OVERVIEW

Narrated by a young man in a classroom setting, this video provides much factual information about the top 50 promising careers for people without a college degree but who have experience and training. Each of the 50 jobs is listed in order by rank from one to fifty. The listings include average annual earnings, projected percentage growth rate, and an estimated number of job openings expected each year.

Mike Farr of JIST Publishing offers tips and advice on how to weigh skills, values, and personality traits when making career decisions.

Insight is given on certain occupations through interviews with people that work in them.

PRESENTATION SUGGESTIONS

Begin the class by asking the students to suggest several ideas about what they think the number-one job in the country is today for people without a college degree. Explain that they should think about income the job generates, how much the field is growing, and how many jobs like it are available. Use the example of a rock star as a poor example of the number-one job because, although the annual income is extremely high, there is not much growth in the rock star industry and there are very limited job openings each year. Have the class compile a list of what they believe are the top ten careers without a college degree. Write these on the board/overhead.

Complete the Anticipation Quiz before viewing the video, The 50 Best Jobs for the 21st Century: Promising Careers Without College Degrees. Have the students set aside the completed quizzes until after the video presentation.

Just before viewing, emphasize to the students that they will need to take notes. They must write at least three jobs that interest them from the video.

At the conclusion of the video, ask the students to take out their Anticipation Quizzes and review the responses. Allow time for students to add or delete information to make each of their responses correct. Discuss the responses. Follow the discussion with one or both of the follow-up Activities.
Complete the Quick Quiz in class, and correct the quizzes together as a group. Assign the Homework Option if desired.

ANTICIPATION QUIZ

Note: Complete this quiz prior to viewing the video, The 50 Best Jobs for the 21st Century: Promising Careers Without College Degrees. The questions may be read aloud, allowing time for student responses, or copied and distributed to the students as a written exercise.

Directions: Respond to each question as thoroughly and completely as possible.

1. What do you believe to be the career area that contains the number-one job of today?
2. Which would you say is most stressful: a job in a high-energy field or a job that you do not enjoy and is going nowhere?
3. Describe the way you think you could get a real idea of what a job is all about.
4. How do you feel about gaining experience or advanced training in order to achieve a better career opportunity?

ACTIVITIES

Activity #1
Title: Search and Research
Format: Individual
Time: 20–30 minutes
Materials: paper, pen/pencil, selection of career reference materials at least one per student (i.e., books, newspapers, magazines, directories)
Procedure:
1. Explain to the students that they will be researching three jobs that interested them and were mentioned in the video.
2. Provide a brief overview of any of the reference materials available. Be sure to emphasize the fact that they will need to pass around and share materials.
3. Before beginning the research time, answer and discuss any questions. Remind the class to write as much specific information as they can find about each job, especially regional information that may vary from the information in the video.
4. Finally, begin the research time by asking the students to identify the job they feel holds the most interest after the research is complete.

Activity #2
Title: Like What You Do
Format: Individual  
Time: 10–15 minutes  
Materials: pen/pencil, paper, markers (optional), Diagram A  
Procedure:  
1. Distribute Diagram A to each student.  
2. Explain to the class that the diagram may be used to reflect the best way they feel they will reach the end goal in the “You Will Be Here!” box. They will number the goals and draw arrows in any order they choose. On the lines inside the boxes, they will write how they plan to achieve the goal.  
3. Allow time for the students to share their maps in small groups.  

DIAGRAM A  
(Note: Each of the headings written here in block letters is to be placed at the top of an individual box. Underneath the headings please make 5 or 6 blank lines for the students to write on. The lines should be inside the boxes. These should be about 3x3 square.)  

YOU WILL BE HERE!  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  

Goal # ___  

FIND A JOB  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  

Goal #___  

COMPLETE EDUCATION  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________  

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### Goal #___

**ACQUIRE SKILLS**

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### Goal #___

**PRESENT SKILLS**

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### Goal #___

**KEEP JOB**

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**QUICK QUIZ**

**Note:** These quiz questions may be read aloud, allowing time for students to respond, or copied and distributed as a written exercise.

**Directions:** Answer each question with at least one sentence.

1. Which career is the number-one job in the country for non-college graduates?
2. Name three things you should consider besides annual income, growth percentage, and estimated job openings?
3. What is a good way to find out more about whether a career is right for you?
4. What is the most helpful piece of information you learned about the most promising careers without college degrees?

**ANSWER KEY**

1. The number-one career for non-college graduates is Securities and Financial Services Sales Workers.
2. The time it takes away from your family. The life style you want. Your work style. How you want to spend your time. How you want to spend your day. What interests you. How much education/training is required.
3. Reference books. Talk to people who do the job you are interested in. Internet. Make connections with people in the field. Volunteer or get an internship to get experience.
4. Answers will vary.

**HOMEWORK OPTION**

Find a local newspaper with a large Classified Advertisement section. Using your notes from the video, highlight any of the jobs advertised that fall into the top ten jobs categories. Then, write a brief paragraph discussing whether the number of advertisements you saw shows that it is indeed a growing field in your area of the country.