

Navigating the Field

The goal of this assignment is to provide students with the opportunity to think critically, and daydream actively, about their place in their chosen field of study. Successful responses to the prompt will consider both the student's motivations for entering the field, and also the student's hopes for what the field will offer them. Because of the breadth of its approach, this assignment can be manipulated to apply in more particular ways to any course of study, any major.

Prompt: Consider what brought you to the field of _____. What aspects of this course of study answer to your own intellectual tendencies and / or professional goals? Be sure to identify those tendencies and goals, as you see them already present within yourself.

What skills do you bring to the field, which you see as enriching your ability to navigate this course of study fruitfully?

Then, consider the question of what you'd like to take with you from the field of _____. What intellectual and / or personal qualities would you like this course of study to strengthen? Can you identify any skill sets you would like to build upon during your time in the department?

And finally, how do you see yourself applying these qualities and skills in your future professional life?