

Fall 2009
Section 80- All Majors
Executive Summary

Overview

In the fall of 2009, the Career Services office was able to offer a Career and Life Planning course for students in all majors. Approximately 10 students from a broad range of majors enrolled. In order to ensure that the learning objectives were being met for the course, a pre and post assessment was given to the students. Additionally, a final course evaluation was created by the Career Services office and disseminated to the students.

Course evaluation results

From the final course evaluation students reported what the most and least valuable aspects of the course were. Among the most valuable aspects, these activities were ranked highest: individual meetings with a career counselor, journal 2 (goal setting), resume review with career counselor, and journal 4 (next steps). Students reported the least valuable aspects of the course as: the CareerLiftoff assessment, occupational outlines, diversity discussion, and vocation and calling worksheet/activity.

A few comments that stood out were the high number of students who reported that they would recommend this course to a friend, as well as the course expectations being clear and that the course met the expectations of the student.

With respect to the pre and post course assessment, student responses were tracked to measure the amount of increase in various aspects of the career development and planning process. Scores were averaged to make it easier to track progress made in these career development aspects. According to the average scores, students made the most amount of progress in the following areas: awareness of decision making style, setting goals, confidence in their ability to make complex career decisions, and acquiring the tools to make effective career decisions. All of these reported increases are aligned with the course objectives. Specifically, the following course objectives are addressed in the self reported student scores:

- Gain an understanding of the career decision-making process.
- Learn methods and reliable resources for gathering occupational information.
- Set personal career goals as they synthesize their self awareness with information about the world of work.

Relation to office strategic objectives

The Career Services office has created 8 strategic objectives to focus on for the next 5 years. Out of these 8, there are two that have been specifically addressed through the Career and Life planning courses. These include increasing awareness of the career development process and implementing coordinated assessment and research in support of the office mission. By offering the opportunity for students to explore

their career planning process in a detailed, individualized manner, they will be better equipped with the tools and resources they will need to enter the professional work environment. Additionally, through assessment measures utilized to track the progress of the students throughout the sections, the career counselors in the office will be able to evaluate its effectiveness in meeting various office objectives.