

# **INTRODUCTION TO CAREER CLUSTERS**

## **ACTIVITY/COURSE CODE: 2830**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide middle schools with a course through which to introduce students to career possibilities in the sixteen career clusters adopted by the South Carolina Department of Education. Students will have an opportunity to explore job tasks and career opportunities in each cluster while gaining an understanding of how careers and the world of work affect individuals and their families and communities.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Access to the Internet; computer labs preferred

**CREDIT(S):** ¼, ½, or 1 unit (not a Carnegie Unit)

(To cover all 16 clusters would probably require a 1-credit course. This course allows for flexibility in scheduling so that all 16 clusters could be covered over a two- or three-year period.

### **CERTIFICATION TO TEACH THE COURSE:**

Any Career and Technology Education (CTE) certified teacher.

Any Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) certified individual.

Any middle school certified teacher with training from Career and Technology Education (CATE) or with vendor training if applicable.

### **RESOURCES:**

(Textbooks available 2008-2009)

National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). Contren® Learning Series, Careers in Construction, preview edition.

### **CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS:**

DECA. International association of high school and college students studying marketing, management and entrepreneurship in business, finance, hospitality and marketing sales and service. [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org)

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is for students enrolled in business education or business-related course. FBLA is an integral part of the business education curriculum. [www.scfbla.org](http://www.scfbla.org)

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL) is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) education association of students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields. [www.fbla-pbl.org](http://www.fbla-pbl.org)

Family, Careers, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a nonprofit national career and technical student organization for young men and women in family and consumer sciences education. [www.fcclainc.org](http://www.fcclainc.org)

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) a student organization whose mission is to promote career opportunities in health care and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. [www.hosa.org](http://www.hosa.org)

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. It was formerly known as VICA.

[www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org)

Technology Student Association is a national organization devoted to elementary, middle and high school students with a dedicated interest in technology.

[www.tsaweb.org](http://www.tsaweb.org)

#### **WEB SITES:**

Bureau of Labor Statistics. Exploring career information for students.

<http://www.bls.gov/k12/index.htm>

[www.CareerOINK.com](http://www.CareerOINK.com) can be used for many purposes, including to

- Explore long-term career options
- Consider additional education or training
- Find out about specific skills or training needed
- Identify alternative job search targets
- Begin a job search, write your resume or prepare for a job interview

Search for jobs by occupational field, state, province or country. Find jobs with government or listed on state job service web sites. Investigate job opportunities posted in internet news groups or newspaper classified ads. Check out part-time, temporary, seasonal, freelance, consulting or contract employment. Discover if a career in the non-profit sector, as a volunteer is for you. Find out what job resources exist for former military, women, minorities or other diverse populations. [www.Careers.org](http://www.Careers.org)

The sixteen (16) Career Clusters - <http://www.careerclusters.org/16clusters.htm>

Career Explorer – find your perfect career:

<http://www.careerexplorer.net/descriptions.asp>

Career Information. <http://members.tripod.com/~kburge/HomeEc/schooltocareer-2.html>

Career Planning/Occupation Briefs.

[http://careerplanning.about.com/od/occupations/a/career\\_briefs.htm](http://careerplanning.about.com/od/occupations/a/career_briefs.htm)

Career web quest on health. <http://www.union.k12.ia.us/ukhs/WebQuest/heacar.htm>

Careers in Hospitality and Culinary Art

<http://www.culinary-careers.org/culinary-information.html>

[http://starchefs.com/cooking\\_school\\_finder/html/](http://starchefs.com/cooking_school_finder/html/)

<http://www.culinary-institutes.com/>

<http://www.library.drexel.edu/resources/guides/bushospfoodjobs.html>

Culinary Arts and Food Science Career Guide. <http://www.khake.com/page30.html>

Culinary Arts Schools - Culinary Arts Careers.

<http://www.educationcenteronline.org/Culinary-Arts/index.html>

Exploring occupations-careers. <http://www.umanitoba.ca/counselling/careers.html>

JETS' website, [www.jets.org](http://www.jets.org), includes resources, articles, and activities about engineering and technology careers. JETS' November 2005 newsletter has several good articles on HVACR Engineering.

Lesson plans with links on careers to explore:

<http://42explore.com/careers.htm>

[Military Career Guide On Line](#) - The Military Career Guide Online provides information on military occupational, training, and career information. It is designed for students desiring to explore the military world of work.

[NASA Quest – Women of NASA](#) - This site was developed to encourage more young women to pursue careers in math, science, and technology.

National Environmental Education and Training Foundation –

<http://www.neetf.org/#programs>

[www.greenBiz.com](http://www.greenBiz.com)

[O\\*Net On Line](#) - This large database provides information on occupations by title, Dictionary of Occupational Title code, or job families. There are links to America's Job Bank and others. Detailed profiles are given for each occupation.

[Occupational Outlook Handbook-BLS](#) - Published by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Occupational Outlook Handbook is a nationally recognized source of career information, designed to provide valuable assistance to individuals making decisions about their future work lives. Revised every two years, the Handbook describes what workers do on the job, working conditions; the training and education needed, earnings, and expected job.

South Carolina Occupational Information System (SCOIS) is a website for the South Carolina Occupational Information System. It gives educators an overview of the SCOIS

Computer Information Database System as well as other career development materials. Links to other helpful sites are provided. <http://www.scois.net/>

South Carolina Career Guidance Model website:

<http://www.carolinacareers.org/cgm/websites/CareerGuidanceWebsites68.html> for a list of web sites for grades 6 through 8:

U.S. Department of Energy's link to Careers in Renewable Energy –

[http://eereweb.ee.doe.gov/education/careers\\_renewable\\_energy.html](http://eereweb.ee.doe.gov/education/careers_renewable_energy.html)

Want to be an Entrepreneur? - [http://www.quintcareers.com/jobs\\_for\\_teens.html](http://www.quintcareers.com/jobs_for_teens.html)

Weekly Reader educational publications for Pre-K–Grade 12 engage students, reinforce curriculum, and help you meet standards. Whether you teach social studies, science, health, English and language arts, reading (at or below grade level), or career development. [www.weeklyreader.com/teens/careerworld](http://www.weeklyreader.com/teens/careerworld)

Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program's (KEEP) website provides information on energy careers - [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/keep](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/keep).

## **VIDEOS:**

*Get a Winning Attitude* – Sunburst Visual Media

*The Skills You Need to Get a Job* – Videos for the Classroom

## **Introduction to Career Clusters Standards**

UNIT A: The student will be able to analyze how work relates to the individual and the family.

1. Identify good leadership and citizenship qualities.
2. Identify reasons people work.
3. Examine nontraditional careers and equal opportunities.
4. Analyze the expanding role of technology in the workplace.

UNIT B: The student will be able to demonstrate the Department of Labor Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) that promote success in the workplace.

1. Identify personal qualities (such as dependability, punctuality, etc.) that are needed to obtain and keep jobs.
2. Explain the importance of interpersonal relationship skills and teamwork in the workplace.

UNIT C: The student will explore career opportunities in the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT D: The student will explore in the Architecture and Construction cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT E: The student will explore in the Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT F: The student will explore in the Business, Management, and Administration cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT G: The student will explore in the Education and Training cluster through the

use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT H: The student will explore in the Finance cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT I: The student will explore in the Government and Public Administration cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT J: The student will explore in the Health Science cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT K: The student will explore in the Hospitality and Tourism cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT L: The student will explore in the Human Services cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT M: The student will explore in the Information Technology cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

UNIT N: The student will explore in the Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.

1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.

- UNIT O: The student will explore in the Manufacturing cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.
1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
  2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.
- UNIT P: The student will explore in the Marketing, Sales, and Service cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.
1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
  2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.
- UNIT Q: The student will explore career opportunities in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.
1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
  2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.
- UNIT R: The student will explore career opportunities in the Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics cluster through the use of research activities and other resources.
1. Research job tasks and career opportunities in this cluster.
  2. Create and present a presentation of this cluster.
- UNIT S: The student will investigate opportunities for developing leadership skills and expanding career knowledge and skills through Career and Technology Student Organizations (CTSOs).
1. Explore and summarize advantages of participation in the CTSOs: DECA, FBLA, FBLA-PBL, FCCLA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and TSA.
- UNIT T: The student will analyze the relationship between self-awareness and career choices.
1. Discuss the relationship between personal lifestyles and careers.
  2. Interpret assessment of personal interests, aptitudes, attitudes, learning styles, work values, multiple intelligences, personality, and abilities as they relate to personal goal setting and the career decision-making process.
- UNIT U: The student will develop a brief career portfolio to include items required by the teacher.
1. Choose an occupation related to a career inventory or assessment.

2. Develop a synopsis of education requirements and skills needed in the chosen occupation.
3. Summarize job shadowing or other job observations for the chosen occupation.
4. Include other items for the portfolio as required by the teacher.

**APPENDIX:**

SCANS - <http://wdr.doleta.gov/SCANS/whatwork/whatwork.pdf>

16 brochures and cluster sheets with majors

Student organization brochures