



When you fill out a university application form, choosing a major might seem easy. You may, for example, ask your friend what the best major is, or you may choose what your friend has chosen or what your friends see as an easy major. You might also choose the one they think is highly demanded in the job market. If you do so, you will be choosing the wrong major. To select the academic major that is best for you, you need to follow these steps:

1. Don't declare a major unless you are sure it best suites you and your abilities.

- Putting off the decision of choosing a major is better than choosing the wrong one. Nonetheless, start thinking, searching and consulting specialists to help you make a good decision as early as high school or right after being admitted to university.

2. Talk to a professional advisor

- The professional advisor at university helps you choose the right major. S/he listens to your questions and answers them. You can ask for help from Career Planning Services Department (CPSD) to know more about your abilities, preferences, skills, and qualifications. To help you choose the right major and career for you, the CPSD offers advising sessions and uses specialized techniques to determine your abilities and your personality type.

3. Get enough information about the majors you are considering

- Visit the academic advising unit at your college of choice, get a copy of the study plan and learn what the admission requirements are for the major you want.
- Ask specialists, professors or whoever is involved in the major.
- Look for more information about the major on the UAEU website.

4. Discover yourself

- Tests available in the CPSD such as "Personality Test", "Whahat Almehan" (Career Oases), "Evaluate Yourself and Make a Decision" all help you know more about your preferences, skills, interests, competencies and the jobs that best suite you. Therefore, take such tests, but make sure the test you use is scientifically based and prepared by specialists.

5. Talk with current students and alumni of the major

- Ask the students who are taking the majors you have in mind about their opinion. Make sure, however, that you get an objective view. Students who love their major will present it as the best ever, while those who made the wrong decision will only focus on the negatives.

6. Check the possibilities of future careers related to the major

When selecting a major, you should take into consideration the career opportunities in the job market, but at the same time, you should also have a long term view of what you will do after 10 years or more. You have to take into account the general education courses, elective courses and minor courses that you will have to choose in addition to your major. Those courses can help you work in fields relevant to your major.

7. Think of other options

It is good to have an alternative major in mind just in case you are not admitted into your desired major. The CPSD can help you know more about your skills and individual abilities and decide on good alternatives.

For Information Please Contact Center for Career Placement & Alumni – Career Planning Services

Ms. Abeer Al Shuaibi	037136685	أ.عبير الشعبي
Ms. Rawdha Al Kethiri	037136683	أ.روضة الكثيري
Ms. Munira Al Yazeedi	037135657	أ.منيرة اليزيدي
Career Planning Services	037135809	خدمات التخطيط المهني

How to Select an Academic Major



UAEU_CCPA



caps@uae.ac.ae