Strengths Guide



LUTHER COLLEGE®

CAREER CENTER

WHAT'S COOL ABOUT CLIFTON STRENGTHS??

CliftonStrengths is a personality assessment that is used to help you discover your innate talents.

Understanding your strengths and how to apply them will help you learn about yourself, enrich relationships, advocate for your needs, build confidence and self-awareness, examine potential biases or barriers, be an effective collaborator, and share your unique story as you build your way forward!

Quick Overview:

- CliftonStrengths presents 34 talent themes
- Begin by obtaining a code from the Career Center to reveal your Top 5 themes
- Getting to know your Top 5 can help you understand what drives your decisions, sets you apart, and energizes you, as well as your areas of highest productivity and ease.

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Restorative Build Competition
Restorative Build Relator Deliberative
Intellection Belief Context
Includer Arranger Woo I Individualization
Communication Responsibility Build Achiever
Analytical Developer Build Harmony
Self-Assurance Focus Build Command
Consistency Ideation
Strategic Adaptibility
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CLIFTON STRENGTHS HISTORY

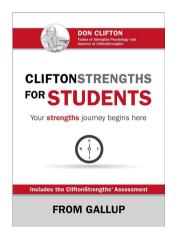
- CliftonStrengths was born out of the positive psychology movement and was founded by Don Clifton in 1999
- In 2001, Don Clifton co-authored the book "Now, Discover Your Strengths," which aimed to help employees leverage strengths in the workplace
- As of April 2024, over 31 million people have taken the assessment and it is available in 25 languages



Insider Tip: CliftonStrengths for Students

DID YOU KNOW...

Upon completion of the CliftonStrengths assessment, you are given a free eBook that has specific advice for how to apply your strengths at Luther.



STRENGTHS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Strengths are Neutral

 No one strength is any better or worse than another. We might envy or be disrupted by certain strengths, but they all provide a distinct contribution. Investing in your strengths can help set you apart!



2. Strengths are NOT Labels

 While it may be tempting to make assumptions about an individual based on their strengths, stay curious! Strengths show up differently for different people.



3. Lead with Positive Intent

 Use strengths and associated remarks to uplift and empower rather than tease or put down the strengths of others.



4. Differences are an Advantage

 A huge variety of people and talents keeps the world interesting, productive, and collaborative!



5. People Need One Another

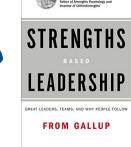
 We can't be all things to all people. It's powerful to identify collaborative combinations and give space for each person to bring their strengths to the needs of the group!



PLAY TO YOUR STRENGTHS

Here are some easy ways to use strengths to elevate your productivity and relationships!

- **Sharing your strengths** and what they mean with others can help you understand how to work together. This can be especially helpful for:
 - Group Projects because it will help you analyze each member's needs and unique contributions
 - Your Professors because it can help you collaborate to create an education plan that works for you
 - Roommates and Friends because you will learn what energizes and drains them
 - Extracurricular Activities as a way to break the ice and enhance teamwork
- Reflect on your strengths in work environments and **generate a list** of things that help increase productivity and enjoyment
- Schedule a career coaching appointment with one of the strengths coaches in the career center for more customized advice
- Channel your leadership skills and better understand the needs
 of followers by exploring STRENGTHS BASED LEADERSHIP book
 (the Career Center can loan you a copy!)

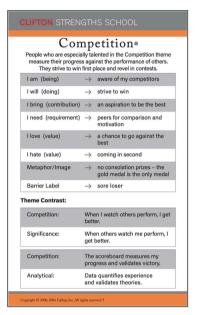


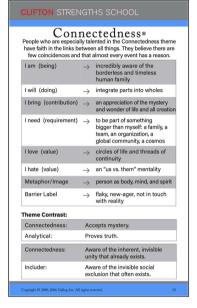
EXPLORE YOUR STRENGTHS

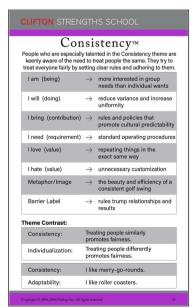
Insight Cards are used to learn more about strengths and the ways they may show up for and around you

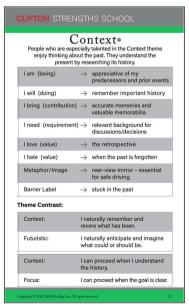


INSIGHT CARDS

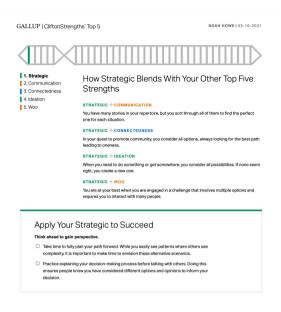








Gallup Reports provide background and deeper insight into your strengths and talent themes



Gallup Top 5

This report outlines your
Top 5, how they show up
for you, and how they
interact with each other to
inform your unique
personality



CliftonStrengths for Students

This report goes more in-depth with how each of your strengths could contribute to or get in the way of your success as a student





STRATEGIC THINKING

4. Ideation®

You are fascinated by ideas. You are able to find connections between seemingly disparate phenomena.

How This Theme Contributes to Your Success

While some might need more direction on an assignment or project, your mind is immediately bursting with ideas. From brainstorming essay or debate topics to research planning, you are all your best in the beginning stages of idealing during a project. When other students are overwhelmed or don't know where to begin, you are ready to share your thinking.

You are a very creative person. How you think is unique because you see many approaches leading to the same conclusion. For example, you may be able to share three or four thoughts before others have even thought of one. Whether your ideas work or not isn't the point, but rather the originality with which you brainstorm them.

When others don't understand something, you're great at teaching or explaining it in a new way. Your approach to learning requires freedom to think and share, which makes you an asset for other students trying to better understand difficult lessons. You think of different ways to help others understand the problem. This positively influences class discussions and group work.

How This Theme Could Get in the Way of Your Success

- You may feel like you don't have enough time to think, ideate and share your ideas in every class. And often, you'll need to do this outside of class, it some point, you need to comit it on a rice and then take responsibility for doing the classwork. You might continue to get great ideas even after you start a project, distracting you and tempting you to start over with something new.
- Without creative liberty, you may get bored. You might lose motivation if a class or extracurricular activity doesn't accommodate your learning skyl. For example, a class with only lectures and tests with few creative projects or limited free time will be part of your academic journey. While it may feel draining, you'll need to find ways to end use?
- When considering the future, you may feel like there are too many options to explore. You see so many
 possibilities and often have many aspirations but as your ideas for your future increase, so does your inability
 to choose a direction. You may exhaust yourself by worrying about what's next for your future.

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EXPLORE YOUR STRENGTHS

Barrier and Talent descriptions help us consider our implicit or explicit biases toward a strength while highlighting the potential and powerful contribution of that strength

THEME	BARRIER LABEL: INSTEAD OF SAYING THIS	TALENT ENABLER: SAY THIS
Positivity	insincere, naïve, superficial, Polly Anna	enthusiastic, lighthearted, energetic, generous with praise, optimistic
Relator	lives in a clique, crony, has an inner circle, plays favorites	caring, trusting, a great friend, forgiving, generous
Responsibility	micro-manager, obsessive, can't say "no," take on more than you can chew	committed, accountable, independent, trusted, conscientious
Restorative	focuses on weaknesses, punitive, negative, critical	problem solver, troubleshooter, finds improvements and solutions
Self-Assurance	arrogant, self-righteous, over confident, stubborn	self-confident, strong inner compass, risk- taker
Significance	recognition hungry, self-focused, needy	seeks outstanding performance, does things of importance, independent
Strategic	jumps to quick decisions, difficult to understand their thinking, closed- minded	anticipates alternatives, intuitive, sees different paths
Woo	fake, shallow, does not care about deep relationships	outgoing, people-oriented, networker, rapport-builder



ENGAGE WITH OTHERS

Strengths Workshops teach you more about strengths while building teamwork and community









Examples of Past Workshops:

- interview preparation
- work study elevation
- career discernment
- defining your leadership style
- creating your artist statement

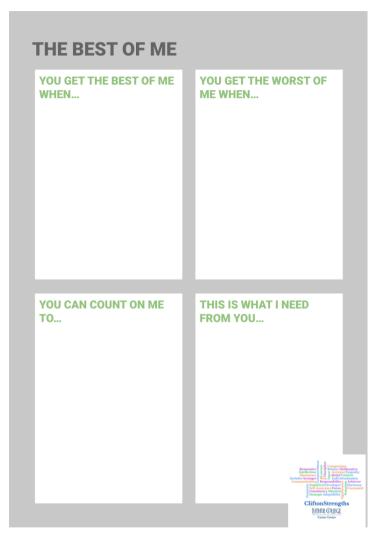
- science lab
- athletic teams
- music ensembles
- faculty/staff development
- student organizations

Interested in scheduling a strengths workshop?

Email us at strengths@luther.edu

ENGAGE WITH OTHERS

The Best of Me is used to foster open and supportive environments by reflecting and sharing in these four areas





THE BEST OF ME

What You Do is used to outline responsibilities you have and identify the strengths that you use to help accomplish them

What you do as a	?
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 In the 'What You Do' column below, list your most important recurring responsibilities in a current or upcoming role:

Rank	What you do	Contributing Talent Theme

- 2. Rank these tasks/responsibilities in order of importance.
- 3. Circle the 4 tasks/responsibilities that you do best.
- 4. Draw a star next to the 4 tasks/responsibilities that you enjoy most.
- Identify which of your Signature Themes contribute most to the ease, excellence, and enjoyment of these items. List as many as apply.

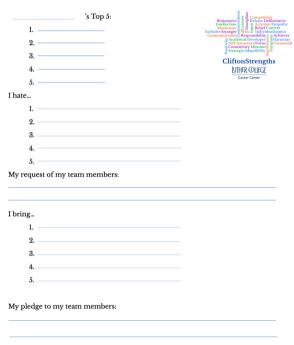


WHAT YOU DO

ENGAGE WITH OTHERS

Effective Team Dynamics are used to highlight what each team member brings to the group and the requests they have for their teammates to support their success

Effective Team Dynamics





EFFECTIVE TEAM DYNAMICS

Team Contracts are used to outline each team members commitments from the team dynamics reflection

Team Contract

As a group, we will do our best to support our team members by.....

- * ____
- *
- * __ ____
- .

We can count on the following from our group members.....

- * _ ____
- .
- * __ _

DISPLAY YOUR STRENGTHS

Door Tags are used to display your strengths for friends, faculty, students, and family to spark strengths conversations and serve as a reminder of your unique contributions.





Email Signatures are used to share your strengths when communicating professionally and can serve as conversation starters with potential employers and your Luther network

Olivia Moore she/her

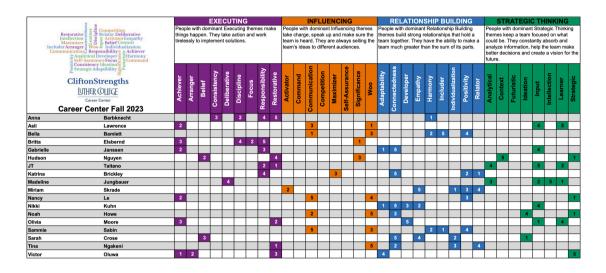
Luther College '27 - Instrumental Music Education Career Center Peer Advisor & Strengths Ambassador Luther Mock Trial Co-Captain

 $Input \mid Restorative \mid Achiever \mid Learner \mid Developer$



DISPLAY YOUR STRENGTHS

Team Grids are used to highlight the strengths and strength areas of individuals on a team, class, or extracurriculars





GALLUP'

CliftonStrengths Top 5 for Miriam Skrade



CliftonStrengths assessment. Use this report to learn more about these strengths, how they uniquely show up in your life and how you can use them to fulfill your potential.

1. Individualization[®]

You are intrigued with the unique qualities of each person. You have a gift for figuring out how different people can work together productively.

2. Activator

You can make things happen by turning thoughts into action. You want to do things now, rather than simply talk about them

3. Positivity

You have contagious enthusiasm. You are upbeat and can get others excited about what they are going to

You enjoy close relationships with others. You find deep satisfaction in working hard with friends to achieve a goal

5. Empathy

You can sense other people's feelings by imagining yourself in others' lives or situations.

EXECUTING themes help you make things happen.

INFLUENCING themes help you take charge, speak up nake sure others are heard.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING themes help you build

STRATEGIC THINKING themes help you absorb and





REQUEST A TEAM GRID!

Use @Luther.edu email

Print Gallup's fancy summary on the first page of your Top 5 report!



RESUMES, INTERVIEWING, AND REFERENCE LETTERS

Using descriptions from your CliftonStrengths reports can help you and your references craft distinctive statements for potential employers.

- Consider which resume action verbs showcase your unique contributions
- Share your Top 5 report with your references to assist them in describing you accurately and uniquely
- Reflect on how you might describe your strengths when asked in an interview

CliftonStrength	Analytical	Context
Descriptors	Measurer, Fact-Finder/User, Logician, Observer, Identify Cause-And-Effect, Explore Multiple Facets, Data-Driven, Objective, Critical Thinker, Attentive, Conscientious, Logical, Perceptive	Data-Driven Decision Maker, Learner, Reflective, Studious
Summary of Qualifications Examples	Objective analyst who is an excellent resource for impartial consultations Exceptional critical thinking skills that help identify causes as well as formulate solutions	Studious learner who allows historical context influence decision making Exemplary leader who aligns major decisions with the organization's mission and values
Action Verbs	Classified, Compiled, Consulted, Designed, Determined, Devised, Dissected, Edited, Educated, Evaluated, Examined, Formulated, Generated, Identified, Identified, Informed, Revised	Analyze, Apply, Consulted, Counseled, Defined, Determined, Dissected, Established, Examined, Explain, Reestablished, Research, Researched, Revisited
Examples bullets	Used data-driven decision-making processes to explore trends and changes in customer behavior Evaluated and edited/revised emails/documents/communicati ons for brevity without sacrificing important detail	Defined historical context and outcomes to better plan for resolution to current challenges Delivered presentations to help staff understand the 'why' behind new changes and directions

- Use your strengths action items to help you recall your past accomplishments, stories about teamwork, or examples of how you tackle problems, decisions, or conflicts
- Prepare the questions you'll ask the desired company in a way that ties back to your values, strengths, and specific needs
- Determine which 4-6 things you most want the potential employer to know about you and then strive to have that shine through in your resume, cover letter, interview, and references







STRENGTHS DEFINITIONS

Achiever

People exceptionally talented in the <u>Achiever</u> theme work hard and possess a great deal of stamina. They take immense satisfaction in being busy and productive.

Activator

Individuals with the <u>Activator</u> theme can make things happen by turning thoughts into action.

Adaptability

Those who excel in the <u>Adaptability</u> theme prefer to go with the flow. They tend to be "now" people who take things as they come and discover the future one day at a time.

Analytical

People with the <u>Analytical</u> theme search for reasons and causes. They have the ability to think about all the factors that might affect a situation.

Arranger

Those who excel in the <u>Arranger</u> theme can organize, but they also have a flexibility that complements this ability. They like to determine how all of the pieces and resources can be arranged for maximum productivity.

Belief

People exceptionally talented in the <u>Belief</u> theme have certain core values that are unchanging. Out of these values emerges a defined purpose for their lives.

Command

Individuals who possess the <u>Command</u> theme have presence. They can take control of a situation and make decisions.

Communication

Those who have the <u>Communication</u> theme generally find it easy to put their thoughts into words. They are good conversationalists and presenters.

Competition

People who have the <u>Competition</u> theme measure their progress against the performance of others. They strive to win first place and revel in contests.

Connectedness

People exceptionally talented in the <u>Connectedness</u> theme have faith in the links among all things. They believe there are few coincidences and that almost every event has meaning.

Consistency

Individuals who excel in the <u>Consistency</u> theme are keenly aware of the need to treat people the same. They try to treat everyone with equality by setting up clear rules and adhering to them.

Context

Those who are talented in the <u>Context</u> theme enjoy thinking about the past. They understand the present by researching its history.

Deliberative

People who possess the <u>Deliberative</u> theme are best described by the serious care they take in making decisions or choices. They anticipate obstacles.

Developer

Those who are talented in the <u>Developer</u> theme recognize and cultivate the potential in others. They spot the signs of each small improvement and derive satisfaction from evidence of progress.

Discipline

People talented in the <u>Discipline</u> theme enjoy routine and structure. Their world is best described by the order they create.

Empathy

Individuals who have the <u>Empathy</u> theme can sense other people's feelings by imagining themselves in others' lives or situations.

Focus

People with the <u>Focus</u> theme can take a direction, follow through, and make the corrections necessary to stay on track. They prioritize, then act.

Futuristic

Those who are talented in the <u>Futuristic</u> theme are inspired by the future and what could be. They energize others with their visions of the future.

STRENGTHS DEFINITIONS

Harmony

People who excel in the <u>Harmony</u> theme look for consensus. They don't enjoy conflict; rather, they seek areas of agreement.

Ideation

Those who excel in the <u>Ideation</u> theme are fascinated by ideas. They are able to find connections between seemingly disparate phenomena.

Includer

Individuals who have the <u>Includer</u> theme accept others. They show awareness of those who feel left out and make an effort to include them.

Individualization

People talented in the <u>Individualization</u> theme are intrigued with the unique qualities of each person. They have a gift for figuring out how people who are different can work together productively.

Input

Those who possess the <u>Input</u> theme have a craving to know more. Often they like to collect and archive all kinds of information.

Intellection

People talented in the <u>Intellection</u> theme are characterized by their intellectual activity. They are introspective and appreciate intellectual discussions.

Learner

Individuals who have the <u>Learner</u> theme have a great desire to learn and want to continuously improve. The process of learning, rather than the outcome, excites them.

Maximizer

People with the <u>Maximizer</u> theme focus on strengths as a way to stimulate personal and group excellence. They seek to transform something strong into something superb.

Positivity

Individuals with the <u>Positivity</u> theme have contagious enthusiasm. They are upbeat and can get others excited about what they are going to do.

Relator

People exceptionally talented in the <u>Relator</u> theme enjoy close relationships with others. They find deep satisfaction in working hard with friends to achieve a goal.

Responsibility

Those who excel in the <u>Responsibility</u> theme take psychological ownership of what they say they will do. They are committed to stable values such as honesty and loyalty.

Restorative

People who are talented in the <u>Restorative</u> theme are adept at dealing with problems. They are good at figuring out what is wrong and resolving it.

Self-Assurance

Those who have the <u>Self-Assurance</u> theme feel confident in their ability to manage their own lives. They possess an inner compass that gives them confidence that their decisions are right.

Significance

Those who are exceptionally talented in the <u>Significance</u> theme want to be very important in the eyes of others. They are independent and want to be recognized.

Strategic

Individuals who possess the <u>Strategic</u> theme create alternative ways to proceed. Faced with any given scenario, they can quickly spot the relevant patterns and issues.

Woo

People talented in the <u>Woo</u> theme love the challenge of meeting new people and winning them over. They derive satisfaction from breaking the ice and making a connection with someone.

Supporting your self-awareness and confidence as you design your life

LUTHER COLLEGE.

CAREER CENTER

CHOOSE YOUR NEXT STEPS:

- 1. Reach out to a strengths coach for a conversation, code, or workshop
- 2. Request a door tag, team grid, add strengths to your email signature, or print your Top 5 summary
- 3. Visit Gallup.com/access to access strengths resources
- 4. Explore your reports, insight cards, or book sections related to your Top 5
- 5. Learn about the other 29 strengths



Request Code



Access Your Results



Luther Strengths Website



Gallup App

Ways to connect with the Career Center

- **★** Schedule a 1:1 Coaching Appointment via Handshake
- ★ Drop-In for a Career Lab, Union, 2nd Floor
- ★ Visit Luther.edu/Career
- ★ Email strengths@luther.edu
- ★ Follow us on social @LCCareer





