

UNIV 1131 – 018: Major Exploration 2014

Online/Blackboard (www.elearn.uta.edu)

Instructor: Ms. Soyla Santos
UTA email: ssantos@uta.edu

Office: 105 Ransom Hall
Office Hours: By Appointment: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Blackboard IM: Monday-Friday, 11:00am-12:00pm

Goal:

Students will gain a greater understanding of how to explore, discover and decide on a major that is best suited for them, and in doing so, gain a greater appreciation for all majors and career paths.

Course Objectives:

- Given material on potential degree options, students will become familiar with the majors and minors offered at UTA and learn to locate and utilize academic and career informational resources through various active learning assignments.
- Given guidance through various self-assessment tools, students will be able to identify interests, skills, values and personality; plus, evaluate the impact that these factors have on their career and educational decision-making with their results from MyPlan.com and reflective journal assignments.
- Given basic search skills and strategies related to finding internships, employment, volunteer opportunities, or other career relevant experience, students will practice this process of major and career exploration with completion of an informational interview and various assignments.
- Given examples of career paths and planning for a variety of majors, students will learn to plan for self-determined goals by declaring a major within the state permitted time frame (by 45 credit hours).

Materials:

Being an online course, the following functions and tools are required:

- Reliable internet connection
- Webcam – Audio capable
- Adobe Flash viewer and Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Microsoft PowerPoint and Word
- Digital Camera/Video Recorder – a phone camera will suffice for projects

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Classroom Participation Policy

Research shows that class attendance and participation is an essential part of academic success, and therefore, you should be an active participant in this online course. **Because this is a 10 week course, active participation is required and will be checked.**

Each student is expected to keep up with course assignments, readings, and to participate in group discussions. An attitude of cooperation, a willingness to contribute ideas and experiences, and openness to new concepts and theories will enhance your collegiate experience. College level behavior and courteousness are expected from each student.

Assignments & Grading Policy

- All assignments are graded on a Pass/Fail basis.
- Assignments must be posted no later than 11:59pm on due date. Late assignments are not accepted.
- No grades will be discussed until at least 24 hours after the grades have been listed on Blackboard.
- Any student wishing to contest a grade must write a memo explaining the objection.
- Consult instructor for more information on any missed assignments due to extraneous circumstances.

Major Assignments: There are two major components of this course: MyPlan.com assignments and the Informational Interview assignment. Failure to complete these assignments in full will result in a failing grade for the course.

Readings: There is not a book assigned for this course, but links to articles, blogs, and other short readings will be provided. Discussions based on these readings will count toward your participation grade.

Reflection Questions: Guest Speaker Videos will be available for viewing during certain weeks throughout the semester. You will be required to participate in the Discussion Board on Blackboard in a timely manner. Due dates are posted on Blackboard.

Papers: Any papers assigned for homework must be typed, 12 font and double spaced with name, student ID, date and title of assignment.

Participation: Students are required to log in on Blackboard at least twice a week to view new content, turn in assignments, participate in discussions, etc. Due dates are listed on the syllabus and students will receive email announcements when new content is available.

Total Grade=

50% Assignments

50% Participation

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

At UT Arlington, academic dishonesty is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated in any form, including (but not limited to) "cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2). Suspected violations of academic integrity standards (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), contact the Maverick Resource Hotline by calling 817-272-6107, sending a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS) about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the SFS system will be sent directly to students through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; student participation in the SFS program is voluntary.

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Class Schedule: Spring 2014 – Subject to Change

Date	Subject	Homework
Monday, January 13, 2014	Introduction and Information	Pre-Major Exploration Survey – Due 1/15/14
Wednesday, January 15, 2014	Wandering and Exploration Presentation Available	Scavenger Hunt – Due 1/22/14 Work on Wandering Map – Due 1/18/14
Tuesday, January 21, 2014	Majors at UTA video (part 1) – Watch Video	Answer Part 1 Questions from Major Exploration video on Blackboard - Due 1/23/14
Thursday, January 23, 2014	Majors at UTA video (part 2) - Watch	Answer Part 2 Questions from Major Exploration video on Blackboard – Due 1/27/14
Monday, January 27, 2014	Guest Speaker Videos	Complete Journal Entry on Blackboard - Due 1/31/14
Wednesday, January 29, 2014	An Introduction to Career Assessments on MyPlan Instruction – Watch Video	Take Personality & Interest Tests & Complete questions on Blackboard- Due 2/5/14
Monday, February 3, 2014	Personality and Interests – Online Activity	Take Skills & Values Tests & complete questions on Blackboard – Due 2/7/14
Wednesday, February 5, 2014	Guest Speaker Videos	Complete Journal Entry on Blackboard – Due 2/7/14
Monday, February 10, 2014	Skills and Values – Online Activity	Complete questions on Blackboard – Due 2/12/14
Wednesday, February 12, 2014	MyPlan: Overview and Discussion	Log onto Blackboard and contribute to discussion – Guidelines on Blackboard
Monday, February 17, 2014	Guest Speaker Videos	Complete Journal Entry on Blackboard – Due 2/21/14
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19	SPRING 2014 JOB FAIR 10:00am - 3:00pm Maverick Activities Center	Dress Professionally. Upload Images of 3 Business Cards- Due 2/24/14
Monday, February 24, 2014	Watch Informational Interview video and view examples	Provide Name/Title of Interviewee- Due 3/3/14 Complete Informational Interview- Due 3/17/14
Wednesday, February 26, 2014	Watch Academic Policies and GPA video	Complete GPA/GPD worksheet – Due 3//14
Monday, March 3, 2014	Guest Speaker Videos	Complete Journal Entry on Blackboard – Due 3/7/14
Wednesday, March 5, 2014	The Career Center (Resume Building and Interview Presentation)	Work on Resume – Due 3/19/13
March 10-March 14, 2014	SPRING BREAK – No Class	
Monday, March 17, 2014	Guest Speaker Videos	Complete Journal Entry on Blackboard – Due 3/21/14
Wednesday, March 19, 2014	Watch Class Informational Interviews	Log onto Blackboard and contribute to discussion – Guidelines on Blackboard
Monday, March 24, 2014	Guest Speaker Videos	Complete Journal Entry on Blackboard – Due 3/28/14
Wednesday, March 26, 2014	Watch Graduation & Beyond Video	Complete “My Steps to Success” assignment- Due 3/31/14)