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## OU Macomb career camps prepare college-bound teens for future

Throughout her professional career, Paulette Grass has seen many new college graduates enter the workforce and be disappointed because their career choice wasn't what they'd envisioned.

"As a parent, I knew I didn't want that for my son," said Grass.

So, Grass encouraged her teen son to attend an Oakland University Career Camp. Since 2012, nearly 700 local high school students have attended one of OU's Summer Career Camps in Macomb and Oakland Counties.

"My son really enjoyed the camp because it gave him a clear idea of his college major and future career. He saw professionals in the field 'at work' and had the chance to ask questions. He's currently studying biomedical diagnostics and plans to become a dentist," said Grass. "As a parent, it was wonderful to see my son learn more about the fields he was considering."



*Since 2012, nearly 700 teens have taken part in OU's Summer Career Camps.*

### Hands-on Learning

Designed for motivated and ambitious teens, the career camps are a unique pre-college experience where teen campers explore potential college majors and possible careers in health care, engineering, computer science, criminal justice, business, graphic design and more. Teen campers participate in hands-on skill-building activities and exercises, action-packed field trips and dynamic discussions with industry professionals as well as OU faculty, staff, alums and students.

Andrew Michaels attended a career camp and appreciated the direction, insight and guidance he received from the counselors.

"I was interested in both the health care and law fields. I loved the one-on-one attention and the camp counselors' enthusiasm. I got all the information I was looking for and needed to make decisions about my future," said Michaels. "The counselors gave me an overview of how college works and what they're looking for. I also got a better understanding and importance of AP classes. I've told my friends at Dakota High what a great experience I had."

Landon Smith, another camp participant, always knew he wanted a career in radiology.

"I enjoyed attending the career camp because it allowed me to meet other people who were interested in the same field. I'd recommend OU's career camps because of all the relationships I formed and because the information provided to me over those four days will stay with me for years to come," said Smith.



*Teen campers learn about careers in engineering, computer science, business, graphic design and more.*

Grass added, “High school counselors should recommend that college-bound teens attend a career camp to give them the opportunity to change their plans or reassure them their career choice suits them.”

### Sign up for a camp

There’s limited space available for these 2017 career camps offered in Macomb County:

- **July 17-21: Engineering & Computer Science Camp**
- **July 24-26: Criminal Justice Camp**
- **July 31-Aug. 4: Career Exploration Camp**

Visit [oakland.edu/macomb/summer-camps-college-readiness/career-exploration-camps](http://oakland.edu/macomb/summer-camps-college-readiness/career-exploration-camps) for camp descriptions, photos and videos, and to register your teen for a camp.



*The camps promote teamwork and skill-building activities.*