DIRTY JOBS: EXPLORING INTRINSIC BENEFITS

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is there not an assignment sheet?

Because this activity is done in-class and is low stakes, it is best carried out verbally to the students. By not giving a detailed assignment sheet, the students' creativity can take a front seat in generating both the list of intrinsic benefits and the job advertisement.

Further, this class as a whole wants to mimic the real-world work environment, where assignments and instructions are often given verbally. This is good practice for active listening skills.

Do students always understand the jobs and the associated duties, work environment?

Not always. It is helpful for the instructor to float among the groups as they work to make sure they have a clear picture of the job. For example, it helps them to know that "Crime Scene Cleaner" is not the glamorous job that the CSI people do, but instead is the job of the people who come in to literally clean up the crime scene after the investigation is over. Many students do not understand the job of a mortician and the education and knowledge necessary for the position.

What pitfalls should I avoid as the instructor?

Make sure the groups do not get bogged down in the minutiae of the job requirements. Some of the jobs require a college degree; some do not. It is important to focus on the intrinsic benefits gained from doing the job itself, and these should be used to persuade the audience to apply.