

For the past couple of weeks, we have been exploring various aspects of choosing a college major and a possible career. For this essay, I want you to think about what the priorities are when it comes to selecting a career path. What do you think is most important, based on what you've read and what you believe. You will be using some of the articles we have read in class to *synthesize*, or incorporate, the ideas of others to help support your own ideas.

Writing Prompt:

We have read several articles in class related to college success and career decision-making. In this 3–4-page essay (800-1000 words), you will propose and defend what should be the highest priorities for students deciding about careers. Choose 2-3 of the articles we have read in class to build your case:

- ["Becoming a Confident College Student,"](#) John Otis
- ["Is College Worth It?"](#) David Leonhardt
- ["What It's Like to Graduate from College with the Lowest-Paying Major?"](#) Danielle Paquette
- ["Six Reasons Why Your College Major Doesn't Matter,"](#) Ashley Stahl
- ["Want to Do What You Love and Get Paid for It?"](#) Christopher Ingraham
- [Career Earning by College Major, The Hamilton Project](#)

In this essay, be sure to provide appropriate citations for any words you quote, paraphrase, or summarize from the texts you read and include a works cited list at the end of your essay. The works cited page is not included in your overall page count for the assignment. MLA Documentation will be covered in class.

Prewriting/Drafting:

The following suggestions may be incorporated into in-class activities or shorter, low-stakes writing assignments over the next few weeks. These will help you with initial parts of the writing process:

- List what you think are the 10 most important things students need to consider when deciding on a career
- For each of the ten items, you will explain the following:
 - why it is important
 - strategies on how to execute it
- Locate at least 2 relevant quotes per chosen article that will support your point of view or that you wish to respond to
- Make an outline or a chart to help organize your ideas (see ideas on Canvas)

Due Dates: (prior to class meeting)

- **Sept. 13:** prewriting exercises
- **Sept. 15:** Working thesis statement and outline/chart
- **Sept. 22:** Rough draft for instructor review
- **Sept. 29:** Peer review workshop
- **Oct. 6:** Final Revised draft