



April 2005

# Career Services...Career Services... Career Services...Career Services... **Futures** Career Services...Career Services... Career Services...Career Services...

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## Major of the Month: Liberal Studies

**Can't decide on just one major?  
Planning to attend graduate or professional school?  
Want to improve the most marketable skill employers are looking for today-your communication skills?**

Then perhaps LSSU's Liberal Studies program is worth exploring. This program includes two academic minors and concludes with a senior capstone experience. Liberal Studies is available for students who desire or require a program which provides more flexibility than is available in other major programs.

Being interested in a wide variety of subjects and having the desire to learn about them are characteristics associated with success in this major. You should be flexible and persistent, able to function effectively and succeed in a task on your own without a great deal of supervision, outgoing and able to interact with all kinds of

people, and organized in your daily and work habits.

Graduates of this program will have a firm grounding in the liberal arts as well as the requisite communication skills necessary for success in

Upon graduation, Liberal Studies graduates may find work in all fields, such as journalism, publishing, business, government, public relations, entertainment and the arts.



*Graduates are no longer hired just because they have a particular degree—they are hired because they have specific skills that meet the needs of the employer.*

today's world. For this reason, liberal studies/arts majors are seen as very marketable job candidates. Surveys indicate that businesses are hiring and promoting more liberal studies/arts graduates than ever before. Thirty-eight percent of today's CEOs majored in liberal arts, according to a recent report in *Fortune* magazine.

*For additional information regarding the Liberal Studies program at LSSU, contact Stella DePlonty at [sdeplonty@lssu.edu](mailto:sdeplonty@lssu.edu) or 906-635-2012. Career Services will also be happy to discuss this or any other major with you.*

### CAREER SERVICES OPEN DURING SUMMER

Summer Hours:  
8am-4:30pm  
Library 119A  
Contact:  
Theresa Weaver  
[tweaver@lssu.edu](mailto:tweaver@lssu.edu)  
906-635-2733

**Come on in and take advantage of some free time this summer to continue your career exploration or discuss career options you've been contemplating.**

**Didn't have time to complete your career exploration packet (assessments) during the school year? Stop in anytime this summer to work on these assessments. It is a great way to learn about yourself and help narrow your career path.**

**Won't be in the Soo during the summer? Stop by before you leave and get a user id for the web-based DISCOVER Program. This is an excellent tool for exploring your interests, values, majors, schools, careers, etc.**

**Still haven't registered for classes for Fall semester? Liberal Arts-Uncecided students may stop in anytime for advising and get your classes scheduled.**

**"Promise me one thing...whatever path you take in life, be true to yourself."**

*-from Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

# Don't Waste Summer Opportunities! Gaining That Valuable Experience

Summertime provides you with some time to reflect on your experiences, think about what you've learned and set goals for the coming year. There are a number of really great ways to use your summer wisely. Here are just a few:

## Shadow a professional.

Use your networking skills to identify professionals who would be willing to have you shadow them. Shadowing is spending a day or two with a professional in a work setting. You might attend meetings, observe them at work and gain exposure to the industry culture. These experiences can open your eyes to possibilities as well as give you a good sense of how your skills fit into the world of work.

**Volunteer in the community.** There are countless organizations that would welcome volunteers. Volunteering allows you to develop and use skills, it gives you a different perspective on things and it provides the opportunity to contribute in meaningful ways.

**Travel.** Take advantage of any opportunity to travel. Traveling gives you the

opportunity to spread your wings, try new things and challenge your beliefs. It shows flexibility, independence and the ability to adapt.

## Find an internship.

Internships are a great way to develop marketable skills,

learn more about specific industries and prepare yourself for the world of work. Internships often include a project or assignment that allows you to test your skills and make positive contributions in a work setting.

**Participate in a research project.** Ask a faculty member who is conducting research that is of interest to you if you can

assist him or her over the summer. If graduate school is a consideration for you, this a great way to determine if you'll enjoy the research necessary to earn an advanced degree.

(Source: "Career Choices-Are you on the right path?", PaperClip Communications)

*"My summer job last year was a valuable experience because it allowed me to explore a potential career path in human resources. I always thought I wanted to be a H.R. Manager-until I actually worked in that environment. Ultimately, I concluded that a future career in that field was not something that I want to do. I am glad I realized this now so I can shift my focus to something else. In the future, I hope to continue the process of exploring different careers through internships and to find something that better matches my interests."*

-Chris '06  
Business Management Major

## COUNSELOR'S



## C O R N E R

Hooray for summer! The summer months offer students many opportunities. It's a great time to relax from the stress and rigors of student life. Many students need this time to earn money for the next school year. When job hunting for that summer employment you may want to keep a few things in mind.

It's never too early to take an opportunity to work in a situation that could provide experience for your major area of study. These job placements go a long way in providing experience for making career choices. Many summer jobs have lead students to a career direction they otherwise may have missed. Summer job experience is also an important component of the future resume you will prepare. Employers are always on the lookout for students that have relevant experience in their chosen field.

The summer months also offer time for internships or job shadowing for those students who may be undecided about what particular career area they want to enter. You can contact employers to see if they offer this type of experiential job placement.

Some students see the summer months as an ideal time to pick up an extra course to lighten their academic load during the academic year. Most colleges and universities offer a selection of general education requirements during the summer semester.

Enjoy the Summer!!!

-Mary Jo Meehan, LPC



## Career Services

A division of Academic Services  
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[www.lssu.edu/counseling](http://www.lssu.edu/counseling)