GS 1181-F16 (12293) Fall 2019
Career and Major Exploration

Instructor: Paul K. Swets
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Office: Vincent 175

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:00 PM (immediately after class), or by appointment

Course Information

Course Description

This GS 1181 signature course creates a classroom environment where first-year students can interact with faculty and other students regarding topics of shared interest. Signature courses focus on contemporary or interdisciplinary issues while covering an array of topics related to success at the university level.

This class will focus on helping students discover or more completely understand their major and career goals. Using software that identifies students’ values, aptitudes, and aspirations, students will learn what majors and careers are the best “fit,” and they will have a better understanding about the course work and education required to succeed. This course is a great option for students unsure of their major or future career goals. Emphasis will be placed on advancing communication and information literacy skills, along with the transition to success at Angelo State University.
Prerequisite and Corequisite Courses - none

Prerequisite Skills

Students will be expected to be able to access the Blackboard Learning Management System,¹ the Youscience website,² and other internet websites, including ASU library resources and other ASU access sites.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

● locate campus resources to solve problems and answer questions;
● gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a topic (Critical Thinking);
● develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written and oral communication (Communication Skills); and
● better understand their major and career goals.

Course Delivery

This class meets face-to-face on Mondays and Wednesdays from noon until 12:50 PM in MCS 215. The Blackboard Learning Management System will be used extensively for assignments and other course work.

Required Materials

Students will need to access materials on the Youscience website. Students will also need to access Blackboard for additional course materials.

Communication

Please feel welcomed to contact me in person (at class time or during office hours), by phone (942-2470), through Blackboard, or by email³. For asynchronous communication - Blackboard, email or phone messages - I will make every effort to respond within one business day.

¹ https://blackboard.angelo.edu/
² https://app.youscience.com/login
³ mailto:Paul.Swets@angelo.edu
Course Grade

Evaluation and Grades
Course grades will be determined as indicated below.

● Homework and daily grades - 25%
● Career summary - 15%
● Group presentation - 15%
● Reflections - 15%
● Information literacy tutorials - 10%
● Mock interview - 10%
● Student organization research and summary - 10%

Grading System
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements by the assigned deadlines and satisfying the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale will be used

● A - 90% and above
● B - 80% or above but less than 90%
● C - 70% or above but less than 80%
● D - 60% or above but less than 70%
● F - less than 60%

I reserve the right to adjust grades upwards from the indicated ranges.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Homework and daily grades
Class periods may include an activity which will result in a grade. Students who are absent will not be able to make up these grades. We will also have regular out-of-class assignments, with assignments and due dates posted to Blackboard. Late work for these assignments is accepted only for cause, evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Homework and daily grades will together account for 25% of the course grade.

Career summary
Students will research and prepare a summary of a potential career, based on the feedback from the YouScience software and informed by
class discussions. This career summary will account for 15% of the course grade.

**Group presentation**
Students will be formed into groups and prepare a career exploration presentation for the class. The presentations will take place the last week of class. This group presentation will account for 15% of the course grade.

**Reflections**
Students will submit a series of reflections based on course activities, including career goals and the YouScience software results. These reflections will collectively account for 15% of the course grade.

**Information literacy tutorials**
Students will watch a series of twelve brief (about three minutes each, just under 38 minutes in total) information literacy video tutorials produced by the library. Each tutorial is followed by a brief quiz over the material. The quizzes from these tutorials will collectively account for 10% of the course grade.

**Mock interview**
Students will identify and research a potential career, based on the results of class discussions and the YouScience software. Then students will prepare interview questions relevant to that career, and participate in a brief mock interview. The mock interview will account for 10% of the course grade.

**Student organization research and summary**
Each student will research student organizations in which they might be interested. Students will attend one meeting of a student organization, and briefly summarize the meeting. The research into and summary of student organizations will account for 10% of the course grade.

**General Policies Related to this Course**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents.

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](http://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s [Statement of Academic Integrity](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php).

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/). The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

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6 [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php)  
7 [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures\(^8\) for more information.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day\(^9\) for more information.

Title IX Statement

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online incident form\(^{10}\)

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

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\(^8\) [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)

\(^9\) [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)

\(^{10}\) [http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)
Phone: 325-942-2022
E-Mail\textsuperscript{11} the Title IX office

\textit{Note: faculty members at Angelo State are mandatory reporters and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).}

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit the Title IX office website.\textsuperscript{12}

Course Schedule
This is a tentative course schedule, subject to change. Current activities, assignments, and due dates will always be available on the class Blackboard site.

- Week 1, 26 - 31 August: Introduction and orientation
- Weeks 2 - 3, 1 - 14 September: YouScience
- Weeks 4 - 5, 15 - 28 September: Summarization
- Weeks 6 - 7, 29 September - 12 October: Research
- Week 8, 13 - 16 October: Group Presentations

\textsuperscript{11} mailto:michelle.boone@angelo.edu
\textsuperscript{12} http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix