

Module 16

Choosing a Major

Objectives 1A and 1B

- 1A. To identify what factors are important to you in selecting a major.
- 1B. To discover fields of study that you might find interesting.

Activities to Help You Achieve These Objectives

- Attend a Pizza and a Major workshops. See a Career Advisor or view the Events Calendar on the Career Center Web site at career.fsu.edu/.
- Complete Steps 1-6 of the *Choosing a Major or Occupation* guide (pages 2-7) and discuss your situation with a Career Advisor (<http://career.fsu.edu/Resources/Career-Guides>).
- Complete appropriate self-assessment activities such as the Self-Directed Search (speak to a Career Advisor to access assessments).
- Review Module 3: *Exploring your Interests, Values, and Skills*, and discuss your situation with a Career Advisor.
- Review the “FSU Undergraduate Programs by Holland Code” sheet to identify FSU programs consistent with your self-assessment (ask a Career Advisor for this handout).

Objectives 2A and 2B

- 2A. To broaden your general awareness of majors available at Florida State and elsewhere.
- 2B. To find detailed information about specific majors.

Activities to Help You Achieve These Objective

- Examine select resources in the Career Library:
 - Making Your Major Decision*.....IA P4
 - Panicked Student’s Guide to Choosing a College Major*.....IA S45
 - Chronicle Four-Year College Databook*..... IIIB C45
 - College Majors and Careers: A Resource Guide for Effective Life Planning* IIC AA P4
 - The College Board Book of Majors* IIIB C1 M3
 - College Majors Handbook with Real Career Paths and Payoffs* IIC AA F6
- Use the FSU Majors Card Sort to help identify majors that would be of interest to you.
- Review college majors using an online resource at collegemajors101.com.
- Learn more about specific majors available at FSU:
 - i. See the Florida State University General Bulletin for a list of degree and certificate programs. Visit the registrar.fsu.edu site to review the General Bulletin.
 - ii. Get specific information about majors that interest you in the Undergraduate Academic

Program Guide at www.academic-guide.fsu.edu and in the FSU General Bulletin.

- iii. Perform a computer search using Career Key to locate Career Center Library resources which focus on majors of interest to you.
 - iv. Review printed materials on FSU Academic Programs in section III of the Career Center Library.
 - v. Refer to the Faculty Resource Directory, at the Career Advisor desk, to find faculty and advisor names and phone numbers, or use the Advisor Search Function at: <http://advisingfirst.fsu.edu/Team/Find-Your-Advisor>. Make an appointment with a faculty member, advisor, or departmental staff member to gain more information about a particular major.
- Learn more about majors available at other colleges/universities:
 - i. Use directories in the Career Center Library to identify institutions with programs in which you have an interest.
 - ii. Perform a search in SIGI3 to identify institutions which may offer programs in your field(s) of interest (see a Career Advisor for access to the systems).
 - iii. Within 'Go to College' at <http://www.floridashines.org/>, select 'Search College & University Profiles' to gather information on what institutions in the state offer programs of interest.
 - Obtain further information about programs at other institutions:
 - i. Write, call, or e-mail institutions and/or specific departments for catalogs and academic program information.
 - ii. Conduct a search on the Internet for information sites on institutions in which you have an interest.
 - iii. Search out catalogs available on the FSU campus.

Objective 3

3. To enhance your ability to make an informed decision.

Activities to Help You Achieve This Objective

- Review Module 2: *Making A Career Decision*.
- Review *A Guide To Good Decision Making* (ask a Career Advisor for access).
- Complete the *Guide to Good Decision-Making* exercise (ask a Career Advisor for access).
- Talk to a Career Advisor about special problems getting in the way of your major decision.



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