

Case Studies Week 2

Case 7

Yesterday Jack heard about the campus financial aid centre and how much money was available for grants. He is taking a full academic program and is under financial pressure. But he feels that because he comes from a middle class family, he would not be eligible.

Should he investigate?

Case 8

Tony has a hard time staying awake in Mr Bush's history lectures. Although Mr Bush obviously knows what he is talking about, he is more of an historian than a teacher. Yesterday Tony discovered that Professor Bush does not record or require attendance and that many students pass his examinations by simply reading on their own. Tony decided to try this approach. Instead of going to class, he would read in the library. Another student promised to tell him in advance about any special assignments or examinations that are coming up.

Is Tony making a smart move?

Case 13

Sally, a business administration major, is constantly irritated by her accounting teacher, Mrs Long. The teacher's voice is loud and raspy. She has a nervous laugh, and she frequently refuses to answer questions. Her brusque impatience is humiliating to those who need more time to learn. The situation has become so disturbing that Sally is finding it difficult to do concentrate in class. As a result she is not doing well in the frequent tests.

Should she drop the class?

Case 16

Sylvia has wanted to become a veterinarian or physician since she was 12 years old. Every test she has taken has reinforced this dream. When she entered

college 3 months ago she was advised to take chemistry and advanced algebra. But last week both her chemistry and maths professors told her that her work was less than satisfactory. Sylvia was so discouraged that she dropped both courses.

Did she take the right action?

Case 18

Margo is in her early 30's. She was recently divorced and has 2 children. She recently enrolled in college and wants to take every possible shortcut toward getting her credential. To support herself and her family, she must work part-time while attending college. A highly assertive woman, she explains her attitude in this way: "I am here to earn my degree and credential and then find a job. Nothing else matters. I haven't the time to build relationships with other students or teachers. I'm going to do the academic work and that's all."

Is Margo making a good decision?

Case 20

Bruce enrolled at a local college primarily because he wanted to discover what he wanted to do with his life. His plan was simple: he would take a single course in every possible department or division until he found one that he really liked. Only then would he start concentrating on one area. He decided that his plan would eventually lead him to a good career, although he admitted that it would take him some extra time.

Do you approve of Bruce's plan?

Case 21

Angela took an interest inventory, talked with her counselor at length, and did considerable research on her own. She became convinced that she wanted to spend her life helping others. She finally narrowed her choice to three careers: teaching, social work, and personnel work in business. Her planned strategy is to first get a credential and try to become a teacher. If that doesn't work, she will then try social work. If nothing opens up there, she will seek a position in business that will lead to personnel work.

Is Angela's strategy sound?