Erica Ruiz, Faculty Counselor

Ventura College

Sabbatical Leave Final Report

Faculty Status: Full-time, tenured

Hire Date: January 2015

Previous Leaves:0

Sabbatical Taken: Fall 2022

Summary of Project

This project focused on developing a 1-unit counseling course that focuses on exploring careers and college majors. Students who find themselves undecided about their educational or career goals will receive support in validating their decisions. Students will be guided through a process that focuses on their individual interests, skills, personality and values to aid in the selection of a major, determine a career direction and develop career goals. Students will be able to make the connection between different career assessments and identify information about possible college major and career choices. Decision-making models and goal-setting techniques will be used to develop short- and long-term education and career plans.

Sabbatical Proposal Goals

Goal #1: Enroll at Santa Monica College and take a 1-unit career counseling course

Sabbatical Proposal Goals

Goal #2 Become Strong Interest Inventory certified.

Goal #3 Draft a course outline of record.

Sabbatical Proposal Goals

Goal #4 Work with registrars, AO's, and Banner experts to help mitigate repetition of the career counseling course for those students that completed it during high school.

Goal #5 Build a connection and further understand which local county high schools are requiring the career course as a graduation requirement.

TimeLine

July–August 2022

Summer COUN 12 Course

Reached out to VCCCD registrars and AO's to discuss repetition of career counseling course

September 2022

Strong Interest Inventory Certification

Researched CA CC COUN Course Offering

Requested data on local HS students that completed COUN course during HS

September – December 2022

Developed Course Outline of Record, Syllabus, & Created Canvas Shell for course

Outcomes from taking a career counseling course

1. Allowed me to be a student again

2. Learn what the difference is between a 1-unit and 3-unit Career Counseling course

3. Helped provide a framework for developing COUN V05 course curriculum

Outcome from working with VCCCD Registrars, AO's and Banner Experts

MC and OC registrars were able to confirm that they had coded COUN M02 and PG R101 as equivalent to COUN V02 in banner.

However, VC had not coded COUN V02 as equivalent to COUN M02 or PG R101.

VC AO requested an updated change in banner.

Results: A student who took (and got college credit for) COUN V02, M02 or PG R101 during HS will not be able duplicate the course.

Outcomes From Strong Interest Inventory Certification

Career Issues Addressed by the Strong II Assessment

Career Exploration: Helps people address questions such as, What do I like? Do my parents really know what career is best for me?

Career Disengagement: Who am I? What's important to me?

Career Transition: What do I want to do? Why did my last position not seem to fit?

Retirement Transition: Where else do I want to contribute?

Outcomes From Strong Interest Inventory Certification

- Helped me self-reflect on my own career journey.

- Made me realize that I need to practice interpreting the assessment more with students.

- Developed a tangible tool: Developed a document that connects VC CMC with SII RIASEC occupational themes.

- Submitted proposal to administration requesting to have all counselors certified

Outcomes on reaching out to High Schools

Reached out to six top feeder HS: Buena, Ventura, Foothill, Santa Paula, Pacific, and Rio Mesa.

Of the 6 schools only 3 confirmed offering the course as a graduation requirement: Buena, Ventura, Santa Paula.

Patricia Roberts, College and Career Counselor from Ventura HS confirmed that all Ventura Unified requires the course. Buena, El Camino, Foothill, Pacific, and Ventura.

The main issue expressed is that students are not aware of how to request the college credit for the course.

Data on HS Student Completing Career Course

Second outreach effort was made to VC Office of Institutional Research

Requested 5 years of data from Fall 2019 – Fall 2022 on students who received college credit for a COUN V02, M02 or PR R101

Data was inconclusive, reported only 15 student between Fall 2019 – 2022 completing one of the three courses

Data on HS Student Completing Career Course

Third outreach effort was to, VC Outreach

Shined light on a multitude of issues surrounding this course and getting credit for it

Changes in teachers who teach the course

Getting students to submit the VC application on time

Top-down administrative issues

Outreach updates CATMA but is dependent on teacher to provide the grade book data

Recommendations

Recommendation regarding this issue: Need to hire a specialist who can "tame the beast" and get a footing on this issue.

Ultimately, it's the students who miss out on that college credit.

COUNSELING V05 COR & Sample Syllabus

Reviewed 52, 1-unit COR's from colleges across the state

- Looked at:

  - Catalog descriptions

  - SLO's

  - UC or CSU transfer options

  - Examples of textbooks

  - Modalities (F2F, Fully Online, Hybrid)

- Important Deadline: COR to be approved by Tech Review, Curriculum and BOT needs to be in by March 7th. For Fall 2023 offering.

Data on California Community Colleges Career Counseling Course Offerings

Looked at 115 CA Community Colleges (Did not include Calbright)

53 Colleges offer a 3-unit or more Career Counseling class

55 Colleges offer a 2-unit or less Career Counseling class

46 Colleges offer a combination of <3 units or >2 units Career Counseling classes

88 College across the state had some form of COUN summer offering. Only 27 did not have a summer offering.

COUNSELING V05 [Canvas Shell](#) Course Curriculum

Each week is set up in a strategic way:

- Students do self-assessments

- Then take assessments

- Have reflective journals

- Participate in discussion boards

- Research activities

- Each week has lecture videos created by the instructor

- Any of this material can be used in various modalities, F2F, Fully Online, Hybrid