

ARCH 4861 Professional Practice

Assignment: Seven Year Plan for Career and Life

“A goal without a plan is just a wish.”

– Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

“If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.”

– Yogi Berra

As part of your final project and presentation, you will write and present a seven-year plan for your career and life. The final project will also include a resume and work samples. Guidelines for these two items will be posted later.

Throughout the semester, your seven-year plan will be written and rewritten as you research possibilities, discuss options, reflect on your personal traits and values. It is important to consult significant others about your desires. Will you remain in NYC? Think about your finances, family needs and legal situation. Although written and submitted to me, you do not have to present this publicly.

Your plan should

- Be written in clear, concise language appropriate for employment
- Use spell check!
- Include layouts, fonts and graphics easily understood by others and consistent with your desired self-image
- Show an understanding of the building and associated industries and use appropriate terms
- Reflect the requirements of graduate education and licensure, if these are part of your plan.

Suggestions for Seven Year Plan

- Introduction
Ideally this would be your “elevator pitch”. See other posting for information
- Assessment of you
Personal, academic, experiences, skills
- Your goals and dreams Be specific!
- Research done
This done with your team. Each person should select 2-3 job search sites or graduate schools. At least one graduate school should be a reach in terms of finances or academic achievement and at least one should be located outside NYC. Guidelines for reporting will be issued shortly.
- Visit a venue which will add to your knowledge. This could be a trade show, school visit or organization meeting.
- Evaluate and number the possibilities in order of preference.
- Will you need a license or certification? What is necessary to earn this?
- Create a timeline. Be specific!

We will discuss a schedule in class. Writing and research should be performed throughout the semester. Hopefully your views will change as you gain knowledge and understanding.