

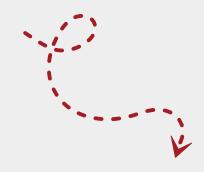




"Between passion and reckoning, Career Counseling ignited the fire within me"

Daniel is a typical boy of today's generation, that die-hard fan of technology, the modern guy, one of those smart minds who has the curiosity to obtain any information that he finds interesting, or that nurtures his passions.

"My first introduction to career counseling was in the Development Unit of the Technical Economic School in Tirana providing this service as one of their functions," says Daniel. He is 20 years old, currently a student.



A project by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC





Implemented by:





Daniel says that when it was time for him to decide on his higher education pathway, he was unable to carefully evaluate what his future career goals were.

"I consulted with the Career Counseling office staff. Thanks to their guidance, I decided to study Economic Informatics at Metropolitan University, which I initially was hesitant about. I thought that I did not have adequate information about the competition, employment opportunities and I was not sure if I was cut out for this branch. But, thanks to digital systems and career counselors, I was able to get the answers to all these dilemmas and make a good choice."



How did Daniel realize that he needed the help of a Career Counselor?

He says that when he realized that his secondary education journey was coming to an end, like any young person in his position, he was faced with many higher education options.

"Wishing to make the right choice, I consulted as many different experienced people as possible, whose opinions were so different from each other that I felt the need to receive better professional guidance."

During the research period, fortunately the school informed him that he could approach the Career Counseling Office, part of the school organizational structure.

"I visited the Career Counseling Office in my 3rd year of studies. This was quite an advantage for me, considering that vocational education is 4 years long. I started working on my career choice in advance."

Each university offers a variety of majors with their own areas of specializations. Daniel expresses the confusion he felt, which "cannot be described in one word." He describes it as a feeling mixed with several question marks that were sometimes entangled with momentary wishes, sometimes with passions, and sometimes with reckoning such as:

"I studied Economics for 4 years, I can't throw it away."

Due to career counseling, he was convinced that his choice would first and foremost consider the 4 years of studies in Economics.

"For me, higher education has always been important, because currently having a university degree is the basic eligibility criteria in the job market. But I have always thought that gaining a new skill is always a great motivational bonus for anyone."

He recalls today that when he presented himself at the Career Counseling Office, he had a very constructive conversation and he had to complete a series of tests and options in a system that, through Artificial Intelligence, generated ideal occupations or careers based on qualifications and personality.

"After I entered the data, the most suitable career for me appeared in the form of a suggestion on the computer monitor. The moment I saw the suggested option, a light seemed to turn on inside me and I thought: "Why not, why not me!!!".

After the counseling sessions, Daniel felt relieved that his dilemmas were finally over.

"I am attracted to Computer Science but I did not choose it because I realized that I had already created a wealth of knowledge in Economics. Business and entrepreneurship are my passions and it is impossible to be successful in the business world if you are not informed about the market and the economy itself. Therefore, the help of professionals definitely guided me towards being the student I am today."

Daniel concludes his story of dilemmas saying: "Considering my childhood passion for technology, a branch that would combine both, was Economic Informatics, and this was simply the ideal solution."

He is grateful to the Career Counseling Office, as the guidance received was more than necessary and very important for him and for many other young people approaching this office.