Purpose of the Assignment

- To explore a career field of interest
- To explore a post-secondary school
- To better understand the expenses associated with college
- To present information in poster form to the class
- This will be your final Semester 1 exam in Freshman Seminar

Components of the project:

“3-Prong Project Folder” and “Poster Presentations”
(Please reference the examples provided and kept in class)

3-Prong Project Folder:

A. Cover Page

- Your Cover Page should include the title “Career and College Research Project”, your name, Freshman Seminar class and period and the due date. It should also name the career you’ve chosen with a picture and the college you have chosen with a picture.

B. Introduction

- Your introduction should include your career plans and the reasons for your interest. (What kind of skills, activities and interests have you had up to this point in your life that lead you to believe you’ll enjoy and be good at the career you’ve chosen?) Explain what people in this career field do including three specific tasks a person in this field might perform. What type of college degree, if any, do you need to gain employment in this field? How do you see yourself in this career 20 years from now? Also discuss what type of experience you’d like to have in your college education and why you chose the college or technical institution that you did. (Approximately one and one-half to two typed pages, 14 font, Times New Roman, double spaced, 1” margins)
C. Research Summary

 Compile your responses in a **numerical bullet format**. This must be your work, not copies from a view book, catalogue, etc. **NO CUTTING & PASTING.**

**Career Research:**

1. **What they do:** *In your own words, write a general description for what a person who has this career does.*
2. **What to learn:** *What high school courses should you take if you are interested in this career? How much post-secondary education is recommended for this career?*
3. **Money and Outlook:** *Discuss the earning potential, entry wage, average wage and experienced wage (if given) and the employment outlook and growth rate.*
4. **Employment:** *What industries employ people in this career field?*
5. **Connections:** *List associations or internet sites that would be of interest to a person in this career field.*
6. **Interviews:** *After reading the “Insider Info” story, what insight have you gained regarding working in this field?*

**College Research:**

1. **Vital information:** *Name and address of the school, phone number and website.*
2. **Statistics:** *Include the population of the city where the school is located.*
3. **Tuition Expenses:** *Include tuition costs for both state residents versus non-residents.*
4. **Other Expenses:** *Cost for room and board; estimated costs for textbooks, food not covered by the meal plan (pizza, McDonalds, etc) and spending money (gas for car, movie nights, football games, a date, that awesome sweatshirt, etc)*
5. **Estimated Total Costs:** *add together items #4 and #5 to arrive at the total cost for completing one year of college (or an entire certificate program.)* Do this for both resident and non-resident. *Multiply this by four to estimate completion of four years of college.*

6. **Admission Requirements:** *Include GPA, High School courses required or recommended, and minimum scores for ACT or SAT. Required admission procedures and costs like application fee, student essay, letters of recommendation, deadline dates, etc.*

7. **Student Demographics:** *Average freshman GPA, Graduation rate, Include student profile data and population, male/female ratio, resident/non-resident ratio, undergrad/graduate ratio, student/faculty ratio.*

8. **Campus life:** *Include student activities, sororities/fraternities, clubs, sports, etc.*

9. **EXTRA CREDIT:** *(10 Points) Interview someone who has recently attended or currently attends the school. (Use person-to-person, phone, Facebook, or email.) Include the script of the interview. Minimum of 10 questions - only one covering personal information.*

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**D. List of Pro’s and Con’s**

- Divide your paper into two columns labeled Pro’s and Con’s. Use two headings, one for your career and one for your college. List three Pro’s and three Con’s for each.

**FORMAT:**

Type and submit your project in a three-prong pocket folder. Organize items in this order:

1. Cover Page introducing the career and college
2. Written Introduction
3. Career Research
4. College Research
5. Pro’s and Con’s List
POSTER PRESENTATION:

A. “Top Five” Posters (2) Your posters should be a minimum of 20” x 23” each.

*v* One poster should list the “Top 5 Reasons I Want to Attend ***** College/University”
- 1-2 reasons need to relate to academics and/or future goals
- 1-2 “social” reasons (awesome football team, community, etc)
- 1-2 “personal” reasons (close to home, parents attended, etc)
- 1-2 financial reasons (financial aid, scholarship potential, etc)

*v* The other should list the “Top 5 Reasons I Want to Become a *****”
- 1-2 reasons need to relate to your future long-term goals or personal vision.
- 1-2 “skills” reasons (math aptitude, good listener, etc)
- 1-2 “personal enjoyment” reasons (enjoy music, people person, etc)
- 1-2 money and outlook reasons (earning potential, job security, etc)

PRESENTATION Procedure and dates:
You will sign up for your presentation date. The date is not to be changed once selected. You will present both “Top 5” Posters on this day. There will be a brief “Question and Answer” session following your presentation, so be prepared! (I will ask at least one question per presentation).

DUE DATES:
ALL Project Folders are due on Tuesday, November 8 (A-day) and Wednesday, November 9 (B-day). (You will be docked 10 points for each day late!)

POSTER PRESENTATION DATE: ________________________________
GRADING:
The Project folders are worth 200 points. The following rubric will be used to score your Project Folder and Presentation. The oral poster presentations are worth 50 points. The total for both is 250 points. *Please be advised, this project and presentation is your FINAL EXAM for this course!*

Career and College Research Rubric - **250 Points**

**Project Folder**

**Contents**

- Cover Page (10)
- Written Introduction (50)
- Career Research (50)
- College Research (80)
- Pro’s and Con’s List (10)

**Presentation**

**Public Speaking Skills**

- No distracting mannerisms (5)
  *(shuffling, giggling, gum-chewing, etc)*
- Eye contact with audience (5)
- Appropriate Voice (5)
- Question/ Answerability (5)

**Posters (2)**

- Appearance (10) total
- Effort/ Color/ Creativity (10) total
- Appropriate Reasons Listed (10) total