City University of New York (CUNY)

CUNY Academic Works

2017

Exploring Careers and Industry Problems [Library]

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ECF 090 - Engineering and Computer Science
Activity: "Exploring Careers and Industry Problems"
Location: Computer Lab or Smart Classroom

Learning Outcomes
Students will be introduced to the concept of library academic resources.
Students will learn the strengths and weaknesses of different forms of information.

Introduction
This session will give students the chance to develop integrative learning skills by connecting their prospective field with academic research.

Frames	Core Competencies
Research as Inquiry	Global Learning
	Integrative Learning

1. After an introduction to the Library website and general information about Library services, students will watch Libraries in the Internet Age (2:39) (beyond books, focus on choosing - not finding - information) (6 minutes)

2. Students will discuss the following; students' responses will guide conversations about what the library can offer. (10 minutes)
   a. Why do students need libraries?
   b. What can college students find in a library?
   c. What is the difference between information found on Google versus the Library?

3. Introduce the list of Library databases (Visible and Invisible Web).
   Overview of *The New York Times* subscription.
   Depending on the classroom (lab or smart), students will take notes or register for *The New York Times.* (10 minutes)

4. Overview of the "Science" and "Technology" sections search on *The New York Times* website, as well as the "Search" box. (4 minute)

5. Depending on the classroom (lab or smart), students will search for an article related to their career aspirations, or read an article from the "Technology" section of *The New York Times* provided by the Librarian. Students should then discuss the implications of the article for their chosen field. Discussion can address:
   a. What kind of research should college students do before choosing a career?
   b. What advances in technology are important right now?
   c. How can engineering change the lives of average people?
   d. What ethical questions are related to computer science? (15 minutes)

6. Introduce the Library "Career Research Guide." Distribute printout of the Library Career Guide (http://guides.laguardia.edu/career). Students will learn to search for career information using *Ferguson's Career Guidance Center.* (5 minutes)

7. Introduce the *Occupational Outlook Handbook.* Students will repeat their career search with an awareness of the differences between two sources. (5 minutes)
    a. *Ferguson's* is compiled and published by a private organization; *Occupational Outlook Handbook* is a US government publication;
    b. *Ferguson's* provides information on planning for college or another educational path; *Occupational Outlook Handbook* includes an outlook for the future of a career;
    c. *Ferguson's* has jobs and internships postings;
    d. *Occupational Outlook Handbook* has information on salaries, etc.

(Optional) Homework / ePortfolio Assignment

Search the "Technology" section of The New York Times for a short article that is relevant to your career aspirations. In a reflection of 150-200 words, answer the following:
1. What is the article about?
2. How does this article relate to your chosen career?
3. How does this article fit into your expectations about your chosen career?
    a. What should a college student know before choosing a career?
    b. Did you learn something new about the scope of your career?
    c. Did the article leave you with a positive or negative feeling about your field?