WHAT’S YOUR MAJOR?

Many college students change their major at least once. You are more likely to select a major that is the right fit if you base your decision on your career planning and your experience.

YOUR INTERESTS
Think about the types of things you enjoy. Do you prefer working alone or in groups? Do you like working with data, or would you rather work with people? Start exploring by taking classes related to your interests.

YOUR ABILITIES
What high school courses are your best subjects? What are your strengths and weaknesses? Do you see a pattern?

YOUR WORK VALUES
What is important to you? Examples of work values include helping others, contributing to your community, being creative, solving problems, producing results, making a difference, leading others, having a structured day and being recognized.

4 QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN CHOOSING A MAJOR

1. WHY DO I WANT THIS MAJOR?
   Are you really interested and excited about the subject matter, or are you choosing something based on what your friends or family want you to do?

2. WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT IT?
   Look at the requirements and course descriptions. Talk to people who are currently studying this subject, or to graduates in this field.

3. WHICH COLLEGES ARE STRONG?
   Not all majors are equal on a college campus. Some colleges specialize in certain majors or are known for strong programs in particular fields.

4. WHAT IS THE CAREER OUTLOOK?
   How many students in this major find employment in their field after they graduate? Is the demand for jobs stronger in certain parts of the country? If so, are you willing to move?

STUDENT VOICE: COURTNEY

COLLEGE: Central College
HIGH SCHOOL: Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont High School
CHOOSING A COLLEGE: I wanted a location that was close to home, had a strong Communication Studies major, student activities board, and on-campus events and activities.
COLLEGE EXPERIENCE: Joining [school] groups has helped me form strong friendships with peers from many backgrounds, majors, interests, and ages. I have really enjoyed becoming a part of the Central College family.
CHALLENGES: A college education can be difficult to navigate when you are the first member of your family to actually experience it. However, it is important to keep persevering and try your hardest through every obstacle.
COURTNEY’S ADVICE: Make decisions that truly reflect who you are. College and life in general can be really hard, but ultimately you have to do what is best for you.