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English 1102

24 April 2018

Research Topic Name

“What are you going to do after graduation?” (Glantz). Countless millennial college students and graduates are bombarded with this question by parents, professors, and interviewers at a certain point in their academic career, the predicted answers commonly being either to embark on a job or pursue post-graduate education (Hudgins, Edmundson). Contrasting answers from college students and graduates, however, such as enjoying the inactive respite between college and employment or traveling the world before entering the workforce, are often received by employers with little approval (Vogt). Consequently, the most common mode of operation in most of today’s graduates who are making the transition from academic to professional life, to “do something with [his or her] [college degree] as soon as possible,” is largely the result of the influence of many employers’ preferences on how a college graduate should spend his or her time after college and before employment (Thottam). Nevertheless, college graduates are increasingly giving importance to concepts such as being true to themselves, discovering their passions, and traveling the world, and many career experts and academic professionals are beginning to support this tendency (Mayhew, Beider, Lavingia, Vogt). In a generation teeming with college students and graduates in pursuit of career success, the average graduate beginning his or her career immediately after college is considered standard, and concepts such as individuality, discovering oneself, and wanderlust are more commonly considered foreign, rather than receiving the credibility that many career experts and academic professionals agree that these values should have.