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My Journey in Choosing a Major

Katherine Pierson

Utah State University, A02223442@usu.edu

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My journey in choosing a major

A Presentation on an Argumentative
Research Project.

Thesis

- From my research, I have formulated a basic plan for my studies while attending Utah State University. I found that the best course of action for me would be to focus on achieving a bachelor's degree in graphic design.

Life's full of
tough choices,
innit?



Why Graphic Design





Job Opportunities

- Many different areas of emphasis that allow creative output
 - Logo design
 - animation,
 - advertising,
 - web design,
 - product/package design
 - etc
- US Job outlook for graphic designers: 24,000 job openings /yr



Hands on work experience

- “...research in college students has demonstrated that active learning is more effective than passive lecture-based learning, likely because active learning activities allow students to make their own connections with the material” (LaDage et al., 2018).
- Allows for more retention of curriculum



Why Formal Art Study



Structured learning Environment

- Provides motivation
- Regulated
- Clearer path



Competitiveness and improvement

- Though USU only lets in about 20 students into the graphic design program per semester, I still have time within my college career to improve my skills to work up to that point
- Competition can provide motivation and opportunity to grow and improve



Networking

- “The best schools connect students with a network of professors – many of whom may be industry pros themselves – as well as advisers, visiting artists, networking and recruiting events, and also other students, who act as your support system for years to come,”
- Potential employers/ clients
 - Allows them to come to you
- the more people you know the easier it is to find stable work



Alternative Plans
for the future.





Geology as Second Choice

A photograph of an artist's workspace. In the center, a silver metal tin can is filled with numerous paintbrushes of various sizes and colors. To the left, a palette with several colors of paint is visible. The background is a blurred wall with a colorful abstract painting. The foreground shows a table covered with various art supplies, including tubes of paint, brushes, and other tools. The overall scene is a creative and busy artistic environment.

Other Means of Art Study

Conclusion

- In finding out that the BFA program here on campus was so limited and competitive, I decided I would keep geology as a back-up plan by continuing to take some of these courses as electives. Even so, art is something that I never want to, nor can I ever give up. Art is too much an integral part of my identity to give it up completely. No matter what my future holds, I will still have ways to continue my artistic journey. There are always alternative means to improve and expand my artistic skills and repertoire. I am excited to see what I can accomplish in my college years to come.

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Emily Tumina (personal communication, October 26, 2022) shared experience in getting an art degree at Utah State University.

Angela Neff (personal communication, October 27, 2022) gave data on acceptance into Utah State University Caine College of the Arts Bachelor's program.