

Selecting a college major

It's not the same as choosing a career

Do I really have to know what I want to do?

What is a major?

- A subject or field of study chosen by a student to represent his or her principal interest and upon which a large share of his or her efforts are concentrated. - [dictionary.com](#)
- A College Major is a concentration of study focused on a discipline and augmented by a selection of courses. [Collegetransfer.net](#)
- A college major is a group of courses required by a college in order to receive a degree — an area you specialize in, like Accounting or Chemistry. - [CareerKey.org](#)

What is a career?

- The progress and actions taken by a person throughout a lifetime, especially those related to that person's occupations. A career is often composed of the jobs held, titles earned and work accomplished over a long period of time, rather than just referring to one position. - [businessdictionary.com](https://www.businessdictionary.com)
- Having a career means you have education, experience, and jobs in a particular field or career cluster.

Tell me more

According to the NY Times...

Anywhere from 60 to 80% of college students either enter college “undecided,” are not confident that they have chosen the right major, or change their major in their first year of college.

CareerBuilder.com research of college educated workers...

- 47% said their 1st job after college was not related to their major
- 32% reported that they never found a job related to their major
- Among workers ages 35 and older – that number is 31%

Resources

- *Do What You Are!* by Paul Tieger and Barbara Barron-Tieger
- Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® (MBTI®)
- www.16personalities.com
- <https://www.pymetrics.com/>
- Naviance Career Interest Profiler
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>

What do we discover about ourselves?

- Where is your energy naturally directed?
- What kind of information do you naturally notice and remember?
- How do you decide or come to conclusions?
- What kind of environment makes you the most comfortable?
- Do you prefer to focus on the outer world or on your own inner world?
- When making decisions, do you prefer to first look at logic and consistency or first look at the people and special circumstances?

English - Math - Reading - Science

English - literature, philosophy, communications, art history, creative writing

Math - architecture, biology, computer science, economics, engineering

Reading - psychology, sociology, education, anthropology, international relations

Science - environmental studies, biology, astrophysics, genetics, astronomy

Talk to people with jobs

- Parents, relatives, siblings, friends' parents
- Researching careers online and in person
- Create a LinkedIn profile and research companies and employees
- Internships and job shadowing
- Counselors and teachers
- Summer jobs and volunteering

Catchy Slogan Here

“Do what you love, and you’ll never work
another day in your life.”

- everyone giving career advice and possibly Confucius

Mark Cuban said it better

“Let me make this as clear as possible: 1) When you work hard at something you become good at it. 2) When you become good at something you enjoy doing it more. 3) When you enjoy doing something, there is a good chance you will become passionate about it.”

What about the Future?

- In a national survey by Pew Research Center of 2,001 adults, fully 65% of Americans expect that within 50 years robots and computers will “definitely” or “probably” do much of the work currently done by humans.
- Yet even as many Americans expect that machines will take over a great deal of human employment, an even larger share (80%) expect that their own jobs or professions will remain largely unchanged and exist in their current forms 50 years from now.

QUESTIONS?