



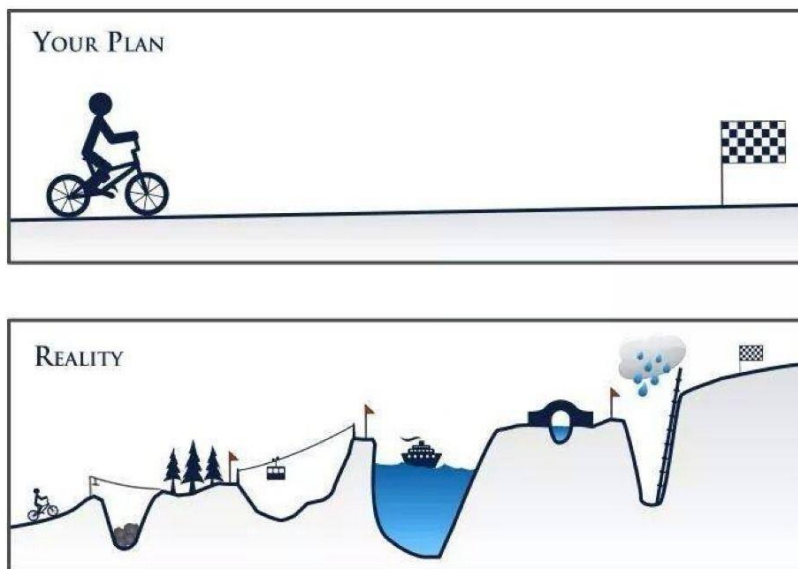
CLC & Capstone

You are at the crux of an incredibly important time of your life, one that is full of anticipation, excitement, anxiety and wonderment. Hopefully you have taken some time to think about your post-graduation plan over the past four years of career education, as a lot will be changing in your life over the next little while!

Do you remember playing **The Game of Life** when you were younger? It seemed so easy back then. If you didn't like your career you could go back a few spaces and choose another one. Getting married or having children wasn't stressful - you were given generous gifts and rewarded with extra cash at the end of the game! Run out of money? Just use a promissory note to get access to \$20,000. Hey - you were even given a free car at the beginning of the game!

If only the real game of life were that easy, we wouldn't need to think so much about our career-life decisions as often.

In looking ahead to the next few years in your life, there are going to be a lot of deviations from the plan you have today. What we think is a straight line between our personal and career goals is actually a journey of triumphs and challenges, and it is up to you to navigate the journey.



A large part of this CLC curriculum is centered around preparing students for their journey, as the triumphs and challenges will not stop once you are in our chosen career. According to an article on [entrepreneur.com](https://www.entrepreneur.com) ([Links to an external site.](#))[Links to an external site.](#), there are nine reasons that serve as the reason people to change their job or career plans:

- *They didn't choose their current career* - it may have been chosen because of a family connection or random circumstance. It's nice to choose a career on your own!
- *The economy hit their field hard* - perhaps an economic or technological change negatively impacted their current field, leaving few job opportunities.
- *They've developed an interest in an emerging industry* - during your life, you will come to learn that there are an amazing number of careers available today that you would have never realized existed when you were in high school.
- *They hit a ceiling* - anyone can hit a ceiling in advancing their career, and, although sometimes another job in the same field can help you break past it, sometimes you need a complete career change.
- *They need more money* - sometimes the career field you thought you wanted turns out to not work financially. There's no doubt that some careers give you better access to money than others.
- *Their talents don't match their field* - if your talents don't match the field you find yourself in, switch careers as soon as possible. You should find a field that is a better match for you.
- *They have a major change in perspective* - sometimes marriage, divorce or even a trip overseas can completely change your perspective. Major changes in your perspective can make it vital that you change careers.
- *The challenge is gone* - if you're no longer challenged by your current job or you're bored with your current field, a career change could be the spark you need.
- *They've burnt out* - perhaps you've given your all, and now you feel like there's nothing left to give. There are some situations a week of vacation can't fix, and burnout is one of them. Your best option is to switch careers as soon as possible.

In this next assignment, you will begin to think of those life-altering events that can make changes - and therefore flexibility - necessary. You may think your plan is a solid one, and it may very well be, but being prepared for factors and trends that may influence our decisions will definitely help you in the long run!