

Portfolio Assignment: Your Credo

Now that you've examined Chris McCandless' views on life, how would you summarize **your own beliefs** and code of ethics? What rules do you live by?

Using the examples provided, create your own personal credo of between 45 – 100 words.

Type your credo in **at least 14 point font**, and present it in a creative way that reflects your personality. For example, you might use pictures or clip art; design a border for the page; use a particular font or color for effect. Be sure your name is on the credo in a visible place so that it may be easily identified as yours. (See example at the end of this packet.)

Requirements

Your credo must be:

- between 45-100 words.
- typed in at least 14 point font.
- presented in a visually creative manner.
- identified with your name.
- edited for spelling, grammar, and mechanics.

The following are examples of sentence starters for writing your credo:

<i>I believe that...</i>	<i>It is important to...</i>	<i>I will not...</i>
<i>I will remember to...</i>	<i>I challenge myself to...</i>	<i>I will examine...</i>
<i>I am aware of...</i>	<i>I will explore...</i>	<i>I must have...</i>
<i>I will reflect on...</i>	<i>I will celebrate...</i>	<i>I will continue to...</i>

Robert Fulghum, author and minister

I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge—
That myth is more potent than history.
I believe that dreams are more powerful than facts—
That hope always triumphs over experience—
That laughter is the only cure for grief.
And I believe that love is stronger than death.

D.H. Lawrence, author

This is what I believe:
That I am I.
That my soul is a dark forest.
That my known self will never be more than a little clearing in the forest.

That gods, strange gods, come forth from the forest into the clearing of my known self, and then go back.

That I must have the courage to let them come and go.

That I will never let mankind put anything over me, but that I will try always to recognize and submit to the gods in me and the gods in other men and women.

There is my creed.

Ansel Adams, photographer

I respect everything in change and the solemn beauty of life and death. I believe man will obtain freedom of spirit of society, and therefore while man amidst the immense beauty of objective bodies, he must possess the capacity of self perfection and must observe and represent his world with full confidence. I believe photography is a tool to express our positive assessment of the world. A tool to acquire ultimate happiness and belief.

Albert Einstein, scientist [excerpt from "My Credo"]

The most beautiful and deepest experience a man can have is the sense of the mysterious. It is the underlying principle of religion as well as of all serious endeavour in art and science. He who never had this experience seems to me, if not dead, then at least blind. To sense that behind anything that can be experienced there is a something that our minds cannot grasp, whose beauty and sublimely reaches us only indirectly: this is religiousness. In this sense I am religious. To me it suffices to wonder at these secrets and to attempt humbly to grasp with my mind a mere image of the lofty structure of all there is.

Elbert Hubbard, editor and businessman

I believe in myself.

I believe in the goods I sell.

I believe in the firm for whom I work.

I believe in my colleagues and helpers.

I believe in American business methods.

I believe in producers, creators, manufacturers, distributors, and in all industrial workers of the world who have a job, and hold it down.

I believe that Truth is an asset.

I believe in good cheer and in good health, and I recognize the fact that the first requisite in success is not to achieve the dollar, but to confer a benefit, and that the reward will come automatically, and usually as a matter of course.

I believe in sunshine, fresh air, spinach, applesauce, laughter, buttermilk, babies, bombazine and chiffon, always remembering that the greatest word in the English language is "Sufficiency."

I believe that when I make a sale I make a friend.

And I believe that when I part with a man I must do it in such a way that when he sees me again he will be glad - and so will I.

I believe in the hands that work, in the brains that think, and in the hearts that love.

Amen, and Amen.



JACK LONDON'S CREDO

I would rather be ashes than dust!
I would rather that my spark burn out
in a brilliant blaze than it should be stifled by dry-rot.
I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom
of me in a magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet.
The function of man is to live, not to exist.
I shall not waste my days trying to prolong them.
I shall use my time.

