

to Home Economics Eileen Elliott Quigley

# **Introduction** to HOME **ECONOMICS**

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# Preface

Having taught and studied home economics college freshmen for a number of years, I have become aware of many of the reasons why some succeed and others fail. No textbook has aimed directly at these reasons for success and failure, although many college instructors in home economics do discuss and have the students study materials relating to these factors. The specific purposes of this book are to aid the student in (1) clarifying his major objectives through an understanding of the many professional opportunities—their advantages and disadvantages, and the personal and professional qualifications for these; (2) achieving an understanding of and appreciation for home economics as a profession through study of its objectives, history, organizations within it, and services it renders; and (3) realizing the importance of certain attitudes, skills, and habits necessary to the achievement of both short- and long-range goals and providing the basic information necessary for these in the areas of studying, taking notes, writing term papers, and taking examinations as well as in the areas of basic health, personality development, acceptable social usage, and critical thought about the bases for his modus operandi.

This book does not aim at answering all the questions on any subject. It is directed toward an introduction to the field of home economics, some basic review, and orientation to college. If this book provides some bases for critical thinking and a challenge for continued study, it will have served its purpose.

My appreciation is expressed to many friends in the business and

education worlds for their contributions to the text and review of parts of the manuscript, and to Mrs. Arlene Heisler, Mrs. Janis Land, and Miss Phyllis Hadfield for the tedious but enthusiastic checking of materials. Appreciation must also be expressed to the many home economics students of Southern Illinois University who have made my teaching and this book seem worthwhile.

Carbondale, Ill.

E. E. Q.

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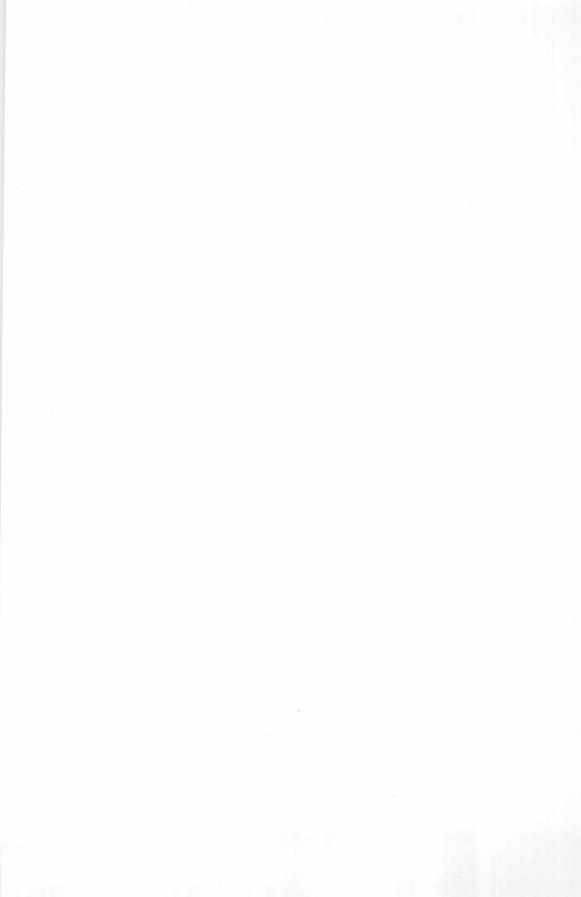
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# Understanding Your Objectives, Career Possibilities, and Requirements





# Introduction: Preparation for a Career in Home Economics

What is home economics? What are its objectives and origins? Who had the organizational ability and dedication to begin a whole new profession? What is the status of the profession today? What career opportunities are open to a home economist? What are the requirements for entering a home economics profession?

These are some of the questions that motivated the writing of this section. Chapter 2, "Understanding Your Objectives and Those of the Profession," suggests the need for objectives as a student of home economics, as a professional home economist, and as a member of the American Home Economics Association. The goals of the profession in regard to improvement of the lives of families has received primary emphasis.

"The History of Home Economics," Chapter 3, begins with an example of the instructions of the Greek husband, Ischomachus, to his wife pertaining to her role and responsibilities in the home. The chapter shows the awakening of the need for science in the home,

briefly describes the Lake Placid Conferences and some of the accomplishments of the profession since the conferences.

In Chapter 4, "Career Possibilities and Requirements in Home Economics," many of the career opportunities are considered. Any home economics career combines well with homemaking. Without doubt, home economics is the "career with a double future."