

## Independent Study Project: Career Research

To the student: Below is an overview of the possible structure of your final paper and the elements of research that may be included. Not all careers will reflect ALL of the bulleted inclusions, however all careers will include some from each subthesis. The student must incorporate as many supports as appropriate to the career, with a minimum of three from each subthesis.

Thesis: \_\_\_\_\_ is a viable career (specific, precise, focused).

Introduction: Overview of the profession

- history/background of the profession
- job description
- job market / position availability / employment opportunities
- possible drawbacks / pitfalls

Subthesis #1: Requirements and considerations prior to employment

- prerequisites (age, social skills?)
- education / physical / language requirements
- technological requirements and/or skills
- manual skills and/or requirements
- application and interview process
- apprenticeship and/or internship possibilities

Subthesis #2: The job description, duties, responsibilities

- duties and/or responsibilities
- appearance and dress requirements
- work location and/or environment
- work schedule hours/days
- description of hierarchy
- advancement and/or promotion opportunities
- job security
- ethical considerations

Subthesis #3: Rewards, incentives, benefits

- salary/wages
- salary options (commissions, stock options, profit sharing, etc.)
- travel requirements (if any)
- benefits (life/health insurance)
- vacation/leave options
- retirement
- union involvement
- fringe benefits

Conclusion: Further insight

- future of the profession
- personal (intangible rewards)
- contributions to community/environment/mankind

All Projects will also include somewhere in the paper:

- hard statistics
- case studies
- interview(s)
- real-life situations
- anecdotes
- direct quotes from professionals
- visual addenda (charts, graphs, photos, drawings, etc.)