This course is designed to guide you through the variety of decisions involved in choosing a degree program, college institution, and funding considerations as well completing the admissions process.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

Nelson Mandela
Meanwhile, In the Civilian World

Listen Meaux, I realize you were in the military, but you can't talk to customers like you talk to other Marines

But I didn't say anything bad

according to this, you said, and I quote, "I swear to god I'm gonna destroy you so thoroughly the only evidence you ever existed will be a smoldering crater consisting of ash and broken dreams."

Yeah, you should be proud of me, I got through that whole exchange without cursing
A LITTLE HOUSECLEANING BEFORE WE BEGIN

- Breaks
- Restrooms
- Fire exits
- Electronics
- Respect with language and tobacco
- Participation
- Fill out your ITP
CAREER READINESS STANDARDS

- Completed Application Package to Admissions Department
- Keep Copy (digital and/or paper) of Package and Date Sent
- Update ITP
- Show Evidence of Completed Assessment
  - Selected by Military Service Branch ****

COURSE OVERVIEW

- Section 1: Personal Goals
- Section 2: Institutional Factors
- Section 3: Funding Factors
- Section 4: Admission Requirements
SECTION 1: PERSONAL GOALS

- Competency
  - Evaluate personal goals and career goals
  - Leverage the evaluation of personal/career goals to make informed decisions regarding potential institution selection

- Learning Objectives
  - Incorporate personal/career goals into the institution selection matrix and ITP
GETTING STARTED

- Hi...My Name is?
- Where is your hometown?
- What college are you planning on attending?
- Where are you in the process?
- What do You Want to do After You Finish College?
GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THIS SESSION

- Purpose: Save Time and Money $$$$
- Your Why
- RAS
- Positive Mindset
- Learning Styles
- Repetition
- To Do’s and Planning
- Website links:
  https://sites.google.com/site/trsmcbh/
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?

- Why are you taking the Education Pathway?
- What are your concerns about pursuing Education or challenges?
- What are you excited about?
- Expectations:
  - What do you want to get out of this class?
CAREER GOALS AND REQUIREMENTS

Career Goals ITP

Career Interest Inventory Results
MOC Crosswalk (GAP Analysis)
Employment Workshop (Change Management Plan)

Attach these results to the Career Goals Worksheet at Appendix A
Personal Goals Activity

Location Preference Activity
Family Requirements Activity
Personal Finance (Budget) Activity

Please prioritize from 1-5 and log results on Appendix B
SECTION TWO
ACADEMIC READINESS

- Remedial classes required
- MASP Programs
- Current pursuit of degree program
- Graduate level pursuit

NOTE: Record any remedial requirements on your ITP pages 15-20 and Appendix B
SECTION 2: INSTITUTION FACTORS

 Competency
  ▪ Evaluation of higher education institutions and degree programs
  ▪ Make informed decisions regarding degree programs

 Learning Objectives
  ▪ Compare and contrast types of institutions and degree programs
  ▪ Compare degree program to military credit
Brainstorm List of Institution Selection Factors

Most Effective Selection Criteria
INSTITUTION SELECTION FACTORS

- Transfer of Recommended Military Credit
- Degree Program
- Service Members Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Consortium
- Graduation/Retention Rates
- Accreditation
- Culture
- Methods of Instruction
- Guard & Reserve Mobilization
- Veterans Support
OTHER INSTITUTION SELECTION FACTORS

- Public vs. Private
- 2-Year vs. 4-Year
- For-Profit vs. Not-for-Profit
- Additional information referencing factors to consider can be found at:
TRANSFER OF RECOMMENDED MILITARY CREDIT

Understanding Your Military Credit Recommendations - www.acenet.edu/military
ASSOCIATE DEGREE = 60 semester hours

COURSES:
- Algebra, Calculus, Trigonometry
- History, Political Science, Psychology, Economics, Geography
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy, Zoology, Oceanography, Earth Sciences
- Expository Writing & College Composition
- Art, Music, Drama, Speech, Religion, Foreign Languages, Ethics, Literature

- MATH 6 credits
- SOCIAL SCIENCES & HISTORY 6 credits
- NATURAL SCIENCES 6 credits
- ENGLISH COMPOSITION 6 credits
- HUMANITIES 6 credits
- ELECTIVES 30 credits
  - Military Experience (SMART)
  - Business
  - Computer Science
  - Education
Important nuances between degree programs
A prescribed set of courses set by the college or university to complete a specific degree program
Core Courses vs. Electives
Review all courses in your field of study
  - Do they cover your interests/career goals?
Lower Division Requirements (9 SH)
- SO 200 - Introduction to Sociology (3 SH)
- SO 203 - Social Problems (3 SH)
- SO 204 - Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3 SH)

Upper Division Requirements (24 SH)
- SO 403 - Sociology Theory (3 SH)
- SO 404 - Methods of Social Research (3 SH)
- SO 499 - Majors Seminar (3 SH)
- Upper Division Sociology Electives (15 SH)
ACTIVITY: INSTITUTIONS TO RESEARCH

- Identify Institutions to Research
- Login to College Navigator
  http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/
ACTIVITY: INSTITUTIONS TO RESEARCH (TRANSFER CREDITS)

1. Using internet resources to compare higher education universities and find the Military Guide Online at www.militaryguides.acenet.edu

2. Continue to complete the degree comparison worksheet
SOC Consortium members commit to the following criteria:

- Reasonable Transfer of Credit
- Reduced Academic Residency
- Credit for Military Training and Experience
- Credit for Nationally-Recognized Testing Programs
1. Logon to: http://www.soc.aascu.org/
2. Select “SOC Consortium”
3. Select “SOC Consortium Member Institutions” PDF file
4. Search by State for those colleges and universities that are members of SOC
5. Annotate on Appendix B if the educational institutions you selected are SOC members
1. Login to College Navigator
   http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/

2. Find Retention and Graduation Rates for the educational institutions you selected
   o Note Results in Appendix B
Definition: Recognition that an institution maintains standards requisite for its graduates to gain admission to other reputable institutions of higher learning

Goal: Ensure the education provided meets acceptable levels of quality

Types of Accreditation
- Regional
- National
ACTIVITY: RESEARCH ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS

2. Input name of specific institution
3. Choose FAQ at top menu for specific information about accreditation & use of website
4. Log results on Appendix B

CAUTION: Be aware that credits don’t easily transfer between institutions. Always check with your educational institution to see how many credits will transfer before making your final decision.
## Institution Culture Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors to consider</th>
<th>Methods to explore college culture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size of student body</td>
<td>Open-house</td>
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## Institution Culture

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<th>Factors to consider</th>
<th>Methods to explore college culture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ideology of faculty</td>
<td>Open-house</td>
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<tr>
<td>Size of student body</td>
<td>Campus tours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Size of town, city</td>
<td>Sit in on a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of veteran students</td>
<td>Meet with a faculty member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mission and vision</td>
<td>Student orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reputation and history</td>
<td>Video</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student activities</td>
<td>Talk to other students</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
NOTE: This is a basic structure, be aware that some offices may have different titles.
Important to learn about all available resources
- Research veterans support groups
  - [http://www.studentveterans.org/](http://www.studentveterans.org/)
- Ask questions when looking for veteran friendly schools
  - What veteran services are provided?
  - How many veterans attend your school?
  - What is the graduation rate of your veterans?
ACTIVITY: RESEARCH INSTITUTION STUDENT SERVICES

- Identify student services available at selected Institutions

1. Login to College Navigator
2. Select state
3. Browse for Programs>Select Program/Major>Select Category>Add Specific
4. Select level of Award - Certificate, Associate Degree, Bachelor Degree, Advanced Degree
5. Select show results
6. Select specific institution
7. General information>school website
8. Link to school website for additional information
9. Log results on Appendix B
Factors to Consider in Selection of an Institution

- Methods of Instructional Delivery
  - Classroom (traditional)
  - On-line (eLearning)
  - Hybrid (Combination)
  - Guided independent study

- Benefits and Challenges on Online Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENEFITS</th>
<th>CHALLENGES</th>
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Useful tool to assess readiness for distance learning

http://www.dantescatalogs.com/DlDemo/dlDemoIntro.aspx
GUARD AND RESERVE MOBILIZATION

- Does school offer flexibility?
- Can degree be completed online?
- Can you be readmitted if you have to suspend your studies?
- How does mobilization effect VA benefits?
Veterans Support

- Veteran’s Service Office
  - Referrals to community resources
  - Provide information on VA benefits
  - Assistance navigating the campus

- VA Certifying Official (Financial Aid)
  - Liaison between college and Department of Veterans Affairs
  - Your “New Best Friend”
Veteran’s Organizations

- Veterans Success on Campus
  - Resource for veterans & family members to ensure successful transition to college life
  - http://www.vetsuccess.gov/vetsuccess_on_campus
- Student Veterans of America
  - Provide peer-to-peer network
  - www.studentveterans.org
- Centers of Excellence
  - http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&z=4&msid=100225427964936134608.000491cf67e5f1342b238
Free program to refresh academic skills

Eligibility

- Low income and/or a first generation college attendee
- Demonstrate academic need
- Meet other local VUB Program Criteria

www.navub.org
Activity: Find Veteran Support Services

- Identify veteran’s support services at your selected Institutions
  1. Utilizing the websites discussed in the previous slides:
     - [http://www.vetsuccess.gov/vetsuccess_on_campus](http://www.vetsuccess.gov/vetsuccess_on_campus)
     - [www.studentveterans.org](http://www.studentveterans.org)
     - [www.navub.org](http://www.navub.org)
  2. Find all veterans organizations on campus and list contact information on Appendix B
  3. Identify all medical and physical support services and annotate results on Appendix B (Can be found on institution website through collegenavigator)
  4. Identify veterans support organizations in the community
END SECTION TWO