

PROJECT FOR PSYC 2110, PSYCHOLOGY IN THE WORKFORCE
Dr. Gannon

The project for this course will require each student to clarify his or her career goals, research them thoroughly, and articulate them clearly in a short video presentation. Students will also complete a paper (3 pages minimum of content—so that 3 pages does NOT include the required title page and reference pages) discussing the career information found through the research and interview process; this paper will be done in APA format.

Research

- ❑ You should research one career of interest to you (that is broadly related to the field of psychology). Depending upon whether or not you are interested in pursuing graduate education, your career may be a more short-term goal (immediately post B.S. degree) or a more long-term one (some graduate education required).
- ❑ You need to interview one person (not related to you) who is currently working in your career of interest. I understand that, given the current pandemic, you will not be able to shadow anyone nor visit anyone at his or her place of employment; however, many people will still be available to complete a short interview via Facetime, Zoom, phone-call, or similar means. You must PLAN AHEAD and give your interviewee plenty of lead-time. If you absolutely cannot find someone to interview, contact me directly and we will discuss the steps you have taken so far; if you have made a good faith effort and you cannot find an interviewee due to the pandemic (e.g., because your career of interest is in the medical field), then you can complete the project without your interview as a source of research. However, most students in the past have found the interview component to be a very helpful part of the research, so I hope that everyone will do their best to try and find an interviewee. **IMPORTANT:** Your interview should be thought of as one source for your research on your career of interest. This means that you should focus on finding someone doing your career of interest, NOT on finding an interviewee and then trying to figure out what that person's career actually is—don't "work backwards" in this way!
- ❑ Use articles and book chapters found through the PsycInfo database on Galileo, as well as internet sources such as the Occupational Outlook Handbook, to obtain additional information as needed (such as salary info. ranges). See comments under "Paper" section of this document for more details.
- ❑ At minimum, you will want to find information on your chosen career's:
 - Job responsibilities and what a typical day in this job looks like
 - Educational requirements
 - Possible settings in which this career occurs
 - Projected growth of future employment
 - Salary ranges
 - Potential benefits and drawbacks of this career (from your interviewee's perspective and/or your own).

□ *Paper (50 points)*

- Write a 3 pg. (at minimum 3 pgs. of content) paper (**in proper APA format**—meaning it needs citations and a reference page!) summarizing the research on your chosen career and information on your interview, as well as discussing how the project affected your perspectives or plans in regards to your future career (so for that part of the discussion, using 1st person is fine). **DO NOT** write out a transcript of your interview or a description of each question and answer. Summarize the information on the career, weaving the interview information in with the information that you found through articles and web resources. This will be submitted through the Assignments area of D2L by **April 18th**.
- **Information on Career:** At minimum you will want to discuss the basic information you have gathered on the career as described in the Research section above. As a reminder, those minimum components are:
 - Job responsibilities and what a typical day in this job looks like
 - Educational requirements
 - Possible settings in which this career occurs
 - Projected growth of future employment
 - Salary ranges
 - Potential benefits and drawbacks of this career (from your interviewee’s perspective and/or your own).
- **Interviewee:** Since your interviewee is a source of information, you should briefly explain his or her full name, job title, setting in which he or she works, etc.
- **Interest and Career Testing:** Discuss whether you are still interested in pursuing this career, as well as how this career fits with your personality and interests based on the information you got from your **career testing**, as well as your own self-knowledge.
- **Sources:** In addition to your interview, you must use at least 5 sources, **at least 1 of which must be a journal article or book chapter found through the PsycInfo database on Galileo**. Your interview is not listed on the reference page as a source, as personal communications are not put on the References page of a paper. Internet resources can make up the remainder of your sources. You must have a properly formatted Reference page indicating all of the sources you used, as well as proper in-text citations for these sources.

Video Presentation (50 points)

- Create a short (no more than 5 minutes or so) video presentation using any basic video camera; video using your smartphone or the web-cam on your laptop will be fine. This should not be a “produced” video, so the use of editing software is not required; the main point is to try to replicate an in-class speech but in the online environment. If you have not posted a video online before, it is not that difficult to do, but please **DO NOT** wait until the last minute! Inability to overcome technical difficulties is not a valid reason for late submission! The video should be posted on a site that classmates can access, such as

YouTube or Vimeo, **no later than April 18th, and you must E-MAIL me the link to your video!**

- ❑ Prepare for your presentation as you would if you were doing it in the classroom. Use appropriate language (no slang), dress appropriately, and practice prior to making the video. Be sure to record in a setting with a background that isn't too visually distracting and one without noisy interruptions.
- ❑ The video should be a recording of you presenting the information listed below, just as if you were doing a short presentation in class. **It should not be a recording of your interview, and it should not include you reading questions and answers from your interview.** It **should** address similar components to your paper, including:
 1. **Career:** Clearly state which career you will be discussing and briefly explain why you chose to research the career.
 2. **Information on your Interviewee:** Brief summary about your interviewee—who is he/she? Where does he/she work? What is his/her educational background? Etc.
 3. **Information on Career:** At minimum you will want to cover the basic information you have gathered on the career as listed in the Research section above. As a reminder, those minimum components are:
 - Job responsibilities and what a typical day in this job looks like
 - Educational requirements
 - Possible settings in which this career occurs
 - Projected growth of future employment
 - Salary ranges
 - Potential benefits and drawbacks of this career (from your interviewee's perspective and/or your own).
 4. **Interest and Career Testing:** Discuss whether you are still interested in pursuing this career, as well as how this career fits with your personality and interests based on the information you got from your **career testing**, as well as your own self-knowledge.