

The



Strategy

The My Blueprint for Life™ Strategy

Introduction

Who am I?

Where am I going?

How do I get there?

These are questions which ring in the hearts of college students – questions they may not have considered to this point in their lives. Whether they need help to frame these questions or whether they have framed these questions for themselves, most college students have little idea of how to go about finding answers to these questions. The *My Blueprint for Life™* program of Community Christian College was created to help college students find those answers.

God has created each person with a unique design – as unique and as individualized as a fingerprint. *My Blueprint for Life™* has been crafted to help students discover how God has uniquely designed them and how understanding that distinctive design can enrich their growth, development and life experience. It can also enable students and their families to make effective decisions about the student’s future by leading the student to the answers to the three key questions above – Who am I? Where am I going? How do I get there?

Each student who attends Community Christian College becomes part of the *My Blueprint for Life™* program. Through a series of surveys, tests and inventories, students will learn more about themselves in terms of their strengths and weaknesses, their gifts and abilities, their interests and passions, as well as have the opportunity to explore possible college majors and lifetime careers that are consistent with their unique design. *My Blueprint for Life™* is a curriculum-based program which begins at new student orientation, continues through the College Forum 101 class, and concludes with the College Forum 201 class. The culmination of the *My Blueprint for Life™* program will be the creating of a Personal Life Plan as the final project in the College Forum 201 class.

Instruments and Inventories

The instruments and inventories listed below are used to help each student identify and utilize his/her unique design. The activity or class in which they are administered follows each instrument.

Keirsey Temperament Sorter II [New Student Orientation]

The Keirsey Temperament Sorter II is a 70 question inventory designed to help people discover their predominant personality type. It identifies 16 personality types under the major categories of Artisan, Guardian, Idealist, and Rational. This inventory has been used for many years in education, business and industry to assist individuals in understanding their personal temperament and relational patterns.

Learning Styles Assessment [New Student Orientation]

This assessment will identify a student's individual learning style. The major styles of learning are visual learning, verbal learning and kinesthetic learning. While everyone uses a combination of all three styles, each person has a dominant learning style (or styles). Identifying and understanding his/her learning style enhances a student's opportunity for academic success.

DISC Biblical Personal Profile [College Forum 101 Class]

This inventory identifies 16 personality blends and associates these blends with specific traits or behaviors of individuals as recorded in the Bible. Students write a paper highlighting how well their chosen pattern fits them, how well their chosen pattern fits the Biblical character associated with that pattern, how they are like and unlike the Biblical character associated with their pattern, and what they learned about themselves through writing this paper.

People Patterns [College Forum 101 Class]

This is a book which expands the discussion of the same categories as those of the Keirsey Temperament II Sorter. It uses characters from films to illustrate the temperaments and details how the various temperaments impact attitudes, relationships and careers.

TEAM Ministry Spiritual Gifts Inventory [College Forum 101 Class]

This is a free, online inventory which gives students insight into what their spiritual gifts may be. It can be taken in less than 30 minutes and gives a printout for each person who takes the inventory.

Self-Directed Search [College Forum 201 Class]

This test is a career counseling tool. It consists of several booklets used to determine potential career and vocational interests and reviews hundreds of current career choices in America. The test directs the student to additional information and research on specific career fields.

Kuder Career Planning System [College Forum 201 Class]

This is an educational and career planning tool that is based on each student's interests, skills and values. The entire process takes an hour to an hour and a half to complete. Since it measures students' interests, skills and values, it approaches the idea of potential a somewhat different perspective than some other inventories.

The Program

While each of the instruments and inventories are useful in themselves, their full value can only be mined through follow-up in both group and personal settings. In order to insure this follow-up, the program includes these features:

Inventory Facilitators

The *My Blueprint for Life*TM program works best when students are led through each of the inventories in a group setting in orientation or the classroom. This procedure provides opportunities to answer questions, clarify confusion and to have students correctly complete the inventory. The completion of these inventories can be followed by general application given by the Inventory Facilitator. The materials will be collected when completed and placed in each student's *My Blueprint for Life*TM file. When appropriate, photocopied results will be given to students.

Inventory Facilitators must have taken the inventory themselves and must have completed a training session on how to use the inventory effectively before leading a group of students through one of the inventories. Specific training will be required for each of the inventories listed above. When possible, a new Inventory Facilitator should attend and observe an experienced facilitator leading a group of students through the inventory before leading a group himself/herself.

Blueprint Coaches

Blueprint coaches are not therapists or consultants but they are guides to provide encouragement and assistance to students as these students seek to understand the implications and applications of the various inventories. Coaches will meet one-on-one with each first-year student toward the end of the quarter in which he/she takes the College Forum 101 class. The coach will review each of the inventories taken up to that point, ask pointed questions and begin the discussion about possible majors and careers.

This coaching will continue in the context of the College Forum 201 class and may also continue outside of the classroom if students need additional help as they make decisions about majors and about which colleges they might wish to attend. Assistance in the actual application process will also be provided.

Those who serve as coaches must complete a training session on the responsibilities of coaches. These responsibilities will include a commitment to reviewing the results of their students' inventories, a commitment to initiate personal meetings with students, and a commitment to be available to answer student questions (or help students to find the answers). When possible, a new Blueprint Coach should attend and observe an experienced coach leading a coaching session with a student.

College Forum Instructors

Those who teach the College Forum 101 and 201 courses will meet regularly during the quarters when these classes are taught to insure that the same information is being taught in each class, to answer questions that may arise from the teaching of the classes, and/or to suggest changes in the material or method of the teaching of the classes. The first meeting will occur no later than one week prior to the first class period.

When possible, the instructors for the classes should serve as Blueprint Coaches for those students in their class.

Blueprint Evaluation Committee

After the completion of each quarter in which the College Forum 101 class is taught, Inventory Facilitators, Blueprint Coaches and College Forum Instructors will assemble for an evaluation meeting to discuss the effectiveness of the *My Blueprint for Life*TM

program in the previous quarter. Suggestions for change and improvement of the program will be considered by this Evaluation Committee.

Training

Inventory Facilitators

Inventory Facilitators are those trained to take students through a particular inventory in an understandable way. They will typically be the instructors for the College Forum 101 and 201 classes. Basic training is outlined below.

Keirsey Temperament Sorter II

Prospective facilitators will have taken the Temperament Sorter themselves so that they understand what the process entails. Training will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- explaining the meaning of the inventory questions if there is confusion
- amplifying the eight components of temperaments (CCC material)
- understanding the general characteristics of the four temperaments
- linking students' temperaments with specific careers (CCC material)
- having students complete the KTS summary sheet (CCC material)

Learning Styles Assessment [VAK Questionnaire]

Prospective facilitators will have taken the Learning Styles Assessment themselves so that they understand what the process entails. Training will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- explaining the meaning of the VAK questions if there is confusion
- how to lead students through the scoring aspect of the questionnaire
- how to teach students the practical use of the learning styles (CCC material)
- how to instruct students in completing the VAK summary sheet (CCC material)

DISC Biblical Personal Profile

Prospective facilitators will have taken the DISC Biblical Personal Profile themselves so that they understand what the process entails. Training will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- explaining the meaning of words on the response page
- how to assist students in locating their profile pattern
- how to outline for students the requirements of the follow-up paper

People Patterns

Prospective facilitators will have taken the People Patterns Shorter Sorter themselves so that they understand what the process entails. Training will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- explaining the meaning of the inventory questions if there is confusion
- how to compare the results of this inventory with the KTS II
- reviewing the assigned reading chapters in College Forum 101

TEAM Ministry Spiritual Gifts Inventory

Prospective facilitators will have taken the Spiritual Gifts Inventory themselves so that they understand what the process entails. Training will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- how to lead students to the appropriate website
- how to talk through the meaning of the results
- having students complete the SGI summary sheet (CCC material)

Self-Directed Search

Prospective facilitators will have taken the Self-Directed Search themselves so that they understand what the process entails. Training will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- explaining the meaning of the inventory questions if there is confusion
- how to demonstrate the use of The Occupations Finder
- how to review the “Next Steps” section
- having students complete the SDS summary sheet (CCC material)

Kuder Career Planning System

Those leading the KCPS will have training which will include:

- walking through the process with the trainer
- how to set up students on the computer (CCC credit card)
- how to access and review results with students
- having students complete the KCPS summary sheet (CCC material)

Blueprint Coaches

Blueprint Coaches meet one-on-one with students to help them see the connections between the *My Blueprint for Life*TM inventories and the personal life of the student.

Basic training is outlined below.

- talking about setting up personal appointments with students
- reviewing the inventories which coaches will examine with students
- discussing the three key questions based on the inventories [Who am I? Where am I going? How will I get there?]
- assisting the student to find answers to questions which might come up during the meeting

College Forum Instructors

Instructors in the College Forum classes should be experienced instructors who tend to have good relationships with students. The characteristics would be those desirable in any instructor with the following additions:

- willingness to learn to be an Inventory Facilitator
- willingness to attend regular meetings regarding the College Forum classes
- willingness to attend evaluation meeting at the end of the quarter

Conclusion

Who am I? Where am I going? How do I get there? If students leaving Community Christian College with an AA degree in Liberal Arts are able to clearly articulate the answers to these questions, they are well on their way to success in life. This success includes, but is not limited to, academic success. Success in a career, in family and community life, and in their role and responsibilities in the body of Christ are tied to the answers to these questions. It is to foster success in all these areas that Community Christian College is committed to providing *My Blueprint for Life*[™].