

Belief

People who are especially talented in the Belief theme have certain core values that are unchanging. Out of these values emerges a defined purpose for their life.



General Academic Life Tips

- Write an academic mission statement for yourself. Integrate your core values, such as leaving the world better than you found it, curing AIDS, ending violence, or affirming the dignity of each human being.
- Discover ways to weave your core values into routine classroom assignments. Write and speak about topics directly related to your beliefs.
- Read about individuals who stood up for their convictions in the face of resistance. Determine who inspired these people to dedicate their lives to great and noble causes.
- Debate an issue like: "Money is the true source of happiness." Argue for and against this proposition. Ask yourself, "How was my position strengthened when I could incorporate my beliefs into the argument? How was my position weakened when I had to defend the opposing point of view?"



Extracurricular Activities

- Figure out ways to spend quality time with your family. Make a point of going home or calling to show you are thinking of them on birthdays and special holidays.
- Consider running for a campus office. Build your campaign platform on values-oriented issues that matter greatly to you. Inform potential voters about what you stand for and why.
- Practice speaking a foreign language by helping a refugee family adapt to their new country and its customs.
- Serve meals at a local homeless shelter. Deliver Meals on Wheels®. Take time to visit with each shut-in.



Career Development Tips

- Spend time thinking about your "calling." Once you have articulated this mission, seek more information at the career center about careers that can help you fulfill it.
- A mentoring relationship can provide a valuable way for you to gain insight into the fit between who you are and what you were meant to do with your life. Mentoring and being mentored increases the chances for your behaviors, decisions, and beliefs to remain congruent.
- Environments that are a good fit with your own mission and beliefs will bring out your best. Seek employment in companies and organizations that exhibit a strong sense of mission - that is, a commitment to positively affecting the quality of people's lives.
- Research opportunities in helping professions such as medicine, law enforcement, social work, refugee relocation, teaching, ministry, and search-and-rescue. Talk with people who provide services to individuals in need. Interview those who supervise them.
- Workplaces that respect your commitment to your family and allow for a balance between work and family demands will enable you to thrive.