Choosing Your College Major

Office of Career Services
Choosing Your College Major

Begin the Process

When it comes to making important life decisions, choosing a major is certainly one of them. It's a process that deserves time and attention - you don't want to jump in too quickly! Try not to panic or put too much pressure on yourself. It's something you have to do, yes, but you don't have to do it alone. As you go through this handbook, the process of choosing a major will become clearer and more manageable.

"But He Knows What He Wants to Do!" It's easy to look at your classmates who seem certain about their majors. Pre-med fits her, you think. He was born to be a broadcaster, you sigh. When will you find your "perfect" match? This isn't a dating game! Instead, it's about examining who you are and what's important to you. It's about determining your interests and abilities. And, in the end, it's about deciding what major will satisfy you in a number of ways, including:

- subject matter that you have a passion for
- topics that challenge you
- class projects you look forward to
- subjects that you like to spend time with
- ideas that inspire you
- tasks that speak to your interests and abilities
- the kind of work you'll be proud to do

In order to find a major that meets these criteria, you may need to take a variety of classes. Talk with your academic advisor today about smart ways to explore different subjects while still meeting your core requirements. Don't delay!

OSU at Marion Majors: General Business

Career Examples for Business Majors
Change is Okay
Many students change their major once - or more. And that's okay. It is part of the process as you "try on" different subjects. It's best to get used to change, especially since you'll likely change careers several times throughout your lifetime. As you evolve, you'll discover new interests and abilities. There's nothing saying that you have to be one thing for the rest of your life. That decision is up to you!

Lay it on the Table
There are many thoughts and emotions tied into the decision making process. And all of them are valid, simply because they belong to you. Recognize what you're thinking and what you're feeling before going any further. Just lay it all out on the table. For instance, does any of this sound familiar?

Feelings About Choosing a Major
• Panic
• Indecision
• Anxiety
• Excitement
• Pride
• Enthusiasm
• Worry
• Being "stuck"
• Not wanting to let anyone down

Thoughts About Choosing a Major
• What identity am I taking on?
• Will I be able to handle the courses?
• Do I have the skills?
• Am I being swayed by anything?
• Am I smart enough?
• What kinds of jobs will I be qualified for?
• Am I doing this for the right reasons?

As you process through these things and more, it can be easy for people and situations to sway you. When it comes down to it, though, you need to be your own influence. Don't let others be your only influence when they say things like, "You'll be the next lawyer in the family" or "You need a professional major, not a liberal arts one, in order to make any kind of money." There will always be critics and people with good intentions. However, your voice is the one that ultimately matters. So, gather the facts, slog through the thoughts and emotions, and make your decision. Then, trust it.

It's Not Just About the Major
Choosing a major is just one part of your career path. Potential employers will be looking at your major, your minor and your coursework, of course. Yet, they'll also be very interested in what you did outside of class. What type of internship did you do? What activities are you part of? What leadership skills are you acquiring? What volunteer organizations do you donate your time to? The answers to these types of questions will have an impact. Your employee "package" is about a whole lot more than simply what you majored in.
Examine Your 'Fit'

Identify Your Interests
Take a seat and brainstorm everything that you're interested in onto a piece of paper. Don't judge or censor yourself-just go to town! The list can include anything ... basketball, making cookies, philosophy, hip-hop music, debate, Muppets, good jokes, knitting, reading the newspaper, traveling, camping, organizing things ...

The process of choosing a major often starts with this simple step. These are the things you like to do, the things in life that have captured your interest. Ask yourself a few more questions to discover other areas of interest. For instance:

• What extracurricular activities are you drawn to?
• If you had free time this weekend, what would you choose to do?
• What topics do you like to read about?
• How do you answer when folks ask you what you're interested in? Why?

Now, keep these interests in mind. It's a piece of the puzzle as you determine which major will fit you best.

Explore Your Values
Having a major that jives with your values is essential. Few people can stand spending so much time with a subject that ethically doesn't fit. And, once you get out into the work world, you'll feel more committed to a job that you value.

What does that mean to you - valuing your work? How do you hope to feel about the major and, later, the job that you choose? Here are a few other value- oriented questions to ask yourself:

• What classes have felt most worthwhile to you so far?
• Why did you place that value on them?
• What are the key values you hope to have in the workplace? Making a difference? Making money? Making a reputation? Making others' experience positive?

Your values can be one of your best guides as you search for that fit. You may find it worth your time to do a Values Sort exercise. Stop by Career Services and ask about it.

OSU at Marion Majors: Education

Career Examples for Education Majors
Acknowledge Your Abilities
Chances are that you're able to do quite a few things! Just look at what you're able to accomplish in your academic, social, work, and extracurricular life. These abilities can lend a clue as you determine which major to pursue.

So, take stock of your abilities by asking yourself a few questions:
• What were my best subjects in high school?
• What talents have I used in my past jobs?
• What skills do I bring to my extracurricular activities?
• What abilities help me do a good job during community service projects?
• What talents would I like to develop?

Yes, you're a work in progress. Just look at all the progress you've made so far!

Take a Look at the Details
As you're examining your interests, values, and abilities, don't forget to note the fine print when it comes to your individual institution of higher learning. There may be some details associated with certain majors that deserve careful consideration. For instance:

Major Requirements. Do you need a certain GPA to apply for a major program? Are there pre-requisites before you're admitted? Is there a limit on how many students can be in a major? Check into these details so you have all the information.

Additional Obligations. Some majors may require that you do a practicum, a field study, or some other out-of-class task. These are great opportunities! Just gather the info so you know what you're getting into.

Degree Completion. Talk with department chairs, faculty and your advisor about how long it will take to complete requirements for your field of study. Do students in this major typically graduate in four years? If not, why? Are you on track with your classes and any credits you came to school with? Know what's up when it comes to getting that degree.

Check into these details but be careful not to get overwhelmed by them. Sort through things you're unsure of with your advisor and trusted consultants. Ask questions and discuss the "what ifs." It's your right and your responsibility.

OSU at Marion Majors: English

Career Examples for English Majors
Administrative Assistant - Fact Checker - Nonprofit Administrator - Advertising Account Executive - Fundraiser - Personnel Trainee - Campaign Manager - Historical Society Specialist - Production Assistant - Claims Examiner - Journalist - Public Relations Specialist - Communications Specialist - Legislative Assistant - Publicity Assistant - Community Relations Specialist - Librarian - Research Assistant - Copy Writer - Lobbyist - Researcher - Corporate Trainer - Management Trainee - Sales Representative - Critic - Marketing/Sales Manager - Special Events Coordinator - Customer Service Representative - Media Analyst - Teacher - Editorial Assistant - Media Buyer - Volunteer Coordinator - Editor/Writer - Museum Curator - Education Director
Choosing a Minor
As you examine your interests, abilities and values, you may discover that you'd like to explore a subject as a minor. That's part of this process, too! Talk with your advisor about the difference between majors and minors before making your decision.

Take the Initiative
There are some key resources at your fingertips on a college campus to assist as you make decisions about your major. However, these resources mean nothing if you don't take the initiative to use them!

The fact is, the longer you go without a declared major the longer you may have to remain in school. That's why it's so important to develop relationships NOW. Take advantage of the guidance and resources available to you. It's never too early to start. So, get out there and...

Get to Know: Your Advisor
Your academic advisor isn't just there to sign off on your classes before registration. He/she is there to help you navigate the academic waters and make good choices. That's why it's important to be proactive in establishing a relationship with your advisor. Make an appointment to visit so you become more than just a name. Ask him or her to help you create a four-year outline of classes and other requirements so you can graduate on time. Talk through your dilemma when it comes to choosing a major. And get to know your advisor as a person, too.

Get to Know: Career Counselors
The Career Center isn't just for seniors needing resume assistance. Anyone can use them - and should! These folks are full of information and resources, from interest inventories to "What can I do with a major in...?" answers. Career exploration is a multi-year process and it makes sense to get started now.

Get to Know: Faculty and Department Chairs
As you're searching for information about certain majors, why not talk with faculty members and department chairs? They know the major inside and out, after all, and can share nuances with you that you may not have considered. So, get in there and make an appointment to do an informational interview. Ask questions about classes offered within the major, internship/field study requirements, what students can do with such a major and more. Show an interest and they'll reciprocate.

OSU at Marion Majors: History

Career Examples for History Majors
Administrative Officer (federal, state, county, municipal) - Archivist - Bank Officer - Business/Mgmt. trainee - Chamber of Commerce Executive - Customs Officer - Director, state historical society Editor/journalist - Election procedures advisor - Foreign Service Officer - Historian – Insurance agent/broker - Intelligence specialist - Lawyer - Librarian - Museum guide/technician - Park Supt. – Public Relations - Research assistant - Research/technical advisor (films) - Supervisor of historic sites Social/Welfare worker - Teacher - Tour Guide - Travel Agent - Writer, free-lance – International Relations Specialist - Political Scientist - Artifacts Conservator - Lace and Textiles Restorer – Folklorist Gallery Assistant - Antique Buyer - Interpretive Guide - Information Scientist - Government Relations Assistant - Institutional Researcher - Photograph Cataloger - Marketing Director - Public Information Director - Records Manager - Sales Representative - Investigator
Tap into Resources

Career Services
This office has everything from self-assessment instruments to the Occupational Outlook Handbook, a book filled with thousands of job descriptions. Plus, check out the Career Services website (www.osumarrion.osu.edu/career_services) for additional online resources. And nothing beats talking face to face with a knowledgeable career counselor!

The Course Catalog
Browse through all the classes and requirements available within each major. What does it take to get a major and a minor? If the course listings interest you, you may be on to something.

Upper-class Students in Certain Majors
Ask your advisor to help hook you up with an upper-class student in a major that interests you. Then, grab a cup of coffee and pick that person's brain. It could be one of the best 45 minutes you'll ever spend!

Alumni
Contact the college alumni office to see if they have a job-shadowing program. This allows you to shadow an alum for a day in an effort to learn about what really goes into certain careers.

Campus Happenings
Your campus is a lively place, filled with the exchange of ideas on a daily basis. Take advantage of this exchange by attending free activity and job fairs, workshops, career panels, guest lectures, and more. Soak in as much information as you can to help in your decision-making process.

A Sampling of Online Resources
2. "What Can I Do With a Major in ... ?" http://www.careers.siue.edu/majors/default.html
3. "What Can I Do With This Major?" http://career.berkeley.edu/major/major.stm

OSU at Marion Majors: Psychology

Career Examples for Psychology Majors
Advertising - Insurance Agent - Human Resources - Administrative Assistant - Job Analyst – Public Information Officer - Advertising Agent - Loan Officer - Public Relations - Airlines – Management Sales Representative - Claims Specialist - Marketing Representative - Small Business Owner – Customer Relations - Marketing Researcher - Store Manager - Counselor - Media Buyer - Staff Training And Development - Employment Counselor - Occupational Analyst - Behavior Analyst - Director Of Volunteer Services - Probation/Parole Officer - Case Worker - Drug/Substance Abuse Counselor – Program Manager - Child Protection Worker - Employment Counselor - Rehabilitation Advisor Corrections Officer - Residential Youth Counselor - Group Home Coordinator - Social Service Director Mental Retardation Unit Manager - Veterans' Advisor - Affirmative Action Officer – Community Relations Officer - Hospital Patient Service Representative - Child Care Worker - Congressional Aide Newspaper Reporter - College Admissions Counselor - Director Of Alumni Relations - Director Of Fund Raising - Statistical Assistant - Technical Writer
OSU Offers Over 170 Academic Majors/Programs

For complete information, visit: http://majors.osu.edu

Accounting  Dietetics (Medical Dietetics)  Industrial Design
Actuarial Science  Early and Middle Childhood  Industrial and Systems
Aeronautical and  Pre-Education (EMCE)  Engineering
Astronautical Engineering  Economics  Information Systems
African American and  Electrical and Computer  Interior Design
African Studies  Engineering  International Business
Agribusiness and Applied  Engineering, Undecided  Administration
Economics  Engineering Physics  International Studies
Agricultural Communication  English  Islamic Studies
Agricultural Education  Entomology  Italian
Agricultural Systems  Environmental Science  Japanese
Management  Evolution and Ecology  Jazz Studies (Music
Animal Sciences  Exercise Science Education  Performance)
Anthropology  Exploration  Jewish Studies
Arabic  Family and Consumer  Journalism
Architecture  Sciences Education  Korean
Art  Family Resource  Landscape Architecture
Alt Education  Management  Landscape Horticulture
Astronomy  Finance  Linguistics
Athletic Training  Film Studies  Logistics Management
Aviation  Food, Agricultural and  Mapping and Land
Biochemistry  Biological Engineering  Information Science
Biology  Food Business Management  Marketing
Chemical Engineering  Food Science and Nutrition  Materials Science and
Chemistry  Forestry, Fisheries, and  Engineering
Chinese  Wildlife  Mathematics
Circulation Technology  French  Mechanical Engineering
Civil and Environmental  Geography  Medical Dietetics
Engineering  Geological Science  Medical Technology
Classics  Geometrics Engineering  Medieval and Renaissance
Communication  German  Studies
Comparative Studies  Health Information  Microbiology
Computer and Information  Management and Systems  Middle Childhood Education
Science  Health Sciences  (pre-licensure)
Computer Science and  Hebrew  Modern Greek
Engineering  History  Molecular Genetics
Construction Systems  History of Art  Music Composition
Management  Hospitality Management  Music Education
Criminology & Criminal  Human Development and  Music History
Justice Studies  Family Science  Music Performance-Jazz
Crop Science  Human Dimensions in  Studies
Culinary Science  Natural Resources  Music Performance-
Dance  Human Nutrition  Orchestral Instruments
Dental Hygiene  Human Resources  Music Performance-Piano
Music Performance-Voice | Professional Golf | Sport and Leisure Studies
Music Theory | Management | Technical Education and Training
Nursing | Psychology | Technology Education
Nutrition | Radiologic Sciences and Therapy | Textiles and Clothing
Operations Management | Real Estate and Urban Analysis | Theatre
Orchestral Instruments (Music Performance) | Risk Management and Insurance | Turf-grass Science
Pharmaceutical Sciences | Respiratory Therapy | Visual Communication
Philosophy | Sociology | Design
Physics | Insurance | Voice (Music Performance)
Piano (Music Performance) | Russian | Welding Engineering
Plant Cellular and Molecular Biology | Social Work | Women's Studies
Biological Science | Speech and Hearing Science | World Literatures
Plant Health Management | Spanish | Zoology
Political Science | Special Education |
Portuguese | | 

**Pre-professional programs**

Find general information about preparing for Ohio State’s pre-professional programs at [http://majors.osu.edu/search.aspx](http://majors.osu.edu/search.aspx) (click on the Pre-professional link)

- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine

**Agricultural & Technical Institute (ATI) programs**

Majors leading to an associate of applied science degree or an associate of science degree.

Agricultural Business | Greenhouse Production and Management
Agricultural Commerce | Horse Production and Management
Agronomy | Horse Science
Beef and Sheep Production and Management | Horticultural Science
Business Management | Hydraulic Service and Repair
Commercial Turf Equipment | Laboratory Science
Construction Management | Landscape Contracting and Construction
Crop Management and Services | Livestock Science
Dairy Cattle Production and Management | Nursery Management
Dairy Science | Power and Equipment
Environmental Resources Management | Pre-Agricultural Education
Environmental Resources Science | Pre-Agricultural Communication
Floral Design and Marketing | Swine Production and Management
Fluid Power | Turf-grass Management
OSU Regional Campuses

A Bachelor of Arts Degree in one of the following majors can be completed in its entirety at one of the OSU regional campus: Lima, Mansfield, Marion, or Newark.

- Biology
- Early and Middle Childhood Education
- English
- Family Financial Management
- General Business
- Health Sciences/Health Management
- History
- Psychology
- Social Work

An Associate of Arts Degree is awarded to any student who completes 90 quarter hours of college-level credit at an OSU regional campus. The Associate of Arts Degree is not attainable on the Columbus campus.

Create Your Own Major

The Personalized Study Program (PSP) at The Ohio State University is intended for undergraduate students who wish to pursue a major that falls outside an established academic department or program. The PSP is open to any student in the Arts and Sciences once the proposed program has been approved by a faculty adviser and the Arts and Sciences college office. The PSP permits intellectually coherent majors designed by the student, assisted by faculty.

Considering a PSP

Students seeking to pursue a PSP should plan to study in a focused area outside the boundaries of a traditional academic major.
By definition, a PSP is interdisciplinary, incorporating course work from at least two, and sometimes three or more, different departments.

The PSP is best suited for students who want to plan, design, and complete a major not otherwise available. If the program you want to pursue could be accomplished within the structure of an existing major, then you should complete the standard major.

Designing your own major does not mean that you will be left, academically, to find your own way; you will need at least one faculty member to advise you on your selection of courses and to approve the program. To assure that happens, you should expect to initiate contacts with faculty interested in what you are doing and willing to work with you. This adviser will be your best source of advice about what course work is most appropriate to your academic objectives.

What is the Integrated Social Studies PSP?

All of the courses for this major meet the state-mandated content area for Integrated Social Studies (grades 7-12) and may be completed in an undergraduate program by selecting the Personalized Study Program (PSP) as a major (BA), Geography as a minor. Please note that the path to teacher licensure at The Ohio State University is through a Master's of Education program (M.Ed.). Admission to M.Ed
programs is competitive, and completion of the bachelor degree is no guarantee that you will be admitted to the M.Ed program.

Please also note that you will need to meet with your general academic advisor regarding your GEC's and the Personalized Study Program (PSP), and a College of Education advisor regarding the Master's of Education admission and program requirements.

**Getting Started**
Study the current Course Offerings Bulletin: get to know what courses are offered in majors that interest you; find out whether a traditional major might not serve you just as well as the alternative PSP.

Brainstorm around the majors or classes of interest to you: write down the class or major in the middle of a blank piece of paper, and then write down all of the reasons why the discipline interests you; this can help you to focus your interests and your program of study, whether you choose a PSP or a traditional major program.

Call the departments you are interested in, ask to speak with advisers, and discuss with them the area that interests you, the PSP option, and course availability.

Make an appointment with a PSP academic counselor in the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences: ask to see an example of a model PSP, to use as a guide.

Contact key faculty, faculty you would like to work with, and discuss the PSP with them. Ask them for advice, tell them why you want to work with them, ask them for references to other faculty. Don't expect to find your adviser in the first faculty member you speak to; a simple willingness to discuss your intentions with faculty may help to make the connections that will lead you to the right adviser for you.

**What kind of student is a PSP right for?**
Most students who complete a PSP are highly motivated and independent self-starters in need of a challenge. They are, typically, both creative and disciplined, and thrive on the interdisciplinary structure of the major, which allows them to explore a non-traditional discipline to an extent that a standard major would not permit. (As more and more interdisciplinary settings emerge in all areas of work, from business to education, study options like the PSP will become increasingly valuable and necessary.)

The PSP is an ideal option for students interested in exploring "diversity" issues and other concerns of contemporary social, political, artistic, and scientific relevance. Ohio State offers a wide array of courses taught from various intellectual perspectives, which often complement and enrich one another. This multiplicity and depth is not always readily available in the structure of a traditional major.

**Will I be able to graduate in four years?**
Yes. Even though this is not a "traditional" track, the PSP is still designed to be completed in four years providing the student stays on track, checks regularly with advisors and faculty, and completes all GEC requirements.

**Is this a major for people who aren't doing well enough to get into a "normal" major?**
No. The PSP should not be thought of, nor approached, as a lesser major or option. Students who pursue the PSP major must meet high academic and University standards just like any other University Major.

**What can I study or what would I call my course of study?**
You get to design your course of study as long as it is a coherent academic course of study, as long as you have the interest of an appropriate faculty advisor, and as long as your program is not a plan that can be covered through a traditional departmental major.

**Some examples could include:**
- Social Consciousness Issues
- Gay and Lesbian Studies
- Jewish / African-American Comparative History and Politics
- Latina and Asian Studies
- Psychobiology
- Biological Illustration
- Sound Design
- Event Planning and Marketing

For more information about pursuing a PSP, call (614) 292-6961, or stop by the main lobby in Denny Hall, The Colleges of the Arts and Sciences, and make an appointment with one of the PSP academic counselors. Visit: [http://ascadvising.osu.edu/programs/psp](http://ascadvising.osu.edu/programs/psp)

**The Ideal vs. The Real**

**Assessment Time**
The exercise that follows is designed to help you start the process of selecting a college major. The right choice will lead you to the careers that best "fit" with your special desires, values, and personality. Think of the exercise as a beginning point that will introduce you to many of the majors available on most college campuses. It will provide you with a profile that you can compare with those of your fellow students. And, most important, it will produce some preliminary data that you can take to your academic advisor, and/or career counselor for further discussion and exploration.

Enjoy building your profile - and good luck in making your selection.

**Part 1: Your Preferences**

Each of the following three pages lists twenty-six different statements. Rate each statement by writing the appropriate number using the guide below to determine your response.

- Write 5 to indicate that you would look forward to the experience with maximum interest and enthusiasm
- Write 4 to indicate high interest. You would get excited about such a learning experience.
- Write 3 to indicate moderate interest.
- Write 2 to indicate only slight interest.
- Write 1 to indicate that you would not like to participate at all.

Remember, this is a game or exercise, not a test. Work quickly - your first impression will probably give the best results. Have fun.
College Majors: Section 1

- Write 5 to indicate that you would look forward to the experience with maximum interest and enthusiasm.
- Write 4 to indicate high interest. You would get excited about such a learning experience.
- Write 3 to indicate moderate interest.
- Write 2 to indicate only slight interest.
- Write 1 to indicate that you would not like to participate at all.

___ 1. Building strength, developing coordination, and testing physical endurance.
___ 2. Expressing human thoughts, interests, attitudes, emotions, and ideas.
___ 4. Working with youth; having summer vacations.
___ 5. Taking courses in the history, literature, modern languages, religion.
___ 6. Solving analytic and logic problems.
___ 7. Participating in a talent/variety show.
___ 8. Getting on the track leading to science and high tech careers.
___ 9. Becoming a communications specialist.
___ 10. Reaching an executive level.
___ 11. Thinking about the meaning of life.
___ 12. Speaking with eloquence.
___ 13. Engaging in public relations.
___ 14. Working in a laboratory or field exploration.
___ 15. Study awhile in another country.
___ 16. Assisting those unable to cope with serious interpersonal and social problems.
___ 17. Investigating substances and energy.
___ 18. Becoming an expert in computer information systems.
___ 19. Trying to find out how a business system works.
___ 20. Reading biographies of ancient leaders.
___ 22. Wanting to know why people behave the way they do.
___ 23. Evaluating the behavior of people in groups.
___ 24. Investigating the reality, perception, morality, ethics, aesthetics, and existence of mankind.
___ 25. Interested in seeing ideas developed into practical use.
___ 26. Developing hobbies related to building models.
College Majors: Section 2

- Write 5 to indicate that you would look forward to the experience with maximum interest and enthusiasm.
- Write 4 to indicate high interest. You would get excited about such a learning experience.
- Write 3 to indicate moderate interest.
- Write 2 to indicate only slight interest.
- Write 1 to indicate that you would not like to participate at all.

1. Wanting to help others improve their physical condition.
2. Learning and developing artistic talents.
3. Working with computer databases, spreadsheets, and word processors.
4. Helping youth reach their potential.
5. Achieving a broad cultural background.
6. Understanding why "things" behave as they do.
7. Composing and/or conducting original music.
8. Solving and using mathematical formulas.
9. Developing your interest in comparative literature, great novels, poetry.
10. Becoming a business leader in your community.
12. Converting a variety of communication courses into a career.
13. Being intrigued with all aspects of the media and advertising.
14. Preparing for research involving living creatures.
15. Becoming an interpreter.
16. Counseling clients, identifying concerns, finding resources in a quick time frame.
17. Creating new products and/or processes, or improving existing ones.
18. Learning about computer technology.
19. Knowing how the law of supply and demands works.
20. Visiting museums.
21. Knowing the political process.
22. Studying the behaviors of others; learning more about yourself.
23. Analyzing the behavior of people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds.
24. Studying human beliefs, practices, and worship activities as it relates to a supreme power.
25. Tinkering with electrical appliances or other mechanical devices.
College Majors: Section 3

- Write 5 to indicate that you would look forward to the experience with maximum interest and enthusiasm.
- Write 4 to indicate high interest. You would get excited about such a learning experience.
- Write 3 to indicate moderate interest.
- Write 2 to indicate only slight interest.
- Write 1 to indicate that you would not like to participate at all.

___ 1. Examining behaviors that lead to high level of physical and emotional well-being.
___ 2. Helping to develop advertising material for local community service groups.
___ 3. Communicating financial goals through statistical graphics.
___ 4. Enjoying the learning process.
___ 5. Enjoying subjects that are not career directed.
___ 6. Focusing on ideas, data, and researching the unknown.
___ 7. Becoming proficient in performing musically either vocally or with instruments.
___ 8. Working with numbers more than words.
___ 9. Working with words more than numbers.
___ 10. Seeking and administering ways in which to motivate others to produce.
___ 11. Exploring life through a study of the works of the masters.
___ 12. Giving talks in front of large groups.
___ 13. Promoting products or services.
___ 14. Studying how organisms are structured as well as how they relate to each other.
___ 15. Speaking to others in their language, not yours.
___ 16. Helping people solve personal and family relationships or how to cope with community issues.
___ 17. Applying mathematical, scientific, and analytical thinking skills.
___ 18. Converting computer skills and knowledge into success.
___ 20. Converting—a study of the past into a better understanding of the present.
___ 22. Taking the clinical approach to human behavior.
___ 23. Looking into people's lifestyle characteristics.
___ 24. Participating in youth, outreach, and/or missionary activities.
___ 25. Developing hobbies related to radios, stereos, building go-carts, fixing cars, etc.
___ 26. Ability to recognize differences in shapes, shading, and color.
Part 2: Creating Your Profile

Now that you have indicated your preferences, enjoy building your personal profile. The results will indicate those college majors you should explore further.

Step 1: Study the profile sheet on the next page.
- Notice that there are twenty-six college major possibilities down the right hand side.
- The scale across the top measures high, medium, and low interest in each major.
- A space is provided down the left hand side for you to enter the total for each major.

Step 2: Total the number for question number 1 from each of the three previous pages (College Majors 1, 2, and 3). Enter this total (it will be between 3 and 15) on the line under "Your Score" next to question number 1 (Health, fitness, physical education).

Step 3: Total the numbers for question 2 and enter it on the line next to question number 2 (Art). Continue this process until you have entered your score for each of the twenty-six questions.

Step 4: On the interest scale at the top (0-15), locate the level equal to your total score for each major.
- Draw a solid, distinct line from a to your score on that line.

Step 5: At the bottom, indicate your top three choices with a star or some other distinctive mark. You will want to research these three possibilities first. Use the resources at Career Services or use the Career Services homepage.
Profile Sheet for College Majors

Directions:
Write in the total for each question from all three pages. Draw a thick, solid line across to your score.

**Interest:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Your Score</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
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Example:
15. 9

**Major**

Foreign Language

Health, Fitness, P.E.

Art

Accounting

Education

Liberal Arts

Physics

Music

Mathematics

English

Management

Philosophy

Communications

Marketing

Biology

Foreign Languages

Social Work

Chemistry

Computer Science

Economics

History

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Religion

Engineering

Architecture

Top three choices for future exploration:

1. __________________________  2. __________________________  3. __________________________

To explore these choices visit: http://career.utk.edulstudents/maiors/maiorsindex.asp
Which Type Describes You Best?
The following exercise allows you to identify Ohio State University Majors to your "type"

As you read the following descriptions think about these questions:

• Would I want to do this?
• Would I enjoy these activities and job tasks?
• Would I enjoy working with people who enjoy this?
• What truly interests me?

Are You A **Realistic** Type?
• machines, tools, nature, animals, outdoors science/math
• using physical strength, skill, dexterity of the body
• practical, concrete over abstract problem solving
• action solutions over verbal and interpersonal solutions
• working with things and data over people

Are You An **Investigative** Type?
• working with things and ideas over people
• solving complex, abstract problems
• scientific, mathematical, and intellectual pursuits
• organizing, analyzing, interpreting data, ideas, theories
• researching and understanding the physical world
• uncovering new facts with original, creative, theoretical questions

Are You An **Artistic** Type?
• using imagination and originality to develop new ideas
• creating, using intuition and self-expression
• valuing aesthetics and the beauty of word, shape, form
• variety and change in flexible environments
• designing a product
• working with ideas

Are You A **Social** Type?
• concern for human welfare and community service
• solving problems with feelings and discussion
• using insight to understand others and express caring
• teaching, helping, correcting to improve lives
• unstructured, flexible settings
• leading on social, ethical issues
• people interest over data or things

Are You An **Enterprising** Type?
• persuading, directing, managing, supervising
• organizing business functions for efficiency
• leading, influencing, persuading others
• using verbal ability, motivating others
• competition and risk taking
• people and data interest over things and ideas
Are You a Conventional Type?
• structure order over ambiguity
• setting up practical procedures, record keeping
• applying rules to organizational tasks
• accuracy detail in tasks
• office settings and following others' direction
• data interests

Now that you’ve read what each type is like, which type fits you best?
Realistic - Investigative - Artistic - Social - Enterprising - Conventional

Which type fits you second best?
Realistic - Investigative - Artistic - Social - Enterprising - Conventional

Which type fits you third best?
Realistic - Investigative - Artistic - Social - Enterprising - Conventional


Starting on the next page, check out Ohio State University majors according to the three "Types" you chose from above ...
The Ohio State Undergraduate Majors Related to the **REALISTIC** Type

Remember, if you chose **Realistic** it usually means...
- Prefer to work with tools, machines and things rather than with people and words.
- Like to build things.
- Are driven by common sense.
- Enjoy nature.
- Want to see the practical results from their work.
- Enjoy mechanical activities.
- Like work that requires physical strength.

**College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (FAES)**
- Agricultural Education
- Agricultural and Construction Systems Management
- Agricultural Engineering
- Crop Science
- Landscape Horticulture
- Plant Health Management
- Turf-grass Science

**School of Architecture (AHR)**
- Architecture
- Landscape Architecture

**College of the Arts & Sciences (ASC)**
- Aviation
- Ceramic Art
- Chemistry
- Communications
- Computer and Information Science
- Drawing- Painting
- Geography
- Geology and Mineralogy
- Glass Art
- Industrial Design
- Mapping and Land Information Sciences
- Photography
- Physics
- Printmaking
- Sculpture
- Speech and Hearing Science

**College of Business, Fisher (BUS)**
- Accounting
- Aviation Management
- Finance
- Transportation & Logistics

**College of Dentistry (DEN)**
- Pre-Dentistry
- Dental Hygiene

**College of Education and Human Ecology (EDE)**
- Exercise Sciences
- Fashion and Interiors Merchandising Option
- Sports & Leisure Studies
- Technical Education and Training
- Technology Education
College of Engineering (ENG)
- Aerospace Engineering, Applied Mechanics and Aviation
- Agricultural, Biological, and Food Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Information Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Physics
- Industrial, Welding and Systems Engineering
- Material Science Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Surveying

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- Athletic Training
- Circulation Technology
- Medical Technology
- Radiological Technology

School of Natural Resources (NRE)
- Environmental Science
- Fisheries and Wildlife Management
- Forestry and Urban Development
- Environmental Communication, Education, and Interpretation
- Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Administration
- Integrated Resource Policy and Planning Options

College of Medicine (MED)

College of Optometry (OPT)

College of Public Health (PH)
- Public Health

College of Veterinary Medicine (VME)
The Ohio State Undergraduate Majors Related to the **INVESTIGATIVE** Type

Remember, if you chose **Investigative** it often means...
• Like to explore and understand things and events.
• Value knowledge, learning, achievement, and independence.
• Are analytical, skeptical, curious, creative, and studious.
• Like to work with theories or unproven ideals.
• Do not mind working alone.

**College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (FAES)**
• Agricultural and Construction Systems Management
• Agricultural Education
• Animal Sciences
• Crop Science
• Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering

**School of Architecture (AHR)**
• Architecture
• Landscape Architecture

**College of the Art and Sciences (ASC)**
• Actuarial Science
• African-American and African Studies
• Criminology
• Economics
• Entomology
• Food Business Management
• Food Science
• Glass Art
• Landscape Horticulture
• Nutrition
• Plant Health Management
• Turf-grass Science
• Mathematics
• Microbiology
• Molecular Genetics
• Anthropology
• Astronomy
• Evolution, Ecology, and Zoology
• Philosophy
• Physics
• Aviation
• Biochemistry
• Biology
• Comparative Studies
• Chemistry
• Computer and Information Science
• Geography
• Geology and Mineralogy
• History
• International Studies
• Jewish Studies
• Linguistics
• Mapping and Land Information
• Physiological Optics
• Plant Biology
• Political Science
• Psychology
• Sociology
• Speech & Hearing Science
• Theory & Composition
• Women's Studies

**College of Business, Fisher (BUS)**
• Economics
• Information Systems
• International Business

**College of Dentistry (DEN)**
• Pre-Dentistry
• Dental Hygiene
College of Education & Human Ecology (EHE)
• Exercise Science
• Consumer Affairs
• Dietetics
• Early Childhood Development and Education
• Family Studies
• Fashion and Interiors Merchandising
• Human Nutrition
• Nutrition in Industry
• Product Development and Evaluation
• Technology Education
• Technical Education & Training

College of Engineering (ENG)
• Aerospace Engineering, Applied Mechanics and Aviation
• Agricultural, Biological, and Food Engineering
• Chemical Engineering
• Civil Engineering
• Computer Information Science
• Electrical Engineering
• Engineering Physics
• Industrial, Welding and Systems Engineering
• Material Science Engineering
• Mechanical Engineering
• Surveying

School of Health and Rehabilitation Science (AMP)
• Athletic Training
• Circulation Technology
• Health Sciences
• Health Information Management & Systems
• Medical Dietetics
• Medical Technology
• Radiological Technology
• Respiratory Therapy

College of Medicine (MED)
• Pre-Medicine

School of Natural Resources (NRE)
• Environmental Sciences
• Fisheries and Wildlife Management
• Forestry and Urban Forestry
• Environmental Communication, Education, and Interpretation
• Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Administration
• Integrated Resource Policy and Planning

College of Nursing (NUR)
• Nursing

College of Optometry (OPT)
• Pre-Optometry

College of Pharmacy (PHR)
• Pharmaceutical Sciences
• Pharmacy

College of Social Work (SWK)
• Social Work

College of Veterinary Medicine (VME)
• Pre-Veterinary Medicine
The Ohio State Undergraduate Majors Related to the **ARTISTIC** Type

Remember, if you chose **Artistic** it often means...
- Value creativity, independence, and beauty.
- Enjoy creative activities such as music, writing, reading, entertainment, and art.
- Prefer an unconventional life style, unusual, disorderly, and sensitive.
- Open to experience and imaginative
- Actively seek opportunities of self-expression.
- Avoids rules and routines.

**College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (FAES)**
- Agricultural Communications
- Agricultural Education
- Landscape Horticulture

**School of Architecture (AHR)**
- Architecture
- Landscape Architecture

**College of the Arts and Sciences (ASC)**
- African-American and African Studies
- Art
- Art and Technology
- Art Education
- Ceramics
- Chinese
- Classics
- Communications and Journalism
- Comparative Studies
- Dance
- Drawing and Painting
- English
- French
- German
- Glass Art
- Greek, Modern
- Hebrew
- History
- History of Art
- Industrial Design
- Interior Space Design
- Islamic
- Italian
- Japanese
- Jazz Education
- Jewish Studies
- Linguistics
- Medieval and Renaissance Studies
- Music Education
- Music Education

**Fisher College of Business (BUS)**
- Human Resources

**College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE)**
- Early Childhood Development and Education
- Family Studies
- Fashion and Interior Merchandising
The Ohio State Undergraduate Majors Related to the Social Type

Remember, if you chose Social it often means...
- Caring about the well-being of others.
- Value social service, fairness and understanding
- Empathetic, patient, agreeable and helpful
- Gets along well with people.
- Have strong verbal skills.
- Like to provide service for others.

College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (FAES)
- Agricultural, Environmental, and Developmental Economics
- Agricultural Communications
- Agricultural Education
- Food Business Management
- Nutrition

College of the Arts & Sciences (AS C)
- African-American and African Studies
- Anthropology
- Arabic
- Art Education (pre-certification)
- Aviation
- Chinese
- Classics
- Communications and Journalism
- Comparative Studies
- Computer Information Science
- Criminology
- English
- Economics
- French
- Geography
- German
- Greek, Modern
- Hebrew
- History
- Italian
- Japanese
- Jewish Studies
- International Studies
- Linguistics
- Medieval and Renaissance Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Portuguese
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Speech and Hearing Science
- Theater
- Women's Studies

College of Business, Fisher (BUS)
- Aviation Management
- Economics
- Human Resources
- International Business
- Marketing
- Real Estate and Urban Analysis

College of Dentistry (DEN)
- Pre-Dentistry
- Dental Hygiene
- Hospitality Management
- Nutrition
- Special Education (pre-certification)
- Sports and Leisure Studies
- Technical Education and Training
- Technology Education

College of Education and Human Ecology (EDU)
- Consumer Affairs
- Dietetics
- Early Childhood Development and Education
- Exercise Science
- Family Finance Management
- Family Studies
- Fashion and Interior Merchandising
College of Engineering (ENG)
• Industrial Systems Engineering

College of Law (LAW)
• Pre-Law

College of Medicine (MED)
• Pre-Medicine

School of Natural Resources (NRE)
• Environmental Communication, Education and Interpretation
• Integrated Resource Policy and Planning Options
• Parks, Recreation and Tourism Administration
• Wildlife Management

College of Nursing (NUR)
• Nursing

College of Optometry (OPT)
• Pre-Optometry

College of Pharmacy (PHR)
• Pre - Pharmacy

College of Public Health (PH)
• Athletic Training
• Health Information Management & Systems
• Health Sciences
• Medical Dietetics
• Radiological Technology
• Respiratory Therapy

College of Social Work (SWK)
• Social Work

College of Veterinary Medicine (VME)
• Pre-Veterinary Medicine
The Ohio State Undergraduate Majors Related to the ENTERPRISING Type

Remember, if you chose Enterprising it often means...
• Seeing themselves as skilled with words.
• Valuing financial and social success.
• Energetic, extroverted and ambitious.
• Seek careers where they can lead others.
• Enjoy convincing others to think the way they do.
• Can persuade others.

College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (FAES)
• Agricultural and Construction Systems Management
• Agribusiness and Applied Economics
• Food Business Management
• Turf grass Science

College of Arts and Sciences (ASC)
• Anthropology
• Art Education
• Aviation
• Communication and Journalism
• Criminology and Criminal Justice
• Dance
• Photography
• Economics
• English
• Geography
• History
• International Studies
• Political Sciences
• Psychology
• Sociology
• Speech and Hearing
• Visual Communication Design

College of Business, Fisher (BUS)
• Accounting
• Aviation Management
• Economics
• Finance
• Human Resources
• Marketing
• Operations Management
• Photography
• Productions and Operations
• Real Estate and Urban Analysis
• Risk Management & Insurance
• Transportation and Logistics

College of Dentistry (DEN)
• Dental Hygiene

College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE)
• Consumer Affairs
• Dietetics
• Early Childhood Development and Education
• Family Studies
• Fashion and Interiors Merchandising
• Family Financial Management
• Hospitality Management
• Nutrition in Industry
• Product Development & Evaluation

College of Engineering (ENG)
• Civil Engineering
• Industrial & Systems Engineering
School of Health and Rehabilitation (HR)
  • Athletic Training
  • Health Information Management & Systems
  • Health Sciences
  • Medical Dietetics

College of Law (LA W)
  • Pre-Law

School of Natural Resource (NRE)
  • Environmental, Communication, Education and Interpretation
  • Fisheries Management
  • Integrated Resource Policy and Planning Option
  • Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management
  • Wildlife Management

College of Nursing (NUR)
  • Nursing

College of Pharmacy (PHR)
  • Pharmaceutical Sciences

College of Social Work (SWK)
  • Social Work
The Ohio State Undergraduate Majors Related to the **CONVENTIONAL** Type

Remember, if you chose **Conventional** it often means...
- Preferring jobs where they can follow routines and meeting clear standards.
- Like working with things, numbers, words, or machines.
- Orderly, systematic, rule oriented, efficient and orderly.
- Value accuracy, attention to details, thrift.

**College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (FAES)**
- Food Science

**College of Arts and Sciences (ASC)**
- Actuarial Science
- Communication

**Fisher College of Business (BUS)**
- Accounting
- Finance
- Information Systems
- Risk Management & Insurance

**College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE)**
- Financial Management

**College of Engineering (ENG)**
- Surveying

**School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (HRS)**
- Health Information Management & Systems
- Radiological Technology

**Reality Check**
Gather a few trusted individuals and ask them to tell you the truth when you pose the question, "What do you see as my talents?" They'll likely offer some possibilities that you never even considered before! Plus, they can serve as a mirror, reflecting back to you your Real Self rather than your Ideal Self. And it's the former who will take on a major and make it work. Get real! (With a little help from your friends).

Selecting the right college major is something like finding the path to follow to get to a chosen destination. In choosing the right path you must know ahead of time where the path will eventually take you. In choosing the right college major (getting on the right academic path) you must consider the careers that path may lead you to. If you get on the wrong path, you will discover that you have prepared for the wrong careers. For example, if you don't get on the mathematics path, many careers (physicist, or statistician, for example) will not be available to you once the academic journey has been completed.
Reality Check

It's time for a reality check. There's an Ideal Self and a Real Self inside of you. And, as you evaluate your major and career options, it makes good sense to have your Real Self be in charge.

Your Ideal Self is that person you may wish to be or who others have built you up to be. It's the self possibly created by family or societal expectations. But, it's not really you.

Your Real Self is who you are today, talents, flaws and all. It's the self that is interested in finding a true fit and a major that is harmonious with your interests, values and abilities. It's who you really are.

Narrowing It Down

So, what does your Real Self say when it comes to a few majors that you can definitely rule out? List them here:

1. ______________________________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________________________________

4. ______________________________________________________________________________

5. ______________________________________________________________________________

Knowing what you don't want to do can help you narrow down the field.

Okay, now what majors have made it to your Top 5? List them here:

1. ______________________________________________________________________________

2. ______________________________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________________________________

4. ______________________________________________________________________________

5. ______________________________________________________________________________

Once you've explored the vast array of possibilities, narrowing it down to a few choices makes sense. It gives you more focus so you can explore the real possibilities within each.

Choosing a major is an important process, without a doubt. The process of exploration can form you just as much as the major can! Just think about it, you'll be talking with professionals, exploring your interests, getting in touch with your values and examining the possibilities. You deserve to know yourself better once this process is complete. There's no doubt that you will.

Source: Paper Clip Communications