

Social Studies 295.01 "Opportunity, Decisions, and Learning."

Douglas Caulkins, Donald L. Wilson Professor of Enterprise and Leadership

3:15-4:05 Wednesday (but not all Wednesdays) and Friday. Steiner 106

This course, sponsored by the Wilson Program in Enterprise and Leadership, focuses on the idea of career, as the construction of one's identity within the context of communities. We will be examined in cases studies of 8-10 Grinnell alumni who have developed significant careers and made a difference in the government, non-profit, and business sectors. These alumni, with diverse majors in all three divisions, will visit class to tell their own stories so that we can learn about their opportunities, decisions, and learning as they constructed their careers. Dates: Wednesday Sept 14 to Friday, November 9. 1/2 semester course deadlines apply. Prerequisite: One social studies division course (Chosen from the departments of Anthropology, Education, History, Economics, Sociology or Political Science).

Required Readings:

Career Match: Connecting Who You Are With What You'll Love to Do by Shoya Zichy and Ann Bidou. AMACOM 2007

Career Distinction: Stand Out by Building Your Brand by William Arruda and Kirsten Dixson . J Wiley, 2007

Reading Assignments: Week 1. *Career Match*, Part I. Do the self-assessment and read the chapter corresponding to your personality type. Read Part 6 (242-265) Nordahl Brue '67, a Grinnell trustee, is profiled in this section. Then read the other chapters over the next week so that you can enter into the class discussion:

Discussion for each speaker: Was the last speaker a Red, Blue, Green, or Gold? What is your evidence? Does that type seem to fit well with the speaker's career trajectory? Did the speaker make some significant "course corrections" to navigate into a more appropriate career for his or her interests? Would it be easy to articulate a brand for this speaker? Give it a try!

Back to the Reading Assignments: (Which personality type is associated with this non-linear approach? ☺)

Week 2 Read *Career Distinction*, chapters 1-7, Extract: Unearth Your Unique Promise of Value.

Week 3: Read *Career Distinction*, chapters 8-11, Express: Communicate your Brand to your Target Audience.

Week 4: Read *Career Distinction*, chapters 12-15: Exude: Manage Your Brand Environment

Written Assignments:

- (1) Using *Career Match*, find your personality type and work through the chapter that pertains to your type, answering the following questions: How accurate does the type seem to be for you? (If it doesn't seem to fit, follow the instructions for finding a more accurate characterization) Do the leadership style, the "ideal" work environment and the ideal boss for your type seem to fit with your preferences? Do you find any of the ideal career for that type that appeal to you? Do they have a high growth potential? Review the case study of "Career that is not working:" does that case study have any lessons for you? Finally, how can you *personally* apply the suggestions for dealing with personality challenges, job search, and interviewing style. Think of this assignment as a memo to yourself, which will help you narrow your search for a satisfying and fruitful career. (DUE OCTOBER 19)
- (2) Read *Career Match*, Shoya Zichy & Ann Bidou, Chapters 25 & 26. Would you make a good entrepreneur? Explain. Note that one of the case studies is of Grinnell's own Nordahl Brue,'67, Trustee and recent Board Chair. (DUE NOVEMBER 2)
- (3) Fill out required information for *Career Match*, Chapter 28, "Creating a Customized Road Map for your Professional Life."(DUE LAST CLASS)
- (4) Using *Career Distinction*, develop a Personal Brand Statement (p.74) and expand it into a brand profile (p76). (DUE NOVEMBER 2)
- (5) Develop a communications plan (p. 112) (DUE LAST CLASS)

Class Schedule: Consider the schedule carefully—we do not meet every Wednesday!

Fri, Sept 14	Introduction
Wed, Sept 19 3:15-4:05	Leonard Merrill Kurz is a motion picture and television producer-director-writer. Professional training: M.A., Stanford University. Chairman, Forest Creatures Entertainment, Inc. Credits (partial listing): <i>Kitka and Davka in Concert: Old and New World Jewish Music</i> , producer-writer, television performance special <i>Maangamizi the Ancient One</i> , co-producer., theatrical feature. <i>Early Misgivings</i> , documentary short. In production: <i>Reunion, with Ossie Davis</i> , a television documentary on the Rapp-Coudert investigation, producer-director-writer <i>Free the Children</i> , producer-director-writer; theatrical documentary
Fri, Sept 21 3:15-4:05	Dmitry Krivin'01 is an Associate at McKinsey and Company, an international consulting firm that advises top management of large companies and government agencies. After graduating from Grinnell, Dmitry worked in financial services industry for 3 years before obtaining an MBA degree from the Wharton School of Business
Fri, Sept 28 3:15-4:05	Dan Weeks '80 , American Studies, has been a magazine feature writer, editor, editorial manager, and is now a full-time freelance writer, photographer, and editor. He's worked on everything from home-how-to books to military memoirs to celebrity biographies to magazine adventure travel and personality profiles and is guilty of practicing ethnography without an anthropology major.

Fri, Oct 5 3:15-4:05	Steve Korstad '78 Entrepreneur leading development of plasma gasification applications and green energy development.
Fri, Oct 12 3:15-4:05	Ellen McDonald, '81 , attended the London School of Economics and received a Masters in International Administration from the School for International Training. She has worked in the philanthropic sector for 25 years. She is currently founder and partner of Mershon & McDonald, LLC which serves corporate, foundation and nonprofit clients with management and capacity-building assistance.
Wed, Oct 17 3:15-4:05	To be announced.
Fri, Oct 19 3:15-4:05	Discussion:
Fall Break October 20-29	HAVE A GREAT TIME!
Wed, Oct 31 3:15-4:05	Rebecca Petig, '97 Assistant County Prosecutor
Fri, Nov 2 3:15-4:05	Arthur Tinkelenberg '88 – Biology major; Ph.D. Molecular Genetics, Rockefeller University; now a principal for a biotech venture capital. After graduating with a BA in Biology from Grinnell, Arthur earned his Ph.D. in molecular genetics from The Rockefeller University where he studied cell growth regulation and signal transduction as a National Science Foundation Fellow. Postdoctoral studies in lipid biochemistry and cell biology at Columbia University followed, before he left academia to join the Healthcare Investment Banking and Mergers and Acquisitions Groups at Robertson Stephens, where he participated in over \$250 million in public, private, and merger transactions for biotechnology, medical device, and diagnostics companies. Subsequently, he joined the founders of Ascent Biomedical Ventures and is a Principal at the firm, where he makes early-stage investments in biomedical technology companies. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors of Crosstrees Medical Inc. and Ouroboros Inc., and is a Board Observer for Azevan Pharmaceuticals and Metronome Therapeutics.
Fri, Nov 9 3:15-4:05	Todd Young '94 Assistant Treasurer, formerly the Director of International Tax (law) Basketball player, comes back for basketball alumni game, Lives in Deerfield, IL