

JANUARY TERM 2008

CAREERS IN SCIENCE

A. Course Identification

Program Code & Course Number: CHE 105

Course Title: Careers in Science

Meeting Days, Times & Location: 9-12 M-F however 5 days are planned to be extended. Jan 9th and 11th will be 8:30a-1:00p, Jan 16th 7:30a-6:00p, Jan 18th 5:30a-11:00p, Jan 21st 9:00a-4:00p

Dates when students will be off campus: We will be at local off campus sites Jan 9 and 11 and out of Dubuque Jan 16 to Iowa City and Jan 18 to Des Moines

Prerequisite(s) (courses, permission of instructor, etc.): None

Course Fee: travel fee of \$100

B. Instructor Information

Name: David Speckhard

Office Number and Location: room 106 SCIE

Office Phone Number/Extension: 563-588-7133

E-mail address: david.speckhard@loras.edu

The Best Way to Reach Me Outside of Class Time: Call office, email, call 563-583-5069

C. Course Materials and Resources

Books: Mountains Beyond Mountains, Tracy Kidder, **ISBN:** (0-375-50616-0) (2003)

The Golden Helix, Arthur Kornberg ISBN 0-935702-32-6 (1995)

What should I do with my life, Po Bronson ISBN 0-37550749-3 (2002)

Websites: Occupational Outlook Handbook <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

Science Jobs .com <http://www.sciencejobs.com/splash.action>

Monster.com <http://www.monster.com/>

Choices program at Loras CEL web site

Rubrics posted on elearn: resume, cover letter, reflection, interviewing, career report, biography report, 4 year plan, participation

D. Course Objectives

Explore multiple career options.

Experience career and career preparation environments

Develop skills in searching career related information sources

Identify critical skills, motivating factors, and dispositions needed for particular careers and general life situations

E. Learning Outcomes, Assessment, and Grading

Learning outcomes and assessment:

1. be able to use reference, personal, and online resources to investigate career options and potential employment opportunities This will be assessed in the three career reports. It is also assessed in the questions asked of the visiting professionals and on the 7 tours.
2. be able to evaluate personal skills and strengths and match them to career requirements This will be assessed in the reflections of the career reports and site visits as well as the final reflection.
3. be able to evaluate skills, motivating factors, and aptitudes necessary for various careers as well as potential rewards and challenges in the careers Assessed in the career reports, reflections, questions of professionals, and biographies.
4. be able to prepare a resume and a cover letter
5. be able to prepare for an interview with online and personal resources Assessed by the quality of questions for professionals and in the performance on the mock interview.
6. be able to identify skill building experiences, classes, and service opportunities needed for science careers Assessed in the 4 year/10year plan and the model resume, as well as the questions for professionals and mock interviews

Assignments and grades

Reflection on Choices and Aptitude testing	5 points
4 reflections on site visits (10 each)	40
Summary reflection on course	20
Performance as interviewee (oral)	20
Performance as interviewer (oral)	20
Resume and cover letter for mock interview	20
Biography reports on MBM and GH	20
Biography report on student selected biography	15
Reports on career options (3 oral & written reports)	30
4yr/10yr plan	20
Participation in class (15 class days)	30
Questions for professionals (written)	<u>10</u>
Total points	250

Grading scale A= 225, B= 200, C= 175, D= 150

F. Course Policies

Policies: Attendance is expected at all class sessions. On 13 of 15 class days we will have experiences that are very difficult to make up, including off campus trips, presentations by invited speakers (7 from off campus), and class events like mock interviews and oral reports.

Participation points will be lost for any absence and will be prorated for early departures and tardy arrivals. Excused absences will permit students to make up written and oral assignments.

Unexcused absences will permit students to make up written assignments only. Late assignments will lose 20% credit per day. All work is due by January 24th unless the student can justify an incomplete for the course.

The College Policy on Absences Related to College Recognized Activity

The heart of Loras College is its academic program. Class attendance is expected to take priority over other College activities. Any absence, regardless of the reason, will prevent the student from getting the full benefit from a course. Occasionally, during a semester other College sponsored events conflict with scheduled classes or required course activities. College sponsored events covered by this policy include: intercollegiate athletic competitions, theater and choral performances, and debate. This policy does not cover the following types of activities: course field trips, practice for any college sponsored event, or academic/co-curricular conferences.

This policy is intended to alleviate potential conflict that may place the student in the middle of choosing between attending two required events. The policy is clear about responsibilities and the processes to be followed. However, should a situation arise in which any student, instructor, coach or moderator believes that this policy is being violated, he/she should contact any one of the following individuals: the Athletic Director, the Assistant Vice President for Student Life, or the Faculty chair of the faculty Senate. These three individuals will meet as necessary to hear and rule on all alleged violations.

Students

1. Submit a copy of your team/organization's schedule to your instructors no later than the first week of class with all specific course conflicts highlighted.
2. Through oral and email notification, communicate with your instructor(s) at least one class prior to each class that you are scheduled to miss to coordinate how you will make up and turn in missed work. Your course syllabus may require greater advance notice of a pending absence. You are expected to make up coursework missed (or an appropriate equivalent) by the original due date.
3. Forward all relevant changes to the schedule to your instructors as soon as you are notified.
4. Submit all course syllabi and schedule of course commitments to coach/moderator as soon as possible.
5. It is a privilege to participate in college sponsored events. Students found to be intentionally abusing this policy will lose the opportunity to participate in college sponsored events.

Instructors

1. Distribute or post a course syllabus by the end of the second day of class that includes:
 - o Dates for all required course events (both in and out of classroom);
 - o Attendance policy and consequences for missed classes when they are not due to a college sponsored event;
 - o Policy on work, quizzes, exams, labs or presentations missed due to participation in a college sponsored event;
 - o Due dates for major assignments, exams and presentations.
2. Review course conflicts submitted by students. When a student submits more absences than the instructor deems acceptable, the instructor must communicate with the student and his/her moderator/coach within the first two weeks of class that it is not advisable for the student to take the course that semester. If the student must take the course at this time, then the student, instructor and moderator/coach should meet to identify whether a schedule of commitments can be determined that can support the student's success in both endeavors.
3. In some courses it is possible that there are days when students simply cannot make up the work and their success in the course demands that they be in class on these days. These non-replicable, high-stakes course activities must be clearly articulated in the syllabus and verbalized to students during the first week of classes. In these few instances, students can be penalized for missing class due to a college sponsored event.

Absences not due to Loras Sponsored Events or medical advice will be unexcused

Laptop usage in class is permitted, but inappropriate use will be treated as an early departure and the participation grade for the day will be reduced.

Expectations for Student Conduct Off Campus

Loras College students participating in January term courses are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the policies and guidelines put forth in the student handbook.

Academic Dishonesty

We will follow the College Policy on Academic Honesty.

Learning Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic adjustments for this class, please contact the Learning Disabilities Center at 7134 and make an appointment with a staff member to review your documentation and to determine appropriate, reasonable accommodations. Following the meeting, please make an appointment with me to discuss

your accommodation request in light of the course requirements. You may self-disclose and request an academic adjustment any time during the semester. However, I strongly recommend that you do so as soon as possible because accommodations are not provided retroactively and adequate lead-time is required.

Counseling Center

Counseling: Having problems with classes, life love or whatever? Call 588-7085 for an appointment or visit <http://inside.loras.edu/sites/counseling/default.aspx> for more information. **When should you seek counseling?** Often students enter the counseling process by saying, "I don't know if I really need to be here, but ..." Here are some of the reasons that people come to counseling:

We work with students who are having problems with school, from specific problems such as difficulty with certain types of classes to lack of motivation; insecurity about what to choose for a career; difficulties with college life, such as conflict with roommates, feeling lonely or having trouble "fitting in"; problems with romantic relationships or questions concerning sexuality; troubles at home that cause stress at school; as well as more common emotional issues like feeling tense, stressed, anxious, irritable, or depressed. We help students who are having current difficulties because of past problems like sexual or physical abuse or incest. We also help with students who are concerned about alcohol or drug use, dealing with eating problems, are experiencing difficulty grieving about a loss or are dealing with a crisis in their lives such as experiencing sexual harassment or other kinds of discrimination.

G. Course Calendar

There will be some e-mail discussions prior to the beginning of this class. There are no activities expected after January 23rd. We will have at least one voluntary class social event possibly scheduled for an evening or Saturday.

Thur	1/3	9-12	presentations from CEL, ARC, Counseling Center
Fri	1/4	9-12	Oral report and written report on career option 1 due
Mon	1/7	9-12	oral and written report on option 2, written biography report due
Tue	1/8	9-12	Questions for guests, oral and written report of option 3, 2 quest speakers
Wed	1/9	8:30-1	Site visits 1 and 2 Discussion of visits
Thur	1/10	9-12	Questions for guests, reflection due, presentations Writing and 2 guests
Fri	1/11	8:30-1	Site visits 3 and 4 Discussion of visits
Mon	1/14	9-12	biography 2 due, reflection of site visit due, CEL, and MLK speaker
Tue	1/15	9-12	Questions for guests presentations by three speakers,
Wed	1/16	7-6	Site visit to Iowa City Discussion of visit
Thu	1/17	9-12	reflection due, presentation by writing center, interviewer practice
Fri	1/18	5:30a-11p	site visit to Des Moines
Mon	1/21	9-4	biography report 3, reflection on visit, practice interviews in afternoon
Tues	1/22	9-12	cover letter and resume due appointments with me to view practice tape
Wed	1/23	9-12	Mock interviews Final reflection/evaluation

H. Disclaimer

This Syllabus is subject to change. We will try to shape some of the experiences toward careers of special interest to class participants. All changes will be posted to the class e-learn site and announced in class. Given the intense level of activity in this class, it is advisable to check for updates on class activities frequently.

I. Additional information

We will have presentations from 7 off campus guest speakers as part of the course. These include: two quality control chemists, a technical sales representative, a science text book editor, a pharmacist, a veterinarian, and a physician. We will tour 5 work sites including: Flint Hills Resources lab, Rentech lab and plant, a veterinary clinic, a hospital, the University of Iowa Pharmacy College labs and plant, Iowa DNA Technology lab and plant, Des Moines University medical school.

Students will complete a personality inventory and initially explore career options through the Choices program. More intensive career exploration will occur in the preparation and sharing of three career reports.

Students will examine the skills, abilities, aptitudes, and experiences that lead to success in their chosen careers and will be able to prepare a 4 year plan that will incorporate them into their time at Loras College.