Choosing a Major
UI100 Portfolio Project

Overview:
Over the course of the semester, you will be performing an investigation of the following research question: Is ______________ the right major for me?

The project will engage our three primary University Studies objectives: Locate & Gather Information; Critical Thinking; and Communication. This project will entail planning, information gathering, and interviewing prior to writing the project narrative.

This project is worth 100 points.

Portfolio Requirements:
On November 15th, you will submit a project folder containing the following:

1. A one-to-two page write-up of your experience with the first ten modules in FOCUS (CL001). Did you feel your FOCUS results were an accurate reflection of how you like to spend your time? Why or why not? Share with me some of the occupations FOCUS suggested for you. Were any of these occupations you might consider? Why or why not? (10 points)

2. A one page summary of an interview with a faculty member who teaches in the degree program you are investigating OR an interview with someone in the field you are considering. Ideally you will meet in-person; however, phone calls or e-mail interviews are permitted. If you choose to interview someone over the phone or in-person, please send them a list of optional dates to choose from. Make sure you follow-up your meeting with a thank you note. Allow yourself plenty of time to complete this portion of the assignment. (10 points)

3. A copy of the departmental “Academic Guide” which describes all of the requirements of the degree program you are researching. (5 points)

4. An “8-Semester Comprehensive Degree Plan” listing semester-by-semester beginning with fall 2014, all of the courses you would take to satisfy University Studies, Major, and Minor requirements, as well as all of the elective courses you would take if you declared your selected major. Be sure to check for course prerequisites. Use DegreeWorks (including the What If feature if you are currently an Exploratory student or want to see what happens if you change majors), University Bulletin and the departmental Academic Guide. (10 points)
5. A Spring 2015 Semester Plan, complete with two or three alternative course selections. Use the Spring 2015 semester schedule available online along with DegreeWorks. (5 points)

6. A Projective Narrative that consists of a 3-4 page paper where you provide your well-reasoned and informed answers to the following questions concerning your chosen degree program (60 points):
   a. Can I do this?
      i. Am I willing and able to fulfill all of this degree’s requirements? Do I understand and accept the demands of this degree program and in terms of courses, entrance requirements, teaching methodologies, necessary physical and economic resources, intellectual and technological skills, and internship requirements? Can I perform this work well enough to satisfy the program and myself? What particular sacrifices and challenges will I face completing this degree program?

   b. Will I benefit from this after graduation?
      i. After I complete this degree, what careers will I be prepared to pursue? Will desirable jobs be available to me when I graduate? Will I need to earned advanced degrees or professional certificates? Do these degree-related careers appeal to me, in terms of my abilities, values, and personality? Could I have an acceptable level of income, stability, and status in these careers? Why, exactly, do I want to pursue this future for myself?

   c. Will it please me while I am here?
      i. While I am here at Southeast, will this course of study keep my interest and satisfy me intellectually and personally? Does this program make good use of my talents and energy? What are those talents? Why is it a particularly good match for my gifts and personality? Why, exactly, do I want to study in this academic field? Am I following my own interests in this choice, or am I majoring in this program in order to please other people? Will pursuing this major help make me proud of and happy with myself? What makes me think I will enjoy this work?

Other Requirements:
Each written portion should be written using MLA style formatting including double-spaced, one-inch margins and a Times New Roman, 12 point font.

All folders are due in class on November 15th. Any late folders will automatically have 25 points deducted from the overall score.