



THE UNDECIDED STUDENT

What does it mean to be an undecided student?

Being undecided simply means you have not chosen a major of study or a specific career field. Choosing a major can be a difficult process for students. Whether you are beginning college for the first time or returning to college for a career change, choosing a major is a very serious decision.

Why is it so important to pick a major?

You are no longer undecided and in limbo. You can become focused and begin to imagine yourself in the career you've chosen. Your goals become more defined and realistic. You know what is required for your major and you can avoid taking courses that will not count. Also, if you receive financial aid you must have a major declared to receive your award. You can begin to think about internships, specific employment opportunities, your future salary, etc. You are now on the path for your future.

So...how does one even begin the process of selecting a major?

- Read the college catalog for descriptions of the different programs.
- Weigh your options between a two year Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree versus a two year college transfer degree (Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, or Associate in Fine Arts). The A.A.S. is *typically* not used as an option for transfer to a university (ask your advisor for exceptions.) Whereas, the AA, AS, and AFA are college transfer degrees.
- Register for the Career Assessment class, *ACA 120*.
- Visit department heads and faculty in the majors you are considering. Find out what careers are available to graduates of those programs.
- Take advantage of the great services offered by Career Services. (You can find campus locations – as well as other useful information – online at www.cpcc.edu/career_center.) Let a career counselor assist you in discovering your interests and goals through the *Career Target Program*.
- Take elective courses in your area of interest.
- **Remember...** to stay connected with the Counseling and Advising office [at the campus of your choice](#) and inform them of any updates or changes to your major.

Self Exploration Questions:

- What subjects did you enjoy in high school? In what subjects were your best grades?
- Are you strengths in math and science or in the social sciences (i.e. history, psychology, geography)?
- What extra-curricular activities do you enjoy?
- What personal qualities do you see as your strengths? Limitations?
- In what kind of work environment do you picture yourself?
- In your spare time, what do you like to do?
- Why are you in college?
- What does a college degree mean to you?

Academic Major/ Career Information

- What academic areas are you considering? What do you like about these areas?
- What do you want to learn about?
- What occupations are you considering?
- What are the differences between the majors/occupations you are considering? The similarities?
- Who has influenced your ideas about these occupations?

Decision Making

- Do you ever have trouble making important decisions?
- How do you go about making important decisions?
- Do you make decisions by yourself or do you need other people’s opinions first?
- Are you feeling anxious about deciding on a major?
- Have you set a deadline for choosing your major?

Course Options for Undecided Students:

Note: Certain advancement studies courses (i.e. MAT 050, 060, 070, 080; RED 080, 090; ENG 080, 090) may need to be completed first. Always see a counselor or advisor prior to registration.

| FIRST SEMESTER OPTIONS | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Course | Credit Hours |
| ENG* | 3-4 |
| MAT* | 3-4 |
| SOC 210 | 3 |
| ACA 120 | 1 |
| CIS 110 | 3 |

| SECOND SEMESTER OPTIONS | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Course | Credit Hours |
| ENG* | 3-4 |
| COM 231 | 3 |
| MUS 110 | 3 |
| GEO 111 | 3 |
| Career Elective † | 3-4 |

*English and math classes are based on placement test results. See advisor.

† **Examples of Career Electives by Major:**

Business: Introduction to Business (BUS 110)
Business Law (BUS 115)
Calculus II (MAT 272)
Principles of Financial Accounting (ACC 120)
Principles of Managerial Accounting (ACC121)
Principles of Microeconomics (ECO 251)
Principles of Macroeconomics (ECO 252)
Brief Calculus (MAT 263/263A)

Criminal Justice: Introduction to Criminal Justice (CJC 111)
Corrections (CJC 121)
Law Enforcement Operations (CJC 141)
American Government (POL 120)
Introduction to Sociology (SOC 210)
General Psychology (PSY 150)

Computer Science: Computing Fundamentals I (CSC 120)
Computing Fundamentals II (CSC 130)
General Physics I (PHY 251)
General Physics II (PHY 252)
Calculus I (MAT 271)
Calculus II (MAT 272)

Psychology: General Psychology (PSY 150)
Developmental Psychology (PSY 241)
Abnormal Psychology (PSY 281)
Statistics (MAT 155/155A)

Nursing: General Chemistry (CHM 151)
Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 168)
Anatomy and Physiology II (BIO 169)
Microbiology (BIO 275)
General Psychology (PSY 150)

**Speech/
Communications:** Introduction to Communications (COM 110)
Interpersonal Communications (COM 120)
Public Speaking (COM 231)
Intercultural Communications (COM 140)
Oral Interpretation (DRA 122)
Introduction to Film (HUM 160)

Engineering: Calculus I (MAT 271)
Calculus II (MAT 272)
General Physics I (PHY 251)
General Physics II (PHY 252)
General Chemistry (CHM 151)