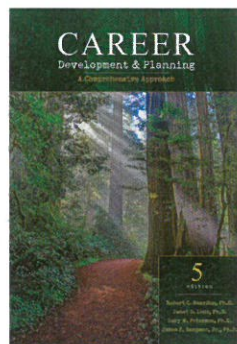




CAREER DEVELOPMENT



Career Development & Planning: A Comprehensive Approach, 5th edition. Robert C. Reardon, Janet C. Lenz, Gary W. Peterson, and James P. Sampson. Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. 2017. 293 pages. \$83.50.

Simply put, *Career Development & Planning: A Comprehensive Approach* is a textbook for an undergraduate career planning course that has been developed over many years by its four authors. Yet, it is not simple in its almost encyclopedic span addressing a wide range of career development issues pertinent to the challenges and opportunities facing today’s undergraduate student.

The academically well-steeped authors approach career development from a cognitive psychology standpoint as well as from the applied behavioral sciences in their model of career decision making and problem solving. Their approach has been empirically validated through 10 peer-reviewed studies, which have demonstrated the positive impact on the career development of the college population that have gone through the course.

Striving to make their course academically viable for course credit, the authors address a range of career development theorists and introduce their “Pyramid of Information-Processing Domains” and “CASVE Cycle”; both models provide explanations of effective career decision making. Additionally, they discuss the role of cognitive information processing theory, which addresses how the

“brain takes in, stores, and uses information” in making career decisions. The theoretical aspects of the book are balanced nicely with more than 40 pages of career exploration and decision-making exercises for the reader to work through.

The authors’ approach to career development has been tested over time, stretching back to the 1970s. As a result, while each chapter’s end point includes a helpful list of source references, some readers may perceive that there are not enough current citations.

While serving as an excellent resource for schools that have developed and implemented (or that are considering developing) career development courses, this book may serve another purpose well. As mid- and upper-level HR professionals transition, or consider transitioning, into collegiate career development roles, this book may function as a worthy “primer,” providing substantive foundational career development content.

DALE AUSTIN
Hope College