |  |
| **Class #20**  **3/16** | **Auburn Colleges Group Project** | Group Presentations (Groups 1, 2, 3) | **\*ALL presentations are due BEFORE class on this date.** |
| **Class #21**  **3/18** | **Auburn Colleges Group Project** | Group Presentations (Groups 4, 5, 6) |  |
| **Class #22**  **3/23** | **Auburn Colleges Group Project** | Group Presentations (Groups 7, 8, 9) |  |
| **Class #23** **3/25** | **Practical Knowledge: Self-Care** | Guest Speaker |  |
| **Class #24**  **3/30** | **Resources on Campus** | Guest Speaker from the AU Alumni Center | **Journal #6** |
| **Class #25**  **4/1** | **Practical Knowledge: Getting Experience** | Getting from College to Career: Chapter 5,  Gain Real World Experience lecture and class discussion | **Chapter 5**  **Decision Making/ CASVE Paper due** |
| **Class #26**  **4/6** | **Practical Knowledge: Diversity and the Workplace** | Getting diverse people to work well as a team: Lecture and class discussion |  |
| **Class #27**  **4/8** | **Practical Knowledge: Resume Writing and Intro to Professionalism** | Getting from College to Career: Chapter 7, Market Yourself on Paper and Online lecture and class discussion  Building a resume and curriculum vitae: The do’s and don’ts   How to transition from being a student to being a professional | **Journal #7** |
| **Class #28**  **4/13** | **Practical Knowledge: Interview Skills** | Getting from College to Career: Chapter 9, Overprepare for Interviews lecture and class discussion | **Chapter 9** |
| **Class #29**  **4/15** | **Academic Major Presentations** | Student Presentations | **\*All presentations are due before class on this date.** |
| **Class #30** **4/20** | **Academic Major Presentations** | Student Presentations | **Optional Journal #8   Professional Development Project due** |
| **Class #31 4/22** | **Academic Major Presentations  Course Wrap-up** | Student Presentations  Brief course review and quick reference guide | **One-year Action Plan due** |

**GRADING**

**Assignments Maximum Points**

Reflection Journals (7, 10 pts each) 70

MBTI & Interpretation Attendance 25

SII & Interpretation Attendance 25

Auburn Colleges Group Project 40

Academic Major Presentation 50

Professional Development Project 40

Decision-Making/CASVE Paper 50

One-Year Action Plan 10

In-Class Participation/Assignments 40

Attendance 100

**Sub-total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**+ Bonus Points: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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

**Grading Scale:**

A: 405-450

B: 360-404

C: 315-359

D: 270-314

F: 269 and below