

Beverly Brewer Stark
Career Center

Fall 2009
NEWSLETTER

Career Center Info:

Location

Thomas D. Coats
Technology Complex Building 1
(Tech 1)

662-562-3954

Hours

M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Appointments may be made for Career
Counseling, Assessments, Resume
Critiques, Mock Interviews, etc...

Staff

Kristin Watson
Career Counselor
kwatson@northwestms.edu

Doug Freeze
Career-Technical Counselor
dfreeze@northwestms.edu

On your way to success...

Emily Post suggests that if you
do the next 5 things with
EVERYONE you meet, you will
be on your way to success!

1. Look them in the eye.
2. Give a firm handshake.
3. Greet them, "How do you do?"
4. When saying your name, say it slowly and clearly.
5. Smile!

Northwest Mississippi Community College



The Career Connection

Deciding on a Major? Consider Where the Jobs Are

Taken from Peterson's College Planner

For most students, earning a degree means a better shot at survival in the working world. Deciding what to study often stems from personal interests, but "major decisions" are also driven by the job market and demographics. Thus, when employers are snatching up graduates in specific fields, that's also where you'll find new students lining up for a degree.

On the horizon

According to the federal government, a whopping 18.9 million jobs will have been created between 2004 and 2014. What may come as a surprise is that 18.7 million of those are expected to arise in service-providing industries, not goods and manufacturing. This may be a tribute to our technologically sophisticated society, a national focus on education and healthcare, and an aging population in need of increased health services.

Want to know where the most jobs are for the next eight years or so? Take a look!

Education and health services

With an estimated 30.6 percent growth anticipated, three out of every ten new jobs will fill the need for educators, healthcare practitioners, and social welfare workers. As America's senior citizen population grows bigger and lives longer, there will be a need for an estimated 4.3 million new jobs!

Professional and business services

Overall growth among the many sectors of this industry is anticipated to be around 27.8 percent, but in our high-tech business world, the most rapid growth areas will be in management, scientific, and technical consulting services — to the tune of 60.5 percent!

Leisure and Hospitality

Americans enjoy their leisure time, so it's not too surprising that this industry expects overall growth of 17.7 percent. However, for all you aspiring actors, screenwriters, and river guides — good news! Growth in the arts, entertainment, and recreation areas is expected to hit 25 percent — roughly equivalent to 460,000 new jobs!

Other Services (besides government)

A slightly generic category, expected growth is 14 percent overall, but the increase in some areas will be much higher. Auto repair and maintenance, for example, should see the most explosive growth at a rate of 30.7 percent. Another interesting point to note: One out of every four jobs in this overall category will likely be within a religious organization.

Information Services

Approximately 364,000 new jobs are expected in this area, with an anticipated 11.6 percent increase for the overall industry. However, with a nation that's wired, 60.7 percent growth is expected in some of the fastest growing jobs around — software publishing, Internet publishing, Internet service, and Web search, just to name a few.

Financial Services

Some say the economy and real estate market are slowing down, but 10.5 percent growth is still expected. Real estate will continue to be strong, with an estimated 16.9 percent growth rate, or 353,000 new jobs.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Growing populations and bigger paychecks will help fuel continued growth in many areas, including the retail and trade industries. Trucking and warehouse storage will also be in demand as manufacturers increasingly contract out for product transportation and storage. Overall growth throughout these areas and others like them is anticipated to occur at a rate of 10.3 percent.

5 Jobs that Pay America's Average Salary

Taken from Rachel Zupek, CareerBuilder.com writer

Salaries are always a hot topic -- most often, as an area of complaint. In today's economy, most are simply grateful to earn a salary of any size, but you still hear things like, "I don't earn enough to survive or pay the bills" or "So-and-so is making X amount, I should be, too." Or -- my personal favorite -- "I deserve more."

Well, we all deserve more, but the reality is that right now, not many of us will get it. And, in looking at the national average salary, some of you may be surprised how you compare.

In 2008, the U.S. median wage was \$32,390 per year, according to the most recent data from the Occupational Employment Statistics* of the U.S. Department of Labor. That's not a bad chunk of change, right?

Wouldn't it be nice to know what jobs paid this salary, or better yet, what jobs pay that salary where you live and work?

Jobs by Salary, a new salary tool provided by CBSalary.com, does just that. You can look up a salary range in the area where you work/live, and the results show what jobs in your local area pay that amount. To see what jobs in your city pay close to the national average, for example, you would input \$30,000 to \$39,000, plus your city and state. You'll then get a list of jobs you can look for in this range. Keep in mind that smaller towns will not produce an average.

Since we can't give you a list of jobs in every single city, we've provided you instead with a national list of jobs that earn America's median salary.

Here are 5 jobs that fit those criteria, and the training you'll need to get them, according to the OES:

Medical transcriptionists

Qualifications: Postsecondary training in medical transcription is preferred by employers.

Salary: \$32,060

Electronic home entertainment equipment installers and repairers

Qualifications: Most learn through apprenticeship programs, postsecondary training and on-the-job training.

Salary: \$32,080

Dental assistants

Qualifications: On-the-job training, although an increasing number are trained in dental-assisting programs offered by community and junior colleges, trade schools or technical institutes.

Salary: \$32,380

Structural metal fabricators and fitters

Qualifications: High school diploma or GED; experience and extra training is needed for more advanced assembly work.

Salary: \$32,400

Bookkeeping, accounting and auditing clerks

Qualifications: High school diploma and some accounting coursework or relevant work experience.

Salary: \$32,510

**OES provides employment and wage estimates for workers in 22 major occupational groups and 801 detailed occupations. Wages published are straight-time, gross pay and don't include benefits or other extra wages, such as overtime. They are calculated by multiplying the hourly mean wage by a "year-round, full-time" hours figure of 2,080 hours.*

Rachel Zupek is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues. Follow her on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CBwriterRZ>.

What is a major?

A major is an area of study that allows you to build knowledge and skills around a specific subject or specialty area. To earn a degree in a particular major, each college requires certain courses and course credits and may provide choices for predetermined electives. These established programs are often based on national or state accreditation standards in order to guarantee that graduates are proficient with identified skills and knowledge. Most majors also require general education courses such as English, science, social sciences, math, etc.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Resume & Interviewing Skills
Thursday, Sept. 10 –3p.m.

Roadmap for Choosing Your Major
Thursday, Sept. 17 –3p.m.

What Can I Do With This Major?
Thursday, Oct. 1 –3p.m.

Resumes
Thursday, Oct. 15 –3p.m.

Making a Good First Impression
Thursday, Oct. 29 –3p.m.

Successful Interviewing
Thursday, Nov. 12 –3p.m.

Please sign up for the workshops
by Emailing
dfreeze@northwestms.edu, call-
ing 662-562-3402 or stopping
by the Career Center.

Visit the NWCC Career Center! We want to help you in your academic and career decision-making process. We encourage students to take advantage of our computerized center where you can learn about careers and occupational environments that will be compatible with your interest, personality, values, and skills.

- *We offer several career assessments to assist you in the exploration process. These include: the CHOICES Interest Profiler, the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, the Strong Interest Inventory, and the Self-Directed Search.*
- *You can research occupations and expand your awareness of emerging careers, job titles, salaries, and employment outlook.*
- *Find answers to your questions about building a resume, writing a cover letter, handling an upcoming interview, or informational interviewing.*

Make an appointment with one of our career counselors for one-on-one assistance with choosing a major or career, or to figure out your next step in the career decision-making process.

How Does My Major Relate to a Career?

When you are choosing a major, keep in mind you are not selecting a life-long career. A Biology major can become a Biologist and a History major may become a Historian. However, different majors can help you gain the knowledge and transferrable skills to apply to jobs in many different fields.

When selecting a major, you are choosing what classes you will take, what you will learn, and what skills you will acquire. Every employer looks for well rounded employees. A strong education and skills in a variety of areas are key parts to future career success. Keep in mind that most college students will change their major and career several times in their lives. As a college grad you will continue to develop your skills and identify areas in the workforce that match your interests.

If you are interested in learning more about options within your major, attend the workshop on Oct 1st at 3 p.m. or stop by the Career Center to get web resources to further research the topic.