Career Research and Report
Throughout COUN 100, you will participate in activities and assignments requiring you to think about your own identity, your role in society, college student experience, and how your talents, interests, personality and values can lead you to academic and career success. Using your experiences in COUN 100, as a guide, and incorporating the various learning modules of the course, you will develop a career research project.

1. Career Research Project

A. Choose an occupation you would like to research in depth.

B. Conduct an interview with a person from your prospective occupation using the questions provided in the Informational Interview Worksheet (located on Cougar Courses). You will get a better feel for what the career is really like and learn things you will not find on the internet.

C. Conduct research on the occupation. Write a three-page paper summarizing the information you researched and learned about the occupation. Include information such as:
   - Education and training needed
   - Salary range
   - Skills needed
   - Experience desired for entry level positions
   - Tasks and responsibilities for the job
   - Opportunities for advancement
   - Professional organizations relevant for this occupation
   - Resources and additional websites to learn more information
   - Information learned during the informational interview

D. Within the report, include summary paragraphs explaining if the occupation would be a good fit for you in regards to what you have learned about yourself during COUN 100. Discuss your assessment results from ACES, Type Focus, VARK, and the Values Card Sort we did in class. Include personal and academic strengths, motivations, support people, other relationships and resources that might assist you with obtaining this occupation. Specific details are important.

E. In addition, discuss and address barriers that might keep you from reaching this occupational goal. Include personal traits, fears, academic challenges, distractions, and other life events that you may need to overcome to pursue this occupation.

F. Wrap-up the report by describing YOUR next steps to pursuing this occupation, i.e., research and learn more, get an internship or part-time job for experience, start over in identifying and researching a new, more ideal occupation. Be specific.
Helpful websites to use while writing your paper:

- ONET: [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)
- What Can I Do With This Major?: [http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/](http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/)
- APA Format -- Online Writing Lab at Purdue: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)

Librarians will also be able to help you with additional resources. Be sure to ask for help!

Your career research report will be written using formal APA format and will need to be a Minimum of three pages (not including your title page and reverences page). Upload your Research Paper and Informational Interview Worksheet by December 4 at 11:59pm.

2. Class Presentation

In class, you will share/present your journey this semester with your peers in the MANA cohort. Reflect on your experiences to identify: What stands out the most? What was most challenging? Explain

Describe your academic major and career development. How has your decision about your major progressed or (or not). If you are unsure, what information do you need to make the decision?

What advice would you offer future students in the MANA program knowing what you know now and that you are completing your first semester of college? Share what you plan on taking in the Spring and why.

Final Project Grading Rubric 100 Points Total

(10) Formatting
APA Format
Times New Roman, 12 Point, Double Spaced, 1 “margins, appropriate headings
Title Page
Reference Page

(70) The Research Paper
All questions covered in prompt in complete manner, including the informational interview (30)
Site at least three reliable references (20)
Spelling, grammar, proofreading, thoroughness, organization of information (10)
Three pages minimum (10)

(20) Class Presentation
Describe all the points from Class Presentation prompt (10)
Creativity (5)
Length 3-5 minutes