

# Career Development Services

Welcome to the  
“Parent’s Guide to Career  
Planning” session





## What is “career development” anyway?

It can be broadly categorized into the following areas:

- **Career planning** - involves major/career exploration and selection
- **Graduate school planning**
- **Job search assistance** - involves training and guidance on job search activities such as resume writing and interviewing, and connection to employers and employment opportunities
- **On Campus Employment** - College Central Network

And now, a very short history of career planning...



Prehistoric times – very limited occupational options





Early 1900's – Relatively speaking, occupational choice was still limited for many





In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the kind of work we choose to do is substantially less constrained

- Contemporary Americans have well over 10,000 different occupations from which to choose.
- At FGCU we have over 50 undergraduate degree programs to choose from.
- Sometimes...the freedom to choose leaves students more anxious than comforted. (After all, when you have to make a choice, you become responsible for the decisions you make.)



# Your student's decision status and satisfaction

**Decided and satisfied**



**Decided and dissatisfied**





# Your student's decision status and satisfaction

**Undecided and satisfied**



**Undecided and dissatisfied**





# Your student's decision status and satisfaction

**Undecided, indecisive  
and satisfied**



**Undecided, indecisive  
and dissatisfied**





## What Decision Process Do Students Often Use to Select Their Major?

### 1) Begin With the End in Mind

Base their decision on their career goals

- **High correlation:** Nurse, Teacher, Accountant, Clinical Lab Technician, Civil Engineer
- **Recommended but not required:** Financial advisor, sales executive, event planner
- **Best preparation for graduate school:** Biology, Philosophy, Anthropology

### 2) Interest in the Subject

**For example:** Music Performance, Political Science, Psychology, Marketing, Sociology, Theatre, Communication, English...

### 3) Pragmatism

**For example:** Management

## Begin with the end in mind – does your student have a career goal?



- [MyPlan.com](https://www.myplan.com) is a FREE web-based career planning resource that enables you to take four free assessment – *personality, skills, interests, and work values* – and develops a list of occupations that match your pattern of personal characteristics.
- *Must enter the License Code to take assessments for free.*
- Only available to FGCU students!
- List is suggestive, not prescriptive.
- Self-assessment tools DO NOT tell you what you "should do" as a career. It is a starting point to help you learn more about your personal characteristics and how those characteristics may relate to different occupational fields. Ultimately, it is YOUR decision to determine the best career path to pursue.



## Career planning when major choice was based on interest

- For many of these students, their career path **emerges** as they progress through the program
- The English major that becomes interested in publishing...
- The History major that decides she wants to become a museum curator...

### What Can I Do With This Major

**Finally, picking a major can be different than picking a career. The reality is that sometimes people go into careers that are unrelated to their majors!**





# Encourage your student to attend events

## Fall

- Majors Fair
- Law School Fair
- Part-Time Job Fair



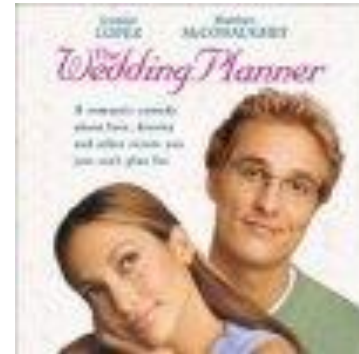
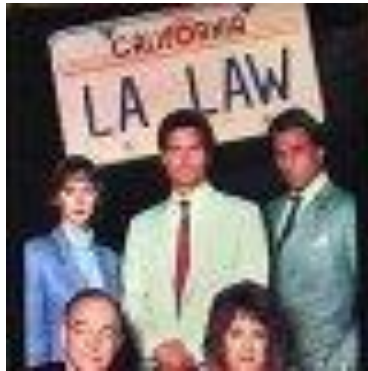
## Spring

- Career and Internship Expo
- Etiquette Dinner
- Dress for Success
- Statewide Job Fair at UCF





Encourage your students to compare their perceptions careers with reality using Informational Interviews and Job Shadowing





# Where will the jobs be?

- The labor market can be viewed in terms of jobs, industries, and geographic regions
- The overall labor market can be impacted by demographics, innovation, globalization, productivity gains, legislation, cultural shifts, normal business cycles, and the vagaries of the economy
- Regional labor markets can also be impacted by migration patterns, seasonality, and even environmental disasters
- Employment patterns are shifting much faster than in the past, so choosing a major or career based on what jobs will be in demand a few years down the road is a tricky endeavor.



# Where will the jobs be?

- Information is available from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov))
- Their employment projections rely on historical data.
- Therefore, what may be the problem with the report for period 2006-2016?



# My advice to students

- Pursue what you think you are going to enjoy and do well
- Be aware of the occupational realities of that field
- Get the best preparation you can
- Be flexible and ambitious



Thank you!

