

Re: College vs Cert

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Certification/microsoft.public.cert.exam.mcsd/2005-07/msg00020.html>

- *From:* "Egghead" <robertlo_NO_SPAM@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 8 Jul 2005 22:05:00 -0600
-

Sean, something wrong here,

Do u mean MCSE? I think IST is for MCSE stuffs, not MCSD stuffs.

May be you are in the wrong Major after all.

You are the first one to tell me that cert materials are more challenging than a degree courses works, do you complete your last yr courses yet?

Anyway, I also have a degree in CS and few certs as well. However, I find out that a degree is still the best way to get the foot in the door without any exp (Of course, it is given that it is not an university of Pancakes degree). It is bcos it looks good on your resume, and you must do some computer related course works in that 4yrs.

"Exp in the field" does not mean that you are working as a PAID developer or a PAID sys admin. There are a lot of ways to get exp in the field. In our CS, we need to involve in 3 CS related projects with some companies before we can go to our final yr, and we must spend at least 150 hrs in each project. Also, before we can let go, we need to involve in a CS related project that we spend at least 450hrs in it. Therefore, we can build up some exp and have a nice CVS. A lot of my classmates have job offer from those companies or other companies that have similar project. If your college does not offer that, I believe your can do some volunteer work for your local church as well.

I understand that it feels angry when looking for work, especially after 4 yrs of hard work in college. On the other hand, you must understand without exp. It is a really hard sell to any employer. How can they know you can do the work?

OK, I run into some jobs that degree and exp are not really a req. However, you need to write their in-house exam. The exam is not all in MC format, and at least half of the exam is hand-on programming.

Now, I really want to know which college you are in?

I mean there is no way an accredited college in North America can be that bad.

Egghead

"Sean" <Sean@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:020D1BA9-DBCC-4731-9C88-D93A9FE578D7@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> My degree plan in Information Systems Technology and they are supposed to be

> teaching me things similar to what could be covered in a cert exam but they

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- > are not. Furthermore, I find cert material much more challenging the course
- > work.
- >
- > Now on the topic of "experience" need I remind you that people who are
- > talking to college councilors about "the best way to get my foot in the door"
- > don't have experience and are specifically asking that question to the
- > councilor because they are currently seeking methods of getting said
- > experience. If you have no experience your options are all or some of the
- > following
- > 1.get certified
- > 2.get a degree
- > 3.find an employer who will hire you simply because you want to learn the
- > stuff at work.
- >
- > "experience" is not an option for "getting experience". I hope before I die
- > people as a whole will understand the impossibility of the logic "I need
- > experience to get my foot in the door" which if it is not illogical, it is at
- > best simply asking for a hand out.
- >
- >
- >
- > "EggHead" wrote:
- >
- >> I do not know what kind of college you are in now.
- >> However, "in many cases its more valuable for getting in the door then a
- >> degree", What kind of degree does he/she talking prefer to? A degree from
- >> university of Pancake. I believe the truth is that "its" is "exp. in the
- >> field" not the M\$ Cert.
- >> Without any exp. in the field or you know no one in the field, cert is only
- >> a piece of paper and almost useless.
- >> Get it straight, cert is only valid if you have exp or at least a dip from
- >> college. I believe no one will hire a programmer who only has M\$ cert from
- >> the street in North America now.
- >>
- >> Egghead
- >>
- >> "Sean" <Sean@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
- >>> news:94C1A7A7-0413-4C1E-940C-E64EE72C2276@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
- >>> Not should I get one or the other actually I am getting both, my question
- >>> is
- >>> a bit different.
- >>>

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>>> I am an IST major and people at my college don't seem to take
>>> certifications
>>> very seriously. They seem to think its easy stuff although my college
>>> councilor said that in many cases its more valuable for getting in the
>>> door
>>> then a degree.
>>> Our program manager said !;±a certification cant replace an !¢D
entire!
>>> course!;L.
>>> I found that somewhat insulting, at my college one test such as 70–306
>>> would
>>> be easily 2 courses if not 3. Could it be just my loser college?
>>>
>>
>>
>>

• *Follow-Ups:*

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◇ From: Sean

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