

CAREER EXPLORATION ASSIGNMENT

Using provided online resources, student identifies 5 to 10 career paths which could potentially exist for his/her selected field of study. Student is expected to submit a list of the 5 to 10 identified career paths as well as a two-page essay comparing and contrasting two of the paths in relation to the student's interests, skills, and values (citing resources used).

NOTE: For an optional assignment add-on, have student complete the Occupational Research Worksheet.

Assignment learning goals:

1. Student will demonstrate a broader understanding of potential career paths emerging from his/her selected field of study
2. Student will analyze and describe the degree of alignment of two career paths to his/her own skills, interests, and values
3. Student will build skills in navigating at least three online career resources and document their use

Resources for student use:

- ***What Can I Do With This Major?***
Accessed from the Career & Co-op Center website: uml.edu/whatcanido
- ***Focus 2***
Accessed from the Career & Co-op Center website: uml.edu/focus2
- ***O*Net*** - Accessed at: onetonline.org
- ***Handshake (Using Job Search function; search for jobs by selected major)*** Accessed using a student's single sign-on credentials at: uml.joinhandshake.com
- ***Massachusetts Career Information System (MassCIS)***
<https://masscis.intocareers.org>

Essay prompts:

1. Of all the career paths you've discovered, which **two** paths are you most interested in learning more about at this time?
2. What are the major similarities and differences in these two career paths?
3. Of the two career paths you've researched in more depth, which one appears to be a better match for your **interests**? Explain.
4. Of the two career paths you've researched in more depth, which one appears to be a better match for your **skills**? Explain.
5. Of the two career paths you've researched in more depth, which one appears to be a better match for your **values** (what you find most important in life)? Explain.

Additional Career & Co-op Center resources for faculty and/or student use:

- [MassCIS Guide](#) (pdf)