

## *Using Your Strengths to Achieve Success: Connectedness*

You have faith in the links between all things, believing there are a few coincidences; almost every event has a reason. Your talent is valuable because you provide conviction and faith that sustain and encourage people in difficult times. You believe in a plan, a design, and a power that provide meaning and confidence.

## Applying to Academics

### General Academic Life

- Search for linkages between your coursework and what you're being called to contribute to the entire human family today and in the future.
- Examine how your life is inextricably tied to those of people in other parts of the world and from the past.
- Find ways to build bridges of understanding between classmates as well as between students and their professors. Realize that you're motivated to show people how world events and close-to-home circumstances bind each individual to all humankind.

### Study Techniques

- Pray for guidance before you begin studying. Ask that your mind be freed of worries and distractions. Implore yourself that you can truly trust that all will be well.
- Concentrate on your breathing before starting a test, making a presentation, or working on a project. Spiritually unite yourself with students around the world who are facing similar challenges at this very moment.



## CAREER SERVICES

### Relationships

- Converse with individuals who realize that life is a complex web of interdependence among all human beings, living things, events, and inanimate objects.
- Share with curious observers how and why you can remain calm in the midst of uncertainty, losses, successes, defeat, progress, and setbacks.

### Extracurricular Activities

- Consider meeting with a spiritual advisor every four to six weeks. Describe instances of being keenly aware of the "invisible hand".

### Applying to Major/Career Path

- Talk to people who have made a lifetime commitment to a specific ministry within your faith tradition. Hearing them articulate their sense of connectedness and spirituality may help you determine whether this level of commitment is appropriate for you.

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## CAREER SERVICES

### Apply to Job Search

#### In the Job Search

- Your connectedness helps you see the value of rejection and the purpose of the ebb and flow of the job search instead of taking it personally. You have solid motivation and optimism during the job search from your belief that it will all work out.
- Search for careers that match closely to your values. Consider working in fields where you can help people.
- Tips: You will benefit the most from planned happenstance because you see opportunity everywhere. Staying open to possibilities as networking may lead to careers you never would have considered.
- Tips: You may experience conflict if more than one job offer is made at the same time. If this happens, weight the options and choose which one “fits” you. Go with your gut.

### Apply to Careers

#### In the New Position

- Your connectedness will search for the thread that brings your life together with this job or position. This will help you evaluate what parts of the job you will excel in and get the most out of the experience.
- Remember not to over-analyze and grasp for or force connections that are not real.

#### In the Interview

- You can highlight your assurance about life’s meaning and demonstrate to employers how previous life work experience has naturally led to this job opportunity.
- In the job interviews you are good at story telling. You appear self-assured and explain how elements of a situation come together for a purpose. You speak confidently about successes and failures or challenges, putting context around the situation (“My failure to meet my sales goal indicated I was better off focusing on marketing”).