LFS 496 | Career Placement in Land and Food Systems

W2019 Term 2
(both First Time Students and Returning Students)

First Monthly Mondays, 10:00-12:00, 350 Macmillan Building
(See schedule below for specific dates)

Course Instructor (manages course curriculum)
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Course Designer
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Course Description
The pursuit of a degree is a meaningful experience for many students, ripe with moments to learn about who you are, what matters to you, and how you want to contribute to the world. In the 2014 Gallup-Purdue Index study, over 30,000 graduates reported that their academic success contributed to the likelihood of their career success. The odds of being engaged at work after completing their degree were two times higher for students who completed an experience that applied their classroom learning in a work setting (Gallup, 2014). A career placement is an excellent opportunity to augment what you have learned about the food system through your course work to date and expand on how those theories, approaches, and frameworks apply in a work setting. However, learning through experience is not inevitable. In order to maximize the opportunity, this course has been created to support and scaffold your learning to strengthen your career development. It will apply the principles of Design Thinking and the Designing Your Life framework (Burnett and Evans, 2016) to explore your values, interests, skills, strengths and future career aspirations. Consider your placement as a prototyping-experience (the 4th step in the DYL process), where you can test, try, and evaluate one example of work within the food system. By introducing you to tools and strategies for designing and enhancing your placement (1st time students), and life after (returning students), you will strengthen your agency towards the pursuit of meaningful work and a joyful good life.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of your placement, students will be able to:

• Apply the methods and principles of Design Your Life (Burnett and Evans, 2016) to:
  • Empathize, define, ideate, prototype, and test current goals to build a meaningful career experience.
• Reflect and articulate the skills learned, values enacted, and strengths applied throughout their career placement.
• Connect with peers, community partners, and the world of work to enhance their professional imagination.
• Relate and describe their career experience to a prototype of future career paths.
For Returning Students, the addition of:

• Create and present three possible life designs for future steps beyond LFS 496.
• Fully apply the DYL framework beyond a career context to your life, in all its dimensions;
  • Empathize, define, ideate, prototype, and test current goals to build a meaningful life plan.

Required Readings


Strongly encouraged reading:

Grade Policy
This is a graded course based on Assignments (20%) and Career Placement Assessments (80%). The assignments are ungraded but will have comments added and marked as Completed once submitted. Each assignment will be worth an equal proportion of the 20%. Career Placement assessments (formative at 6 weeks and summative at end of placement) completed by the Career Placement Supervisors will comprise the remainder of the grade.

Assignments
Assignments are intended to expose you to different perspectives and expand your understanding of what meaningful work can be. The assignments are designed so that you can complete them with little time if you are only interested in a cursory exposure to the Designing Your Life framework. However, they are also sufficiently robust to allow you a deep dive into the topic if you choose and have the time to devote to it. No significant amount of time should be taken from your career placement to complete these assignments.

Please note: You are to only complete the assignments associated with whether this is your 1st or 2nd placement. All assignments are posted on Canvas so it is upon you to complete the correct set.

For First Time Students:
To receive credit for this course, you will need to complete the following:
1) Agreed upon number of hours at your career placement
2) Tasks, projects, and goals determined by you and your placement supervisor (i.e., Workplan)
3) Canvas assignments:
   o Time log
   o Assignments
     ▪ Empathize - Prepare your Work Plan
     ▪ Empathize - Finalize your Work Plan
     ▪ Define Your Career Placement
     ▪ Ideate Your Career Placement
     ▪ Prototype Your Career Placement
     ▪ Test Your Career Placement
     ▪ Career Placement Feedback (required for final grade submission)
4) Final Presentation: Test Your Career Placement

For Returning Students
To receive credit for this course, you will need to complete the following:
1) Agreed upon number of hours at your career placement
2) Tasks, projects, and goals determined by you and your Career Placement supervisor (i.e., Workplan)

3) Canvas assignments:
   - Updated Work Plan
   - Empathize Your Life Design
   - Define Your Life Design
   - Ideate Your Life Design
   - Prototype Your Life Design
   - Test Your Life Design
   - Career Placement Feedback (required for final grade submission)

4) Final Presentation: Test Your Life Design

**Monthly Meetings:**
I have scheduled monthly 2-hour workshops where we will work through activities designed to connect you to the design process. Attending these sessions will significantly help you in understanding and connecting with the Designing Your Career Placement/Life framework.

**Student Contract**
I commit to…
- Accept where I am and to consider: Problem finding + problem solving = well-designed life.
- Assume a beginner’s mindset.
- Put aside past experiences in order to stay curious to other points of view.
- Question everything – even the things I think I already understand.
- Be truly curious in both familiar and unfamiliar contexts.
- Find patterns that occur across and within environments.
- Listen…really listen. [NB: What and how someone says something matters and needs to be understood before you can respond. (Burnett and Evans, 2016)]

**Instructor Contract**
I commit to…
- Being available as needed, flexible to your individual needs, and fair in your assessments. I also commit to creating a meaningful learning environment for you. One that includes connection to your peers in this class, as well as meaningfully created activities that connect and build on each other. All of this is designed to further your personal and professional growth.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>In class activity</th>
<th>Assignment – Design Your Career Placement First Term Students</th>
<th>Assignment – Design Your Life Second Term Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Career Placement start</td>
<td>Career Placement resumes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 13</td>
<td>Workshop #1</td>
<td>Workshop #1 Introduction to Life Design</td>
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<td>10:00 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Mcml 350</td>
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<td>Jan 20</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prepare Work Plan</td>
<td>Prepare Work Plan</td>
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<td>Feb 3</td>
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<td>Finalized Work Plan</td>
<td>Finalized Work Plan</td>
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<td>Feb 10</td>
<td>Workshop #2</td>
<td>Workshop #2 5 senses reflection + reframes</td>
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<td>10:00 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Mcml 350</td>
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<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>March 2</td>
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<td>Describe your Career Placement + Point of View Statement</td>
<td>Reframe a Belief</td>
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<td>March 9</td>
<td>Workshop #3</td>
<td>Workshop #3 5 Career Paths</td>
<td>Brainstorm + Concept map</td>
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<td>Mcml 350</td>
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<td>March 23</td>
<td>Prototype Experience</td>
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<td>Curiosity Conversation + Journey Map</td>
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<td>April 20</td>
<td>Workshop #4</td>
<td>Final Presentation (Individual)</td>
<td>Final Presentation (Individual)</td>
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<td>10:00am - 1:00pm</td>
<td>Mcml 350</td>
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<td>April 27</td>
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<td>Career Placement Feedback (required for final grade submission)</td>
<td>Career Placement Feedback (required for final grade submission)</td>
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