

5 tips for choosing A COLLEGE MAJOR



You can prepare for a successful college experience by aligning your talents, goals and interests with thoughtful consideration of majors and career prospects.

1. Combine your talents and interests.

- Identify academic strengths and favorite classes to connect talents and interests.
- Use school resources, such as interest inventories, to match your strengths with potential majors and careers.

2. Consider multiple interests.

- Embrace the idea of having more than one major to enhance job prospects. Talk to your counselor about changing majors, double majoring or adding a minor and how it will impact your timeline.
- Consider ways to build academic breadth in the first year – for example, by completing prerequisites across various subject areas.

3. It's OK not to know.

- Know that uncertainty about your major is normal, and it's acceptable not to have a clear plan. Discuss with your counselor whether applying as “undecided” would exclude you from any possible majors.
- Take advantage of the college's flexibility to explore diverse courses before declaring a major.

4. The value of a liberal arts education.

- Embrace the breadth of a liberal arts education, covering areas like English, science, math and languages.
- Recognize the broad knowledge gained as a foundation for critical thinking, problem-solving and cultural perspectives, all of which employers value.

5. Your major doesn't necessarily define your career.

- Explore diverse career paths beyond the traditional connection between majors and professions.
- Focus on developing skills and excelling in your chosen major – various career opportunities exist for different areas of academic focus.

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