Choosing Your College Major

Choosing a major that you’ll enjoy seems like a daunting task...where do you even begin? As you consider this process, here are some steps you can take to research majors and make a decision.

**KNOW YOURSELF**

Career opportunities exist for students in ANY MAJOR...as long as you prepare for them along the way. As you consider possible majors, ask yourself:

- What activities do I enjoy? What interests drive me?
- What are my values?
- What do I enjoy learning? How do I like to learn?
- What are my strengths academically?

Having trouble answering those questions? Meet with a Career Center staff member and take career assessments like the STRONG Interest Inventory or TypeFocus for help!

**KNOW MSU MAJORS**

Check out the list of MSU Majors

Explore majors of interest at the MSU Undergraduate Catalog Online: [http://www.catalog.msstate.edu](http://www.catalog.msstate.edu)

Look for two things within the Colleges and Degree Programs tab:

- Graduation Requirements (Academic Department’s “Overview” and “Programs of Study” section)
- Course Descriptions

**ASK QUESTIONS**

Meet with the academic department’s undergraduate coordinator or academic advisor to ask some questions.

- Can you tell me about this academic program?
- What are the requirements for admission to this major?
- What are the graduation requirements? What are some of the more challenging courses?
- Are there any emphases/concentrations in this major?
- How can I gain practical experience in this field while I am in school?
- Where have your graduates gone to work?
- What are some possible careers I could pursue with this major?
- What other majors on campus might be related to this major?
- What courses could I take to discover if this is the right major for me?
- May I have copies of some course syllabi from some of the upper-level courses to discover more?

**TEST YOUR OPTIONS**

- Speak with people who are doing work related to the major.
- Job shadow professionals in careers related to the major.
- Take a basic class or two in the major field.