

Choosing a Major

Choosing a major is a big decision and should be made with care, information, and based on experience. The major you choose does not set the course for the rest of your life; it is merely a starting point. What is important is following your interests and discovering what you love to do. This handout includes resources and provides ideas for students to gain experience that will enable them to choose a major with confidence.

Explore Your Options

Explore your academic interests, professional skills and abilities, personal characteristics, and values as you decide on a major.

- Enroll in courses to fulfill general educational requirements as well as test out interests
- Join campus clubs/organizations related to your interests to network and gain valuable experience
- Review the Career Center's website for information on available resources and services
- Assess abilities, personality characteristics, interests, or values by scheduling a career counseling appointment or completing a career assessment
- Review the *What Can I Do with This Major?* Section of our website for potential career avenues and select a major relevant to careers of possible interest.

Contact Professionals in the Field

Learn from others by talking with people in your field of interest.

- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in your field of interest to learn more about their career paths
- Use Alumni Feature on LinkedIn to identify industry professionals to reach out to
- Attend career fairs and mingle with employers seeking to hire interns and full-time job applicants
- Meet with a faculty advisor who can answer specific questions about course offerings and sequencing of classes
- Participate in internships to gain hands-on experience related to your field

Web Resources

- The [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) is a career title dictionary. Click the "search box" and type in a job title to review details about the job duties, environment, educational requirements, salary ranges, and much more.
- [O*Net](#) is an online tool for career exploration and job analysis.

Make Plans and Take Action

- Compare each major/career with what you know about yourself (Interests, Skills, Personality & Values)
- Discuss your major/career plans with a career counselor, academic advisor and/or someone who knows you well
- Officially [declare your major](#) through the Registrar

*For a complete listing of majors with tracks and concentrations, please visit the [Undergraduate Catalog](#).