NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

MAKING A MAJOR DECISION

THE BIG DEAL ABOUT A MAJOR

An academic major concentrates study in a particular discipline or disciplines. Requiring a major assures that each student will reach advanced knowledge in a specified field. At Nebraska Wesleyan University, a major consists of at least 30 credit hours pursued under the direction of a department or an interdisciplinary program.

Students enter Nebraska Wesleyan University without formally declaring a major. In fact, the earliest a student is permitted to declare a major is second semester of the first year. However, some areas of study require a special sequencing of classes; consequently, students are strongly encouraged to declare a major during their sophomore year.

Those considering possible majors in music, education, theatre, mathematics, athletic training, or certain health and science fields should consult with advisors in their intended departments early to avoid falling behind in fulfilling requirements.

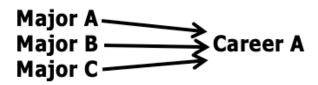
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MAJORS AND CAREERS

Some careers, like education, accounting, and nursing, have specific academic requirements.

Through a combination of related coursework, internships, organizations, or volunteer experience, your major could also lead to a variety of careers. For example, an English major could pursue careers in law, business, government, or other industries.



Some careers require skills and knowledge gained through a variety of majors. For example, students interested in law or medicine could major in psychology, business, or exercise science, among other majors.



STRATEGIES FOR MAKING MAJOR DECISIONS

Seek Guidance from a Career Counselor

- Set up an appointment to discuss ways that your interests, values, and skills align with major and career options.
- Develop a decision-making plan.

Evaluate Your Academic Strengths

- Notice what homework you do first and what you put off.
- Recognize courses where you find the content fascinating.

Make a Smaller Decision First

- Begin by selecting a broad academic area of interest: Humanities, Social Sciences, Math & Science, Health Care, The Arts, Business
- Use the process of elimination: What DON'T you want to study?

Research Majors and Careers

- Visit the NWU Career Center website:
 - Choose "Major and Career Exploration" to explore the "What can I do with this degree" information and research careers.
 - o Choose "Gain Experience" to gather information about occupations of interest.
- Interview alumni about their field utilizing the Career Assistance Network, a database of Nebraska Wesleyan University alumni willing to share their expertise.

Check Out Major Course Requirements

- Visit the <u>Course Catalog</u> and look at the required courses for each major you are considering. Are almost all the classes appealing to you, or only a few?
- Compare with other majors of interest.

Experience the Environment

- Ask to sit in on classes in areas you are considering.
- Shadow professionals in a career field of interest, using the Career Assistance Network as a resource.
- Volunteer or take a part-time job in an environment of interest.
- Join clubs and organizations at Nebraska Wesleyan University that are related to your areas of interest.

Work Backward

- If you have a career in mind, consider the major(s) that will logically get you to that career.
- If that's not appealing, determine if you can minor in that field, major in something you love, and still get to that career.
- Research if participating in an internship in that career field will compensate for a less directly related major.

CREATE A SHORT LIST OF MAJORS

Using the list below, determine your level of interest in each major to create your short list of majors that interests you. Rank your interest from 1 to 4 (1 = ``Very interested'', 2 = ``Worth considering'', 3 = ``What is this?'', and 4 = ``No way!'').

 □ Acting □ Art □ Biochemistry and Molecular Biology □ Biology □ Business Administration □ Business Analytics □ Business-Sociology □ Chemistry □ Communication Studies □ Criminology □ Cybersecurity □ Data Analytics □ Digital Marketing □ Directing □ Economics □ Elementary Education □ English and Writing □ Exercise Science 	 □ Exercise Science	 ☐ Music Education, Vocal ☐ Music Performance ☐ Musical Theatre ☐ Nursing (Pre-Licensure) ☐ Philosophy and Religion ☐ Physical Education ☐ Physics ☐ Political Science ☐ Project Management ☐ Psychology ☐ Public Health ☐ Science Education ☐ Social Work ☐ Sociology ☐ Special Education ☐ Sport Management ☐ Theatre Arts ☐ Theatre Arts Education ☐ Theatre Design and Technology ☐ Theatre Studies
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Now, select your top three options for a potential academic major. Write them below:

- Major 1:
- Major 2:
- Major 3:

INTERESTED IN ADDING AN ACADEMIC MINOR?

Nebraska Wesleyan University offers the following options:

 □ Accounting □ AI Literacy □ Art History □ Art Studio □ Biology □ Business Administration □ Chemistry □ Coaching □ Communication Studies 	 □ Environmental Studies □ Esports and Gaming Administration □ Exercise Science □ Family Studies □ Finance □ Gender and Sexuality Studies □ History □ Human Resources 	 ☐ Modern Language Literacy ☐ Music ☐ Philosophy and Religion ☐ Physics ☐ Political Science ☐ Project Management ☐ Psychology ☐ Public Health ☐ Religious Diversity
☐ Computer Science	Management	☐ Sociology-
☐ Criminal Justice	☐ International Policy	Anthropology
□ Data Analytics	☐ International Studies	☐ Sport Management
☐ East Asian Studies	☐ Marketing	☐ Theatre Arts
☐ Economics	☐ Mathematics	☐ U.S. Minority Studies
☐ English		☐ Writing
CHOOSE YOUR "THREAD"		
At Nebraska Wesleyan Universit their integrative core requireme options and select your thread(s Chaos Democracy	ent of the <u>Archway Curriculum</u> .	
☐ Gender and Sexuality	\square Humans in the	☐ Power
☐ Going Global	Natural Environment ☐ Identity	☐ Science and Religion
STEPS TO DECLARE AN ACA	DEMIC MAJOR OR MINOR	
course requirements and other before submitting your deck	artment in which you wish to dher details about the major the aration form. Office webpage and click on "Fo	at you need to know
_	s in Softdocs" button and then	
	orm labeled "REG Major-Minor	Declaration."
5. Complete and electronically	submit the form.	