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# Choosing Your Career

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## Choosing Your Career

### Abstract

One of the major components of the First Year Seminar in Natural Sciences (NSF101) is to introduce students to library research. The library orientation session exposes students to library resources such as books, videos, journals, databases. The “Choosing Your Career” assignment reinforces using the library by searching for information on a career, retrieving sources from select databases and evaluating the information found in a written reflection. Reflection questions are added to guide the student in their search and their approach to their career choice.

The goal is to integrate library literacy as part of their developing college learning skills. This assignment effectively introduces information literacy as the ability to find and use information and critically think about the information found when deciding on a career path.

This assignment consists of the following;

- 90-minute library orientation session (one lecture session)
- followed up by library research (students’ time)
- initial draft (hard copy for instructor comments)
- written revision (students’ time)
- a final written 1500-word research reflection. (deposited on student ePortfolio)

### Objectives

1. Identify one science profession that interests you
2. Research the profession using library resources
3. Write a 1500-word reflection including the questions posed

### Procedure

1. We will spend 2 weeks exploring different science careers. During the first week we will attend the library session, where you will become familiar with and learn many useful internet tools and research resources available to you. During the second week you will choose a profession that interests you and research that specialty. It is important that you be able to think critically about the educational requirements, the time commitment and what skills you need to succeed with your plan. Below are some suggestions, **feel free to choose others** not on the list;

Allergist/immunologist	Audiology/speech pathologist
Anesthesiologist	Cardiovascular technologist
Cardiologist	Clinical laboratory scientist
Dentist	Counselor marriage and family Counselor, mental
Dermatologist	Health counselor, school counselor
Emergency physician	Dental hygienist
Family Practitioner	Dietitian/nutritionist
Internist	Emergency medical technician—Paramedic
Neurologist	Health information administrator
Obstetrician/Gynecologist	Medical assistant
Ophthalmologist	Forensic Investigator
Optometrist	Occupational therapist
Orthopedic surgeon	Physician assistant
Pathologist	Physical therapist
Pediatrician	Radiation therapist
Physical medicine & rehabilitation (sports medicine)	Rehabilitation counselor
Podiatrist	Respiratory therapist
Psychiatrist	Surgical technologist
Radiologist	Veterinarian
Surgeon	Pharmacist
Urologist	Marine Biologist
Geologist	

## Rubric

The following 50-point rubric will be used to evaluate how well you researched your selected healthcare profession and how well you wrote your reflection:

- **Fifty to forty points:** You collected data on the profession, analyzed that data within the larger frame work of your life and skills. You are giving yourself an educational direction for where you need to go. The reflection is well-written and informative and includes all the questions.
- **Forty to thirty points:** You collected some data or an adequate amount of information. You did not include all the questions in the reflection and left out three major points.
- **Thirty to twenty points:** You collected some data and left out 5 major points.
- **Ten or less points:** You collected a minimum amount of data on your chosen profession. You included 1 or 2 of the reflection questions.

## Reflection Questions

- What is the primary goal of the profession you chose?
- How many years of education do you need to graduate in this field? Include an education timeline.
- Would this be an appropriate field for you to pursue? Keep in mind the educational commitment and time commitment factors
- What skills do you have that will help you be a success in this field?
- When deciding on a career path, what are some of the more important aspects of the job you should consider?
- What would a day in this profession be like?
- Describe one ethical issue in this field
- After researching your initial profession are you still interested in that career path. Why or why not?

Adapted from assignments by: [Joy Brewster, freelance writer and editor of educational material in consultation with Nancy Hudson, health education consultant.](#) at <http://www.discoveryeducation.com/teachers/free-lesson-plans/careers-in-health.cfm>