Presentation Objectives

- Tips: Connecting career interests and college majors
- Tips: Lessons on areas of study and levels of education
- Ideas: How to help undecided high school seniors prepare for success as undeclared college freshmen
- Statistics: Undecided Students
- Exploration: Resources for undecided students
INTERESTS, ABILITIES, VALUES

We tend to focus on interests, and that is a good place to start. However, students also need to think about what their strengths are, and what is important to them.

- engineering students with low math skills
- student who has loves theatre but wants a “practical” major
- pre-med student who is not good in science

Connecting Interests with Majors

Think in terms of *skills* instead of in terms of Majors:

- What does a real estate agent DO? What kind of skills might they use?
  - Regional Development, Psychology, History, Spanish, Economics could all be useful; there is no one “right” major

- Marketing and Advertising: What skills are relevant?
  - Sociology, Communication, Creative Writing, Art, Family Studies – all of these could work, as well as the more traditional “Marketing” degree
Preparing Lessons

• Credentialing – Which careers require what background?

Preparing Lessons: Credentialing

Exercise for students might involve research on which careers require specific academic preparation:

- Manager of a retail store
- Interior Designer
- Athletic coach
- Engineer
- Magazine editor
- President of the United States
**Training, Other Qualifications, and Advancement**

A college degree generally is required for a position as a writer or editor. Good facility with computers and communications equipment is necessary in order to stay in touch with sources, editors, and other writers while working on assignments, whether from home, an office, or while traveling.

Education and training. Some employers look for a broad liberal arts background, while others prefer to hire people with degrees in communications, journalism, or English. For those who specialize in a particular area, such as fashion, business, or law, additional background in the chosen field is expected. Increasingly, technical writing requires a degree in, or some knowledge about, a specialized field—for example, engineering, business, or one of the sciences. Knowledge of a second language is helpful for some positions. A background in web design, computer graphics, or other technology field is increasingly practical, because of the growing use of graphics and representational design in developing technical documentation. In many cases, people with good writing skills may transfer from jobs as technicians, scientists, or engineers into jobs as writers or editors. Others begin as research assistants or as trainees in a technical information department, develop technical communication skills, and then assume writing duties.

Other qualifications. Writers and editors must be able to express ideas clearly and logically and should enjoy writing. Creativity, curiosity, a broad range of knowledge, self-motivation, and perseverance also are valuable. Writers and editors must demonstrate good judgment and a strong sense of ethics in deciding what material to publish. In addition, the ability to concentrate amid confusion and to work under pressure often is essential. Editors also need tact and the ability to guide and encourage others in their work.

Familiarity with electronic publishing, graphics, and video production increasingly is needed. Use of electronic and wireless communications equipment to send e-mail, transmit work, and review copy often is necessary. Online newspapers and magazines require knowledge of computer software used to combine online text with graphics, audio, video, and animation.

High school and college newspapers, literary magazines, community newspapers, and radio and television stations all provide valuable—but sometimes unpaid—practical writing experience. Many magazines, newspapers, and broadcast stations have internships for students. Interns write short pieces, conduct research and interviews, and learn about the
Preparing Lessons

• Credentialing – Which careers require what background?

• Education – Where should I go?

Preparing Lessons: Where Should I Go?

Students assume all schools offer the same majors…

• NAU: Hotel and Restaurant Management, Interior Design, Dental Hygiene

• UA: Retail and Consumer Science, Natural Resource Conservation

• ASU: Kinesiology, Recreation & Tourism Management, Global Health
Credentialing is then key:

Hotel Management

vs.

Dental Hygiene

Preparing Lessons: Where Should I Go?

Credentialing – Which careers require what background?

Education – Where should I go?

Myth busting – What students should know.
Preparing Lessons: Myth busting

• MYTHBUSTING – worksheet

• Majors by College – if all the majors that interest you are in one College, most colleges have an undecided option.

Preparing For Success

For an Undecided Student:

• Taking chances – the relationship between research and experience
  – Sometimes all the research in the world won’t tell you how it FEELS to be in a specific major.

• Using General Education classes to explore Majors
Preparing For Success

For an Undecided Student:

• Threshold of certainty: if you’re strongly leaning toward a specific major, declare it!

• If you’re truly undecided, be honest about it. Give University College an opportunity to help you narrow down your options.

Statistics

• Number of students who are in University College: 4,163

• In 2007, approximately 15,000 UC advising contacts were made with students
  – Many of those contacts were with students in other Colleges

• Often students who are not “officially” undecided can be undecided too.
University College is the largest College for incoming freshman

### Persistence and Graduation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One Year Dropout Rate</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Year Graduation Rate</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six Year Graduation Rate</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>59%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* As of September 1st, freshmen enter as an entering freshman

### Top 5 Majors of New Freshmen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>2008 %</th>
<th>2007 %</th>
<th>2006 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pre-Engineering (38.8%)</td>
<td>Pre-Engineering (40.0%)</td>
<td>Pre-Engineering (38.0%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pre-Physiology (9.3%)</td>
<td>Pre-Physiology (4.5%)</td>
<td>Pre-Physiology (5.4%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Psychology (4.7%)</td>
<td>Psychology (4.3%)</td>
<td>Psychology (4.0%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pre-Nursing (4.0%)</td>
<td>Pre-Nursing (3.9%)</td>
<td>Pre-Nursing (3.6%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pre-Pharmacy (3.7%)</td>
<td>Pre-Pharmacy (3.9%)</td>
<td>Pre-Pharmacy (3.6%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* UNM policy (1995), all students taking less than 7 credit hours are considered "students" when computing the % of enrollment that is resident vs non-resident

### Resources

- Consult the List of UA Majors
  - [http://www.arizona.edu/degrees/undergrad-degrees.php](http://www.arizona.edu/degrees/undergrad-degrees.php)
Undergraduate Majors & Degrees

- Accounting
- Agricultural Economics and Management
- Animal Sciences
- Anthropology
- Art Education
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Business Economics
- Business Management
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Classics
- Communication

Animal Sciences

Animal scientists study the breeding, production, marketing, and use of animals in agriculture, entertainment, and companionship. Students learn the biological processes involved in genetics, nutrition, and reproduction as well as the business aspects of raising and livestock management. Specializations include animal industry, science and pre-professional training, or race track industry.

High School Preparation:
- Moderate knowledge of math, interest in the biological sciences, and interest in the science and business of domestic animal management.

Major Requirements:
- Major requires math beyond general education requirements, but not beyond basic calculus. Includes statistics, ingonometry, finite math, calculus, or some combination of these courses.
- Major requires upper-division lab sciences.

Careers:
- Livestock production management
- Positions in racing administration and industries
- Business management
- Animal industry: additional business, plant/management
- Science/pre-professional: additional upper-division lab science courses
- Livestock industry: additional business, advanced animal science courses

Additional Information:
- Animal Sciences Home Page
- Agriculture and Life Sciences College Home Page
- Animal Sciences: General Catalog
- The catalog includes course descriptions and specific requirements.
Resources

- Consult the List of UA Majors
  - http://www.arizona.edu/degrees/undergrad-degrees.php
- Speak to department advisor and faculty members
  - http://advising.arizona.edu/co_major.php
Resources

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- Visit Career Services
  - http://career.arizona.edu/
  - http://career.arizona.edu/Students/?hsstudents
High School Students

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- Online Social Networking Sites

Introduction
Career Services works with University of Arizona students to assist them in choosing and planning for a career, obtaining career-related experience (internship) prior to graduation, preparing for and obtaining post graduation employment and applying to graduate school. We work with students from incoming freshmen through PhD candidates. We offer this assistance through counseling, workshops and presentations, events that bring students and employers together, such as campus interviewing and career fairs, a small career library and this informative website.

Although we do not work with high school students, many of the resources on this website are available for you to use as you begin your career and academic planning. This page is intended to put together some of these resources that can assist you in this planning process.

On Being Undecided
Many students enter the University not at all sure what they want to major in or have as a future career. This is totally normal and does not have to affect your graduating on time. There are many, many fields of study that exist at the University and occupations in the work world that

What Can I Do With This Major/Degree?

Are you exploring majors at UA? Want to know what career opportunities might be possible with each major? Then check out the resources on this page.

What Can I Do With This Major/Degree?
This University of Tennessee resource profiles 68 college majors and provides detailed information on strategies for developing careers related to various majors.

What Can I Do With a Major in?
University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Choosing a Major
Unversity of North Carolina University

Major Resources Kits
University of Delaware

America's Career InfoNet Career Videos
Over 416 videos on careers in all areas.

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- Visit Career Services
  - http://career.arizona.edu/
  - http://career.arizona.edu/Students/?hsstudents
- Talk to other students, alumni, and professionals in their fields of interest.
- Register for a class!! Take classes that interest you!!
Questions?