Selecting a Career or College Major
A Tutorial for College of Marin Students
3 Easy Steps to choose a career or major

Assess
Explore
Decide
Self Assessment

Self-assessment is the first step in choosing careers or majors that might be a good fit for you.

A comprehensive career assessment will look at the following three specific areas:

- Your **Interests** (what you enjoy doing)
- Your **Skills** (what you are capable of doing)
- Your **Values** (what workplace qualities are most important to you)
A Career Interests Inventory will help you identify patterns in things that you enjoy doing or that you think you would enjoy doing. Interest inventories do not evaluate your skill level for doing these activities, just your interest level.

Career interests can include:

- Building things
- Researching or problem solving
- Writing, composing or performing
- Counseling/guiding/teaching
- Organizing information
Skills Assessment

A *skills assessment* will identify what you are good at doing. Skills can be developed through either formal training or education, as well as through everyday living.

Skills fall into two general categories:

- **Technical skills**: these are skills that you generally learn through school or formal education such as how to graphically design a brochure, or write computer code, or how to cut granite.

- **Soft Skills**: these are skills that are mostly learned through everyday life. They include good listening skills, critical thinking skills, punctuality, etc.
A Career Values Assessment will identify motivating factors for you in the workplace and important personal qualities of a workplace. The more aligned your work environment is to your values, the more successful and satisfied you will be in a particular career.

Workplace Values can include:

- Achievement
- Independence
- Recognition
- Relationships
- Working conditions
Now that you know what three assessments (interests, skills, and values) comprise a complete career assessment battery, you are ready to go!

- Log onto the Kuder to get a complete assessment of your interests, skills, and values

  (College of Marin students get an activation code from the Career and Transfer Center)
Start the Kuder Journey

- Contact the Career and Transfer Center for an activation code
Explore the Career Clusters

Completing the interest, skills, and values assessment on the Kuder will provide you information about Career Clusters that may be a good fit for you. Career clusters are groups of similar occupations and industries. There are 16 career clusters developed by the U.S. Department of Education. By exploring these Career Clusters you can identify potential college majors and/or careers.
Career Clusters

There are several good websites to explore Career Clusters, but start with California Career Café, a site designed especially for California Community College students.

http://www.cacareercafe.com/explore/

- **View** the career video for each of your identified career clusters
- **Read** about traits of the career cluster and think about if that sounds like you
- **Research** professional associations

✓ If you enjoy watching career videos check out this site for more detailed videos within each career cluster

Exploring Career Pathways on Career Café

Choose one of the career pathways to explore
Watch a video about the career

Learn about traits of the profession

Explore Professional Associations
Dig a Little Deeper

Log onto My Next Move and browse careers by industry
http://www.mynextmove.org/

• Choose specific careers within the cluster to explore

• Pay attention to the education required and job outlook to get a better idea of the opportunities available in the field within your state, as well as, the educational level you will need to be prepared to do that job.

• For those careers that most interest you click on the link at the bottom of the page to get you to the O*Net site which will provide you even more detailed information.
1. Choose “Browse careers by industry”

1. Pick an industry
From the drop down bar and then click on a specific career
Pay attention to education level and job outlook.

Does the required knowledge, skills, and abilities seem like a good fit for you?
Are you really interested in that career?

Click Here
(at the very bottom of the Page)

The O*Net site provides lots of additional details about careers.
Click on the tabs to view the information in different ways.
Further Investigation

When you have decided on some potential careers, it is a good idea to contact people in those professions to request an informational interview to help you gather additional information about that field.

California Career Café provides information about setting up an informational interview and creating questions to ask professionals during an informational interview.

http://www.cacareercafe.com/experience/conversations/
Informational Interview

Lots of useful information on requesting informational interviews, questions to ask during an interview, and more!

Script to help you request an informational interview
I have decided I want to be a…

Congratulations! You have decided on some potential careers, **now what?**

Look for college majors that will prepare you for a career in that field.
Researching College Majors

A good place to start your research is **California Career Zone**.

[https://www.cacareerzone.org/majors/clusters](https://www.cacareerzone.org/majors/clusters)

1. Choose a career cluster (these are slightly different than the ones on the previous sites)

2. Choose a major to explore

3. Each major page will provide a short summary of the major, potential jobs associated with that major, similar majors, and a graduation summary for that major

◆ You can also use this site to search for Universities that have these majors by clicking on the button on the top right hand sided labeled “Find Institutions Offering…”
Exploring Majors on California Career Zone

Choose a Career Cluster
Identify a career within the cluster.
Animal Health

A program that focuses on the application of biological and chemical principles to the study, prevention, and control of diseases in agricultural animal populations. Includes instruction in environmental science, pharmacology, animal population studies, genetics, animal physiology and diet, disease prevention, treatment methodologies, and laboratory and testing procedures.

Find institutions offering Animal Health

What can you become with this major?

Farm and Ranch Managers
Animal Scientists
Aquacultural Managers
Agricultural Sciences Teachers, Postsecondary

Graduation Summary

The graphs below represent a comparison of the number of graduates in Animal Health and the number of graduates in similar majors compared to all other graduates in the state.

Examples of typical jobs

Search for colleges offering this major

Other Similar Majors

Agribusiness/Agricultural Business Operations
Agricultural and Domestic Animal Services, Other
Agricultural and Extension Education Services
Agricultural and Food Products Processing
Agricultural and Horticultural Plant Breeding
Agricultural Animal Breeding
Agricultural Business and Management, General
Agricultural Business and Management, Other
Agricultural Business Technology
Agricultural Communication/Journalism
Agricultural Economics
Agricultural/Farm Supplies Retailing and Wholesaling
Agricultural Mechanics and Equipment/Machine Technology
Agricultural Mechanization, General
Aquaculture
Crop Production
Dairy Husbandry and Production
Dairy Science
Dog/Pet/Animal Grooming
Equestrian/Equine Studies
Farm/Farm and Ranch Management
Floriculture/Floristry Operations and Management
Food Science
Food Science and Technology, Other
Food Technology and Processing
Greenhouse Operations and Management
Horse Husbandry/Equine Science and Management
Horticultural Science
International Agriculture
Landscape and Groundskeeping
Livestock Management

Data about graduates in this major
Another Research Options to Learning about Majors

Another choice for researching majors is College Major 101. This is a more limited database, but provides additional information such as student associations that are related to the major, student competitions, actual employers, and publications related to the field.

http://www.collegemajors101.com/

- **Check back often as this site is growing and adding new majors all the time.**

- **Scholarship Tip**—Student Professional Associations may be a good source to search for scholarships in your major. Go to an Associations’ website and search for “scholarships”
## College Majors 101

Choose a major to explore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Life Science Medical</th>
<th>Art / Design Performance</th>
<th>Liberal Arts</th>
<th>Engineering /Technology</th>
<th>Pre - Professional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health</td>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Astronomy NEW</td>
<td>Aviation/Aeronautics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Training</td>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>English/Writing</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering</td>
<td>Business/Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Film/Broadcast</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering NEW</td>
<td>Construction Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Fine/Studio Art</td>
<td>Non-Profit Management</td>
<td>Computer Science NEW</td>
<td>Hospitality Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>Graphic Design</td>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>Civil Engineering NEW</td>
<td>Public Health NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Sci/Kinesiology</td>
<td>Interior Design</td>
<td>Language Studies</td>
<td>Electrical Engineering NEW</td>
<td>Recreation &amp; Tourism Mgmt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries and Wildlife NEW</td>
<td>Industrial Design</td>
<td>Peace/Conflict Studies NEW</td>
<td>Energy Science NEW</td>
<td>Sport Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Science</td>
<td>Landscape Architecture</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Engineering NEW</td>
<td>Sports Turf/Golf Mgmt NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Management NEW</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Industrial Engineering</td>
<td>Coming Soon!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Science NEW</td>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>Imaging Science NEW</td>
<td>Forensic Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing (RN/BSN)</td>
<td>Urban Planning NEW</td>
<td>Women/Gender Studies</td>
<td>Materials Science NEW</td>
<td>Entertainment Mgmt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>Video Game Design</td>
<td>Coming Soon!</td>
<td>Mathematics NEW</td>
<td>Military Science/ROTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre - Dental</td>
<td>Web Design/Digital Media NEW</td>
<td>Human Service Mgmt.</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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Juniors and Seniors, NOW is the time to contact our featured academic programs.
Click on these tabs to learn more about the major, student associations related to the field and current student competitions.

Potential schools offering the major or search in the tab above labeled “Accredited Schools”

Videos about the field
I have chosen a Major and I’m ready to go!

Your next step is to log onto Assist.org to identify which UC’s and CSU’s offer that major and read articulation agreements between those universities and College of Marin. Assist will also tell you whether it is suggested for you to follow the IGETC requirements for that major.

http://www2.assist.org/exploring-majors/browseAreas.do

If you have any additional questions, please make an appointment with your College of Marin counselor.
Select an area of study
Select a discipline within that field of study
View all your options in the UC and CSU systems for that major

**University Majors**

**Archaeology Majors**

The following majors are available at university campuses for the selected discipline. The campuses that offer the major are identified next to each major name. Click a campus abbreviation next to a major to see more information about that major.

- Ancient Egyptian and Near Eastern Art and Archeology B.A. (UCB)
- Anthropology (Archaeology) B.A. (UCSD)
- Anthropology - Cultural Emphasis B.A. (UCSB)
- Anthropology A.B. (UCD)
- Anthropology B.A. (CSUFRES, CSULB, CSUN, CSUS, SSU)
- Anthropology B.A. - Archeology and Biological Anthropology Option (CSUED)
- Anthropology B.A. - Socio-Cultural Anthropology Option (CSUED)
- Anthropology B.A. Concentration in Archaeology (CSUSTAN)
- Anthropology B.A. General Concentration (CSUDH)
- Anthropology B.A. Specialization Archaeology (CSUS)
- Anthropology B.A. with Archaeology Concentration (CSUDH)
- Anthropology B.S. (UCD)
- Anthropology, B.A. (UCM)
- Classics - Classical Archaeology Emphasis B.A. (UCSB)
- Global Studies B.A. (CSUMB)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences, B.A. Concentration in Archaeology (CSUMB)

**Click on a particular school**
University Majors

California State University, Monterey Bay
Global Studies B.A.

CSUMB includes a strong commitment to global education in its Vision Statement. The Global STUDIES DEPARTMENT in keeping with the mission of CSUMB promotes understanding and appreciation of the peoples, natural environment, cultures, economies, and diversity of the world. The BA degree in Global Studies contributes directly to the development of competent cross-cultural citizenship in a pluralistic and global society. The program meets the needs of the State of California by providing students an education that prepares them for professional roles the 21st Century. Through intensive, diverse studies the Global Studies Department enables students to engage in the critical analysis of world affairs and gain knowledge and methods for implementing theory into practice.

- Click [here](#) to read more about this major on the campus web site.
- CSU GE-Breadth/IGETC recommended for this major? Yes
  - Click [here](#) for more information about CSU GE-Breadth.
  - Click [here](#) for more information about IGETC.

Choose a California Community College to see course articulation information related to this major at this and nearby community colleges.

[College of Marin]

Select College of Marin to see articulation information between College of Marin and your selected University.
Read the summary of the major to make sure it is one you are interested in.

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College of Marin  Continue >>>>
Need additional help or support?

Contact the Transfer and Career Center

Kentfield Campus
Student Services Building
Room 202
Tel: 415.485.9671
Fax: 415.456.7770
transfercenter@marin.edu

Or your College of Marin counselor

Tel: 415.485.9432 or 415.485.9430
Or schedule an appointment online
Links to Websites

- **Kuder Assessment**
  

- **California Career Café**
  


- **Career One Stop Videos**
  
Website Links Cont.

- **My Next Move**
  
  http://www.mynextmove.org/

- **California Career Zone**
  
  https://www.cacareerzone.org/majors/clusters

- **College Majors 101**
  
  http://www.collegemajors101.com/

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