

**Jonathan Aronson**  
**GETTING READY FOR TOMORROW, TODAY**  
**Tuesdays 4:00-6:00\***

**Background and Rationale:** This experimental class is aimed at *sophomores and first semester transfer students*. It is designed to help students develop skills that will maximize the potential for intellectual enrichment that their college experience provides, while at the same time using that intellectual growth to begin to define themselves as engaged, confident adults ready to pursue graduate programs or careers in the “real world.”

Every effort is made to emphasize the links between students’ academic program and experiential learning opportunities (internships) to possible career paths. Guest lectures by professionals and academics augment the core course content presented in class by the instructor. An outline of the proposed sessions and topics follows:

This class focuses on projects and discussion. The instructor will provide physical or digital copies of any required reading materials.

1. **(Aug 27) Introduction and Assignments**
2. **(Sep 3) No Class (Prepare for Weeks 3 & 4)**
3. **(Sep 10) Presenting yourself (I):** Why are you special and what will make you stand out? (But be cautious to curate your online "digital footprint.") Getting from where you are to where you want to be. Hint: Look forward, not backwards. How do you want to change the world? Resumes and Personal Statements
4. **(Sep 17) Presenting yourself (II):** Why are you special and what will make you stand out? (But be cautious to curate your online "digital footprint.") Deciding what constitute success and figuring out how to get there. More Personal Statements & Elevator Pitches
5. **(Sep 24) No Class (Prepare for Weeks 6 & 7)**
6. **(Oct 1) It’s all about money! (I)** Eddie Sutton, a legendary but not very successful bank robber was once asked why he kept robbing banks. His answer: “That’s where the money is!” Part I considers money and exchange rates, banking and finance, credit cards and PayPal, and debt and student loans. (Guest: Lana Schwartz)
7. **(Oct 8) It’s all about money! (II)** An introduction to reading a balance sheet (Guest Instructor Bruce Missaggia)

8. **(Oct 15) No Class (Prepare for Weeks 9 & 10)**
9. **(Oct 22) Digital and Media Literacy (I):** What does it mean? What does every graduate need to understand? What don't you need to know- at least for now?
10. **(Oct 29) Digital and Media Literacy (II): Digital Assignment/Exercise**
11. **(Nov 5) No Class (Prepare for Weeks 12 & 13)**
12. **(Nov 12) Putting yourself forward (I):** Preparation, public speaking and debate (thinking on your feet). How to succeed at meetings, teams, and presentations.
13. **(Nov 19) Presenting yourself (II):** Preparation, public speaking and debate (thinking on your feet). How to succeed at meetings, teams, and presentations.
14. **(Nov 26) No Class (Work on your papers for other classes)**
15. **(Dec 3) Transition to the "Real World": Ethics & Corporate Culture:** Balancing your job and your life; balancing your ambition and your ethics; dealing with competition for promotion and harassment issues.

**NOTE: Enrollment in this course satisfies the course credit requirement for unpaid internships. However, there is a special automatic waiver that allows students to take this class and four additional units of internship.**

**\*The course will meet for 10 Tuesdays during the Fall 2013 semester.**