Program: Pre-College at CET Beijing: International Career Pathways
Course Title: Introduction to International Careers
Course Code: GLBS 125
Total Hours: 45
Recommended Credits: 3
Primary Discipline/Suggested Cross Listings: Global Studies/International Studies, International Business
Language of Instruction: English
Prerequisites/Requirements: None

Description
This course introduces high school students to a wide range of international career opportunities, prompting them to explore their own interests, goals, and values as they pertain to future career paths, and to understand how to develop the skills and experience required to enter these fields. The professional fields covered in the course are tailored to the interests of the student group, and might include diplomacy, business, non-governmental organizations, media, health, law, technology, and education. Skills such as researching careers, informational interviewing, and cross-cultural communication are emphasized, with opportunities to develop and practice both in the classroom and in the Chinese context. Visits to workplaces and onsite sessions at locations throughout the city are an important component of the course.

Objectives
In this course, students:
- Gain knowledge about a variety of international careers
- Identify careers that match their interests and values
- Develop an understanding of the requirements and pathways for a variety of professions
- Practice skills that are critical to planning successful career pathways
- Outline an action plan for pursuing career interests in college and beyond

Course Requirements
Students must complete reading assignments before each class and come prepared to participate actively in class discussions. Readings average 15 to 20 pages per class session. Several off-site lectures and visits are central to the course and attendance is required.

Assignments include:
- Career assessment inventory and 2-3 page paper with summary and analysis of results
- Four 1-2 page reaction papers to site visits
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• Informational interview and report: 2-3 pages
• Work culture analysis: 3-5 page paper on chosen location
• Job sector research report selecting location/sector and review opportunities for international careers: 3-5 pages
• Final project: personal college/career action plan and in-class presentation

Methods of Evaluation
Students are assessed in a variety of ways. The final grade is determined as follows:

• Career inventory/analysis 10%
• Reflection papers (4) 10%
• Informational interview/paper 15%
• Work culture analysis 15%
• Job research report 10%
• Final project 20%
• Class participation 20%

Primary Texts
Berdan, Stacie Nevadomski. Go Global!: Launching an International Career Here or Abroad. SNB Media, LLC., 2011.


Hidden Competences - CIMO. Center for International Mobility,


Supplementary Texts


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Outline of Course Content

Each topic consists of one or two class sessions.

1. Course Overview & Introductions
   a. Career Interest Assessment and Skills Inventory
   b. Holland Code Activities
   c. Personal Learning Goals

2. The Mindful American Abroad: Being Adaptable to Difference

3. Intercultural Awareness through the Power of Story: Elevator Speeches

4. Workplace Culture and Cross-Cultural Communications
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5. Cross-Cultural Communication: Lessons Learned & Cross-Cultural Checklist

6. Researching International Careers/Online Resources
   a. Expat Interviews
   b. International Careers Toolkit

7. Informational Interviewing
   a. Informational Interviewing Video & Role Play
   b. LinkedIn as a Connector and a Tool

8. Resumes and Personal Branding
   a. Personal Brand exercise
   b. Resume Writing
   c. Transferrable Skills

9. Getting Hired
   a. Job Research Report
   b. Cover Letters—the basics
   c. Mock Interviews

10. Volunteering, Internships, and Gap Year

11. Service as an International Career
    a. Peace Corps
    b. Education and non-profits

12. Intercultural Misunderstandings
    a. Hofstede’s Dimensions
    b. Fact, Attitudes and Behaviors activity

    a. Communication types
    b. International IQ

14. The China Perspective
    a. Prepare for excursion
    b. Chinese student career development

15. Developing a Career Action Plan

16. Informational Interviewing

17. Preparing for College
    a. Incorporating study abroad into your college application
    b. How to find a program that supports your overseas career aspirations
    c. How to make the most out of your college experience