

BLPA Academy Summer Assignment

Directions: You are to choose **ONE** option below to complete over the summer. Please read the options carefully and be sure to choose the one you feel will benefit you most. Each option is worth a total of **100 points**. Points earned will be based on the quality of the work and the completeness of the assignment.

DUE DATES: For all current students the summer assignment is due on or before: **September 9th**. For all incoming freshmen and any new to HVA students, the assignment is due on or before **October 9th**.

Option 1 Employment Preparation Activity (75 Points)

Scenario: You are interested in obtaining a part-time job. You decide that you would be more successful in your quest if you had a résumé and cover letter to present along with the application.

Tasks:

1. Research résumés and cover letters
2. Create your personal résumé
3. Complete an actual job application
4. Write a cover letter to go with the application you completed

The documents must be error free and in the correct format (Please see *OWL Purdue* on-line for instructions and examples)

Bonus: Interview for a job and write your reflection of the process. (10 Points)

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation and present your experience to your advisory class. **(25 Points)** Presentation will include information from your résumé and cover letter and why you included the information you did. Additionally, you will tell what you learned about applying for jobs.

Option 2: My Work Experience Journal (75 Points)

Scenario: If you are working this summer, you may choose to journal your experience.

Tasks:

1. Create a journal. It can be digital or handwritten.
2. First entry must contain:
 - Your name
 - Your employer's name and location
 - Your job description
 - A description of how you got the job
3. All other entries should contain:
 - The date
 - Descriptions of your duties for your shift
 - One positive occurrence or interaction with a colleague or customer
 - One negative occurrence (if applicable)
 - A reflection of what you learned
 - A reflection of how you positively or negatively impacted your employer this day.
4. A minimum of 10 entries are required with at least one entry per week.

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation and present your experience to your advisory class. **(25 Points)** Your presentation must show how you have impacted your employer and the lessons you have learned by having a job. Be sure to give your Advisory a clear understanding of your job and everything it entails.

Option 3: Book Critic (75 Points)

Scenario: You have been asked by the Editor of the *Hawkeye* to read and review a book for the BLPA bookshelf. You will then write a book review article to appear in an upcoming issue of the *Hawkeye*.

Tasks:

1. Choose a book whose content supports an aspect of the BLPA academy. Some possible books of interest that fit this category are as follows: *Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different*, *Who Moved My Cheese*, *The Knife of Never Letting Go*, *Body Farm*, and *The One Minute Manager*.
NOTE: These are suggested titles. Due to themes, students are invited to research with their parents to find appropriate alternatives with similar BLPA connections that are acceptable for your family. The final determination for an appropriate book for each student will be made by the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).
2. Read the book
3. Write your critique as an article for the *Hawkeye* (An effective article tells a story)
4. The critique should include:
 - Your Name
 - Book Title
 - Author
 - ISBN
 - An outline of the major plot events
 - Explain how this book will impact BLPA students if they read it
 - Describe the lessons you learned from reading this book

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation and explain your findings about the book to your advisory class. **(25 Points)** Your presentation must show your understanding of the novel and how it benefits those in BLPA to read it. Additionally, you must express your opinion about the value of the book – it can be positive or negative.

Option 4: TED Talks (75 Points)

Scenario: You choose to learn more about topics that are important to students in the ever evolving world.

Tasks:

1. Watch at least five (5) of the TED Talk videos listed below
2. Complete a Summary for each talk in the following format:
 - Your Name:
 - Name of TED Talk:
 - SUMMARY PROTOCOL: (To be used for TED talks)
 - CONTENT - What was it all about? What were the main concepts and ideas that were discussed? What was the question being investigated? What evidence was uncovered to support a new idea? Were any old ideas overturned? This section should be at least 8 sentences.
 - SIGNIFICANCE- Describe why the subject is important. What is the significance to society? This section should be at least eight (8) sentences.
 - EVALUATION - Restate the main areas of importance and discuss the quality of it from your perspective as a student of BLPA. Did you find it interesting? Useful? Boring? Explain! Would you recommend it to the other members of the academy? How does it affect and/or impact you personally? Please explain the answers that you give to these questions. Do not leave out this important section. This section should be at least six (6) sentences.

TED Talks:

Title	URL
Alice Goffman: How we're priming some kids for college — and others for prison	http://www.ted.com/talks/alice_goffman_college_or_prison_two_destinies_one_batant_injustice?language=en
Anne Milgram: Why smart statistics are the key to fighting crime	http://www.ted.com/talks/anne_milgram_why_smart_statistics_are_the_key_to_fighting_crime
Roselinde Torres: What it takes to be a great leader	http://www.ted.com/talks/roselinde_torres_what_it_takes_to_be_a_great_leader
Bel Pesce: 5 ways to kill your dreams	http://www.ted.com/talks/bel_pesce_5_ways_to_kill_your_dreams
Dan Copley: What physics taught me about marketing	http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_copley_what_physics_taught_me_about_marketing
Markham Nolan: How to separate fact and fiction online	http://www.ted.com/talks/markham_nolan_how_to_separate_fact_and_fiction_online
Margaret Gould Stewart: How giant websites design for you (and a billion others, too)	http://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_gould_stewart_how_giant_websites_design_for_you_and_a_billion_others_too
Geoffrey Canada: Our failing schools. Enough is enough!	http://www.ted.com/talks/geoffrey_canada_our_failing_schools_enough_is_enough
Amy Cuddy: Your body language shapes who you are	http://www.ted.com/talks/amy_cuddy_your_body_language_shapes_who_you_are
Margaret Heffernan: Dare to disagree	http://www.ted.com/talks/margaret_heffernan_dare_to_disagree
Steve Jobs: How to live before you die	http://www.ted.com/talks/steve_jobs_how_to_live_before_you_die
Larry Page: Where's Google going next?	http://www.ted.com/talks/larry_page_where_s_google_going_next
Kelly McGonigal: How to make stress your friend	http://www.ted.com/talks/kelly_mcgonigal_how_to_make_stress_your_friend
Gabby Giffords and Mark Kelly: Be passionate. Be courageous. Be your best.	http://www.ted.com/talks/gabby_giffords_and_mark_kelly_be_passionate_be_courageous_be_your_best
Boniface Mwangi: The day I stood up alone	http://www.ted.com/talks/boniface_mwangi_boniface_mwangi_the_day_i_stood_up_alone
Bill and Melinda Gates: Why giving away our wealth has been the most satisfying thing we've done	http://www.ted.com/talks/bill_and_melinda_gates_why_giving_away_our_wealth_has_been_the_most_satisfying_thing_we_ve_done
Caroline Casey: Looking past limits	http://www.ted.com/talks/caroline_casey_looking_past_limits

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation and present your critiques and new understandings to your advisory class. **(25 Points)** Be sure to include an analysis of all the TED Talks and provide a critique of each.

Option 5: Volunteer Service and/or Community Involvement (75 Points)

Scenario: To learn more about how a business, non-profit, or government works, you choose to either volunteer with an organization or attend governmental meetings.

Tasks:

1. Either volunteer with a local business or nonprofit for a minimum of five (5) hours or attend two (2) government meetings-i.e. City Council, County Commission, court proceedings, or Board of Education meetings
2. Complete a reflection of your experiences to include:
 - Your Name
 - Date(s) of activity
 - Detailed description of work completed or meeting attended (include explanations as needed)
 - Exposure to something that was unexpected or new learning
 - Describe your thoughts, emotions, and feelings regarding your experience (Include things you may have learned about yourself or challenges you may have faced and/or how you went about solving challenges.)

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation and present your experience to your advisory class. **(25 Points)** Please make sure to provide an evaluation of your experience and the work the business, agency, or government department does for the community.

Option 6: Career Discovery Interview (75 Points)

Scenario: To learn more about what it is actually like to work in a BLPA related field.

Tasks:

1. Interview someone in a BLPA related field (Marketing, Accounting, Criminal Justice, etc.)
2. Your interview should include questions to determine the following information:
 - Current title and role of individual
 - Educational preparation required – years of schooling, degrees, continuing education
 - Why he or she chose this profession
 - A brief description of the field/career
 - Current salary ranges, including starting salary
 - Skills and strengths needed for success in the field
 - Suggestions that the individual you are interviewing has for you as a BLPA student
3. After you complete the interview, respond to the following reflection questions.
 - What impressions do you have about this career?
 - In what ways does it meet, exceed, or fail to meet your expectations?
 - In what ways are you surprised by what you've learned?
4. Submit both the interview questions and answers and reflection for credit

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation and present your experience to your advisory class. **(25 Points)** Be sure to include all required aspects of the experience in the presentation. Make a judgment on whether you would pursue this career path in the future. Why or why not?

Option 7: Financial Budgeting and Transactions (75 points)

Scenario: You are interested in learning how to budget your money for financial success in life.

Tasks:

1. Go to www.teachbanzai.com. Click “Sign Up Now” and sign up for a student account. Use the Class Code of 32BK14.
2. Get a Banzai Life Scenarios booklet. Stop by HVA and ask...it will be in Mr. Friedrich's mailbox.
3. Complete the Pre-test, Life Scenarios, Games and Post-Test sections.
4. Create a realistic budget for living in Knoxville.
 - a. Assume you have a job paying \$15/hour and work 40 hrs/week. Assume taxes and other deductions = 25% of your earnings.
 - b. Rent – search apartment listings for Knoxville for a two bedroom apartment. Assume you can find a roommate and split the rent.
 - c. Car – find a used car available in Knoxville for less than \$10,000. Use an on-line payment calculator to determine monthly payments, based on a 3 year loan at 8%.
 - d. Food – make a list of everything you will eat during a typical week and calculate the cost.
 - e. Cell phone – find out your monthly bill, or if you are part of a family plan, determine the total amount and divide by the number in the family.
 - f. Other – clothing, entertainment, gas, etc. Estimate a monthly total.

g. Savings – a good budget includes a monthly amount saved for long term purchases or investments. Hopefully you will have money left to put here.

h. Total income should equal the total of the b through g amounts.

You must document the apartment information (screen shot is fine) and also the car selected (once again, a screen shot).

Presentation: Create a PowerPoint presentation of your budget and present this to your Advisory class. **(25 points)** Presentation will include information showing how you calculated your income, and also the expenses / cash expenditures. Include the screen shots of the apartment and the car. Show how to use the online calculator to determine monthly payments.

BLPA SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

Student Name: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Advisory Teacher: _____

(Please circle the option you completed and attached the appropriate documentation to this form. Also indicate by circling Yes or No if you plan to present your option.)

Option 1 Employment Preparation Activity

Presentation: Yes No

Option 2 My Work Experience Journal

Presentation: Yes No

Option 3 Book Critic

Presentation: Yes No

Option 4 TED Talks

Presentation: Yes No

Option 5 Volunteer Service and/or Community Involvement

Presentation: Yes No

Option 6 Career Discovery Interview

Presentation: Yes No

Option 7 Financial Budgeting and Transactions

Presentation: Yes No

Teacher Feedback:

Points earned: _____

Option 4 – TED Talk Summary Form

Student Name: _____ Date Viewed: _____

Name of Talk: _____

Content:

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Significance:

[illegible]

[illegible]

Option 5 – Volunteer Service and/or Community Involvement Summary Form

(Complete one form for each activity)

Student Name: _____ Date of Activity: _____

Activity: _____

Description of work completed or meeting attended:

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Exposure to something unexpected and/or new learning:

[illegible]

[illegible]

Option 6 – Career Discovery Interview

Student Name: _____ Date of Interview: _____

Interviewee: _____ Title/Profession: _____

Educational preparation:

Why did he or she choose this profession?

Description of the field or career:

Current salary ranges, including starting salaries:

Skills and strengths needed for success in the field:

[illegible]

Reflection Questions:

1. What impressions do you have about this career?

2. In what ways does this information meet, exceed, or fail to meet your expectations?

3. In what ways are you surprised by what you learned?
