INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING ASSIGNMENT

Read <u>"How an Informational Interview Can Boost Your Career</u>" and identify one professional in your desired field to conduct an informational interview using your personal network (people you know), <u>Westfield State University</u> <u>Careers LinkedIn group</u>, networking event, or other means. Compile a list of 10 questions from the article to ask. Identify the name/title/organization of the interviewee and your list of questions to include as part of your assignment.

Write 2-3 pages about your experience. In your reflection paper, be sure to address:

- How did it feel to contact and interview a professional in your field of interest?
- Based on your conversation, what educational credentials (courses, degrees) are typically required for entry into this career field? Does this educational path cor respond with your current plan of study?
- What internship/volunteer experience does this person recommend for preparing for this career field and how might you obtain that experience during your under graduate work?
- What aspects of this profession match your interests, skills, and values? What aspects do not match your preferences? Explain. What did you hear that you liked the best and least?
- What is one interesting fact you learned about the person's job that you interviewed?
- What recommendations did that individual have for college students interested in a similar career path?
- If you are still interested in this field, what will you do next to further your exploration/preparation for it?
- If you are no longer interested in this field as a result of your informational interview, what will you do next to continue your career exploration?

Also, include a thank you letter to the interviewee. See <u>Informational Interview Thank-</u> You Note <u>Example</u> for guidance.