



## CONNECT

- Talk to professors in subjects that interest you
- Job shadow and conduct informational interviews with professionals in the fields you are considering

## EXPLORE



- Take an introductory class in a subject that interests you
- Sign up for a career course and learn about your interests, strengths, skills, and personality to help narrow down your options



## REFLECT

- Learn about your interests, skills, values, strengths, and how these fit together with a major or career
- Use Focus 2 - an online career assessment to learn more about yourself!

# Strategies for choosing a major

## EXPERIENCE

- Join a student club on campus
- Volunteer with an organization
- Apply for an internship or job related to your career of interest



## RESEARCH

- Learn about job duties, employment outlook, and more!
- Read publications/blogs, and subscribe to social media feeds related to your career of interest
- The more you know, the more informed your decision will be



## CONSULT

- Visit the Citrus College Career/Transfer Center (CTC) to schedule an appointment with a career counselor
- The CTC has additional resources to help you explore majors and careers



# What to avoid when choosing a major...

## Major Myths

### **Myth #1: Choosing a major and career are the same thing.**

While some majors are focused on a particular occupation, such as nursing, others prepare you for a number of career options. Think beyond majors and consider the skills needed for the career(s) you're interested in.

### **Myth #2: Your major/career choices are lifelong decisions.**

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the average person changes careers two or three times during their lifetime. In today's rapidly changing world, new occupations are always emerging.

### **Myth #3: Liberal arts majors are not marketable.**

Some majors do not relate directly to one career, but the skills acquired are transferable and wanted by employers; for example, written and verbal communication, problem solving, and critical thinking.

### **Myth #4: Your career decision should be based solely on the job market.**

The job market changes quickly and is difficult to predict. While it is important to look at the potential for employment, it's equally important to consider majors/careers that interest you.

### **Myth #5: Choose a major solely because of the money you could make with it.**

While income is an important factor to consider as you research potential careers, it's only one part of the puzzle. Pursue a major that truly interests you and find ways to apply your passion to a career. Work and life satisfaction rely on more than your income.

### **Myth #6: It's good to pick a major just to get the decision out of the way.**

While choosing a major early on will help clarify the courses you need to meet your goal, you should not select a major without reflection and research. Remember, our Citrus College Career Counselors are here to help! Make an appointment today.



*Need help researching or selecting a major? Make an appointment to meet with a Career Counselor! Stop by the Career/Transfer Center (Student Services building, second floor) or call us at (626) 914-8639.*