
Research it, Decide it, Live it!

Undecided? You're not alone...

Being uncertain about your major is a common phenomenon. There are many things you can do to ease the process of choosing a major, and the Career Center is here to help.

You will excel at a major that you enjoy studying.

It makes sense that you will exert more effort and your grades will be better when you study something you're interested in and enjoy. Which classes have you liked so far? Are there others that you are curious about?

Your college major puts FEW restrictions on your career choices.

Selecting a major and selecting a career are not the same thing. Some students who major in the Arts or Humanities decide to pursue careers in Business or any number of other fields. Most importantly, you should choose a major you enjoy and develop *skills* applicable to a variety of careers.

Develop transferable skills.

Beyond the skills you will gain through studying any major at Cañada, employers value skills that you develop outside the classroom. You should consider participating in internships, volunteer service, campus and extracurricular activities.

Resources for exploring majors:

- Check out the websites of Cañada's academic departments. Here you can find information on majoring in that discipline, courses offered, and faculty.
- Faculty of any department are a good source of information on possibilities within their discipline.
- Talk to current students who are majoring in the discipline that interests you. Ask them about what they like and dislike about their major, and about requirements and favorite courses.
- Meeting with the staff at the career center can help you to gain insight into your interests, skills, and values, and how these relate to majors and careers.
- Meet with a counselor to explore your options.
- Take a career development course.

Did You Know?

The Career Center can give you information on how majors connect with the world of work. Also, The Cañada Career website provides links to a variety of helpful resources related to choosing a major. You'll find self-assessment sites and activities, The *What Can I Do with This Major?* Tool, and much more!

Helpful Websites for Researching a Major

Cañada College Career Center:

- canadacollege.edu/careercenter/

Career Research:

- cacareerzone.org
- glassdoor.com
- mynextmove.org

Self-Assessment:

- 123test.com
 - Personality Tests
 - Work Values Tests
 - Team Rules Test
 - 41q.com

Things to Consider

- If you could teach a course on any subject, what would it be? To whom would you teach it?
- Which world issues concern you?
- Imagine that you are an expert/consultant in your field. What would it be?
- You've been given time and resources to write a novel. What is it about?
- You're invited to attend a conference of your choosing. What would be the topic?
- If you could trade jobs with any 3 people, who would they be and why?
- If you could travel anywhere for a day, where would you go and what would you do?
- If you could design the perfect major, which classes would it include?
- List the departments you know you *don't* want to major in. What do they have in common?
- Is there family pressure to major in (or NOT to major in) certain fields?