



Workshop 3 Global Career Trends

Student Summary

This workshop will seek to provide you with the following:

- Identify dominant changes (social, demographic, technological, economic) shaping the global labour market.
- Research and anticipate the impact of major changes and events on career trends and the career/life planning process, and develop an understanding of how the demand for occupations and skills will change over time as will the way work is done.
- Discuss how the workplace and work opportunities, locally and globally, are affected by these changes.
- Explore the occupational outlook of a career area of interest, considering the impact of global trends on the future of the related careers.

At the end you will take with you:

1. Student handout outlining 10-15 key global career trends.
2. Student handout listing specific resources (e.g. websites, books) to learn more about global career trends.
3. Have an understanding of how to research requirements of careers and global trends.



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Introduction

This workshop will introduce you to an important skill in planning and maintaining a career – spotting trends and forecasting the future. Trends and the impact of current events can have an effect on your career opportunities and plans.

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Setting the Context

What are trends and why are they important?

- The dictionary defines a trend as ‘the general direction of change’.
- Trends are complex, shaped by various interrelated forces, sometimes by an event, sometimes by a series of developments.
- Significant changes in the nature of work have been initiated by social, economic, technological, demographic, or environmental trends.
- Having a familiarity with these trends enables us to *anticipate* how the workplace and occupations will change over time.
- Gives us a competitive advantage in the global marketplace if we can spot trends as they emerge.

HO1 – Spotting Trends



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This handout outlines a few trends and changes that have occurred over the past 30 years. Take a look at them and see if you can think of a few more?

Researching Trends

Now lets look at a few articles on some current things that are changing that could impact your choices and will impact your future!

OH2 –Articles Researching Trends

HO2 – Global Trends Research Sites

HO3 – Worksheet on Trends

Here is one example:

TREND: Technology Innovation

Anticipated Effects on the Workplace:

- Restructuring of companies (Telus, Primus, etc.) that specialize in 'land line' communications or long-distance telephone service.
- Re-skilling will be necessary for phone installers and others involved in supporting the 'land line' technology.
- Entrepreneurial opportunities for Internet providers.
- Re-organization of job duties within larger companies that utilize specialized 'receptionists' to screen and direct phone calls.
- More?

Ok we are going to research a few trends and think about how they could impact our possible career choices and lives. Use the articles and links provided in the handout to do this on your own time, find out about more things that will impact your choices!

Research Activity

Participate in either group or individual research. ***Follow this up after and look at the sites and stories that interested you!***

HO4 – Trend Spotting



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HO5 – Websites Occupational Research

HO6 –Occupational Forecast Sheet

Discussion

As you have discovered from your research on the net/articles, the evidence of trends can be found on the net, and in the news. You can keep abreast of the news by perusing magazines such as *Time* or *Maclean's*, and just by being observant of changes around us. Social, economic, environmental, demographic, technological developments impact the nature of work in a variety of ways – creating new opportunities, requiring new skill sets, changing work environments, etc.

Check out:

HO7 – Top Ten Innovations

HO10 – Global Trends Summary

Use your worksheet to record the trends and information you collect. There are some consistent ones around globalization. You need to be aware of it and prepare for it. Employers have new expectations and there are new opportunities for people that are in global careers. See how these apply to you, your life, your career and your future.

International Experience

One of the key challenges in a global economy is global awareness and experience. This could be languages, cultural experience, understanding the economy, being able to perform duties in various countries or with global teams. To do this you have to gain the experience. There are a variety of ways to get international experience and one of the best is through internships and study abroad options available in most high schools and universities. International experience was listed as very desirable in a number of recent employer surveys and understanding global issues as well as cultural diversity and experience is always a good thing to have. Additional languages are also a valuable commodity when looking at high-level positions in global companies serving diverse communities. International experience can also increase your chances of success in getting into university programs both locally and internationally.

Check out the article on preparing for an international career.

HO8- Preparing for an international Career

We have provided a list of internship sites, and research resources in your package.

HO9 – Internship Resources



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Ok Lets Review

- What are some of the trends you spotted in the 'trend spotting' activity that relate to the occupations you researched?
- In what ways might the occupation you researched change over time as a result of those trends?
- Why should you plan to interview people working in the career field you are interested in?

Next Steps:

- Compare the information you gather from 'live' sources with the printed sources you used today.
- Consider getting some work experience or volunteer experience in the career field.

Just like a wise traveler would **investigate** the culture, climate and current conditions before embarking on a trip, you have learned how to **investigate** global career trends and the labour market before embarking on your career journey!