

# Majors Fair Questions

This document will help you engage with faculty, advisors, and campus partners during the Majors Fair. The idea is to ask a variety of questions from any category as appropriate to your situation. Successful students consider their major choice from a variety of perspectives: **interest, skills, personality, values, and involvement.**

These categories can also help you avoid the pitfall of picking a major that only fits one aspect of your personality. Example: you may have the skills for a specific major, but find it uninteresting or demotivating. Alternatively, you may be very interested in a major but not have the required skills or strengths to be successful. (Note: this refers to your natural ability to excel in a certain area; you will always have to develop skills in any major.)

Below are a list of questions you can ask representatives at the majors fair, laid out in three categories: **General Questions, Majors You're Interested In, & Majors You Don't Know Much About But Want To Learn More.**

Feel free to make these questions your own and ask in a method that is most comfortable to you.

## GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What are the key topics or issues this major addresses?
- What do class sessions tend to look like for this major? (*lectures, labs, other teaching formats*)
- What types of assignments are typically completed in this major? What does the daily work tend to look like?
- What type of readings & research do students complete in this major?
- What are the admissions requirements for this major/program? What are the continuing GPA & other requirements?
- I might possibly be interested in \_\_\_\_\_ (career). What suggestions do you have for me to consider as I look at majors in this area?
  - What are some *typical* careers that students in this major tend to look for and find?
  - What are some *unexpected* careers & opportunities that students in this major tend to look for and find?
- What are other questions I should be asking that people don't know about this major?
- What are some common misconceptions students sometimes associate with this major?

# MAJORS YOU'RE INTERESTED IN

## *INTERESTS*

- What are some of the deeper, more advanced topics discussed in this major/its courses? How do students work with those ideas in their projects/assignments?
- What are some further topics/websites/resources I might look at on my own that students in this major enjoy?

## *SKILLS*

- What would you consider to be the basic skills required to be successful in this major?
- What are some of the specific challenges that upper-level students in this major face?
- How do students who are successful in this major hone/adjust their skills?

## *PERSONALITY*

- What are some of the things that students enjoy most about this major as they continue into higher levels?

## *VALUES*

- How might students in this major get an opportunity to support/advocate for ideas or causes they care about?

## *INVOLVEMENT*

- Are there any on-campus or local organizations that I might be able to participate in that complement this major?

# MAJORS YOU DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT BUT WANT TO LEARN MORE

## ***INTERESTS***

- What are some of the different, specific topics covered in the courses of this major?
- Are there any surprising topics/issues that this major deals with that people might not expect?
- What are some misconceptions commonly associated with this major?
- What courses are offered that are open to non-majors that would give me a sense of what this major is like?
- What are some specialities of the faculty in your department?

## ***SKILLS***

- What are some different skills required to be successful in this major?
- What are some of the main projects/programs students complete in this major?
- How much opportunity is there for developing necessary skills for this major? What is the “learning curve”?
- Is graduate/professional school required to pursue careers in this major?
- What are the biggest challenges for students in this major?

## ***PERSONALITY***

- What are some questions I can ask myself to know whether or not this major might be a good “fit” for me?
- How much flexibility is there in types of courses you can take/choose from? (*note specific topics that interest you*)

## ***VALUES***

- What are some big ideas/beliefs that this discipline/major works to support? What does that look like?

## ***INVOLVEMENT***

- Are there any additional, discipline-specific events/resources where I might learn more about this major?
- Are there any online resources/workshops I can look into to learn more about this major?