

Lesson Plan: Dress for Success

Lesson Topic/Unit: Dress for Success

Standards:

Identify factors contributing to job success in business

Describe how personal values and culture influence choices and goals

Apply interests, skills, and attitudes toward career choices

Purpose:

The purpose of this lesson is to allow students to visually see various examples of dress and to determine the standard for dress in an interview, for a day on the job, and then to discuss alternatives such as “business casual”, accessories, tattoos, piercings, and the like.

One 60 minute period, with an approximate 30 minute overlap into the next day, or one block period.

Objectives: TLW:

1. Analyze various types of dress from a power point presentation for the workplace.
2. Describe five components of acceptable dress for an interview and a day on the job.
3. Explain various definitions of business casual dress and discuss why companies have differing definitions.
4. Research 3-4 companies’ dress codes and policies.
5. Summarize research and discussion findings in 2-3 paragraphs.

Vocabulary:

Business casual

Assessment:

1. Performing/Listening Rubric
2. Arizona Writing Rubric: Content Section

Daily Activities:

Include Set and Closure Activities, as well as Assigned Homework

1. Write on the board: “If you had a job interview tomorrow, what outfit would you wear?” Elicit answers from students. State that by the end of class today, each student will know exactly how to answer that question, as well as be comfortable knowing issues related to dress on the job and personal choices.
2. Go through Power Point Presentation. The first two slides give clear directions as to what students are to do. The standard for business dress is blue or black, closed toed

shoes, conservative makeup, jewelry, and hair. An interview is one standard higher; it is the best dressed outfit that fits the above definition. Many students will want to argue that it is dependent on WHERE they are to work; it is true that some companies have a more casual dress policy, especially in Arizona. Please remind students that this presentation comes from an advisory committee based in Pinal County. This is a great time to bring up the importance of researching the company before the interview takes place. There are also slides that show various types of business casual dress. Discuss how businesses vary what that concept is, and how many are straying away from any type of “dress down” day because it is so confusing for employees. Again, research becomes crucial. There are a few slides that show evening wear. Depending on the industry, this may be a necessity as well; standard remains conservative in style. Discussion can also take place regarding tattoos (business standards it for tattoos to be hidden from sight), jewelry and piercings (conservative jewelry, piercing of the ears are usually acceptable, but not others)

NOTE: watchthatpage.com is a free website that will keep a person abreast of any companies’ policies and new procedures. Students are encouraged to enter some companies during their research time to see how it works

3. At the end of the Power Point Presentation, there is a research assignment to look at various websites that may address business dress or dress codes. They may also research individual companies’ policies. They are to write a 2-3 paragraph summary of their findings, as well as the class discussion to be turned in for a grade.

NOTE: Students love to discuss this lesson and will make value judgments on how attractive the outfits may or may not be. It is a great launching pad to discuss the differences between personal and professional wardrobes. Students also tend to want to know “who made these rules?” and “what if I don’t?” Also, a great way to discuss conforming to a standard or researching a career that will accept something more suitable to individual tastes.