



University Studies Program

A great place to start!

*College of
Agriculture
and
Natural
Resources*

*College of
Arts
and
Sciences*

*Lerner
College of
Business and
Economics*

*College of
Education
and
Human
Development*

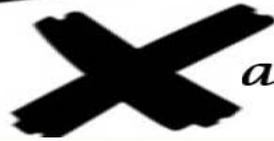
*College of
Engineering*

*College of
Earth,
Ocean, and
Environment*

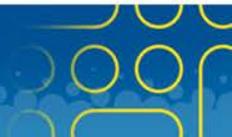
*College of
Health
Sciences*



University Studies



a great place to start



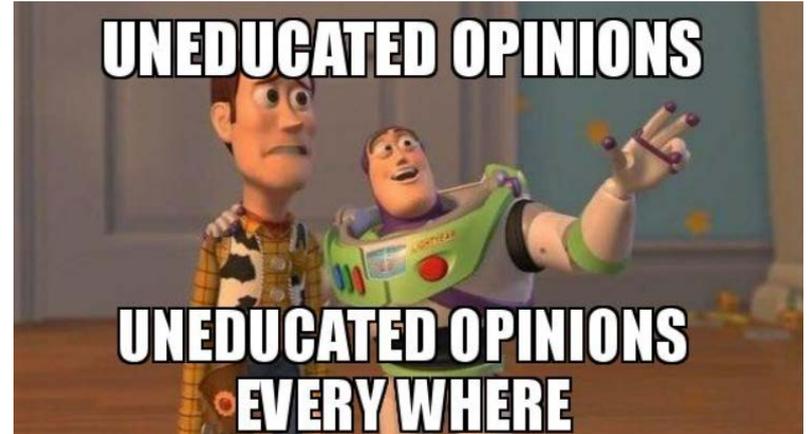
What Does Undeclared Mean?

- A student admitted to college who has yet to declare the major from which they will eventually graduate
- Some colleges and universities call these students...
 - “Undeclared” or “Undecided”
 - “Exploratory”
 - “Students-in-transition”
- At the University of Delaware, these students are called:

University Studies Students (UST)

Being Undeclared:

MYTHS VERSUS REALITY



Myth: Undeclared students take a bunch of classes that “don’t count towards anything.”

Reality: Our advisors are professionally trained to ensure that every class a student enrolls in counts towards particular requirements (university, college, major).

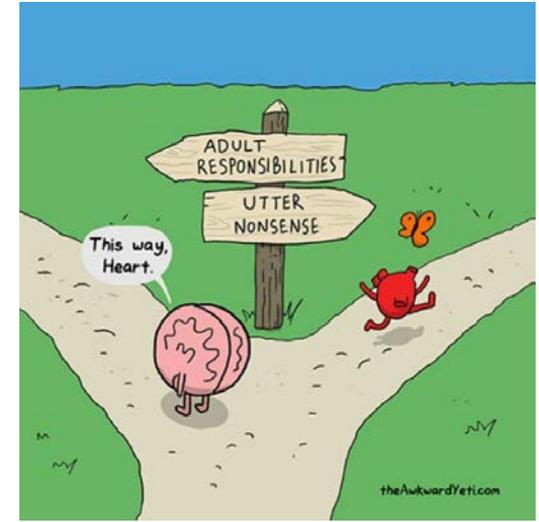
- We use a variety of methods to determine the most widely applicable classes students can take.
- Advisors can run audits and reports to determine how courses can fulfill different requirements.



Myth: Students who are undeclared lack direction and are poor decision makers.

Reality: Research shows that students who face the obstacle of determining a major but show a strong commitment to exploring/investigating are more likely to succeed.

- Being undeclared does not make a poor decision maker; the inability to adapt or commit causes indecision.



Marcia, J. (1994). The empirical study of ego-identity. In H. A. Bosma, T.L.G. Graffsma, H. D. Grotevant, & D. J. de Levita (Eds.), Identity and development: An interdisciplinary approach (pp. 67-80). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.



Myth: Most majors will not accept undeclared students.

Reality: UST students have been accepted into **every** college on campus.

- Entrance into the restricted majors are contingent on successful performance in required classes, e.g. high level math. These classes are open to all students, including UST.





Myth: Undeclared students enter with lower scores and are less academically prepared.

Reality: NOPE.

- Students who entered UD this fall as UST:
 - 74% had high school GPAs of 3.0 or higher
 - 43% had high school GPAs of 3.5 or higher
- Among all majors at UD, UST had the 5th highest number of incoming first year Honors students this fall

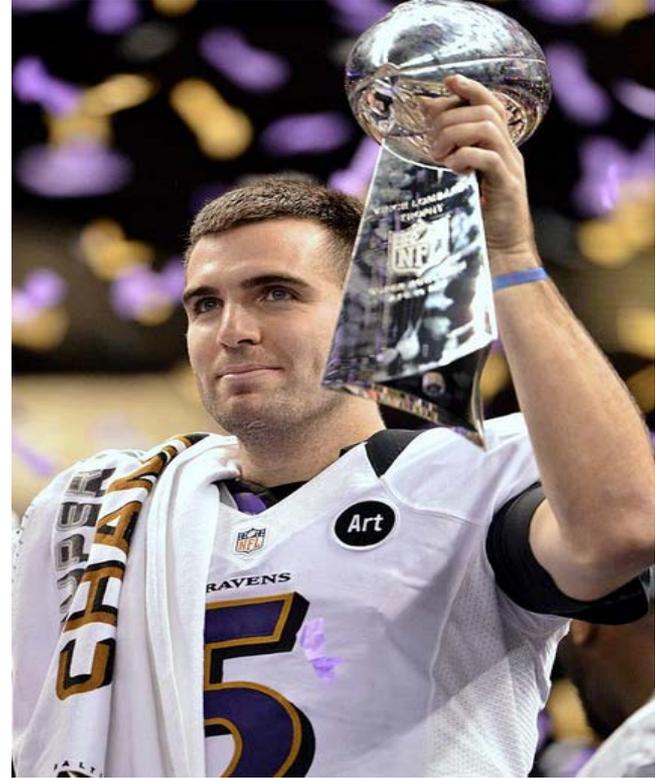


Can you guess my college major?

- A. Exercise Physiology
- B. Accounting/Management
- C. Political Science
- D. Geology

Joe Flacco, 2008

*Quarterback, Baltimore Ravens
University of Delaware*



Can you guess my college major?

- A. Criminal Justice
- B. English
- C. Theater
- D. Communication



Lauren Stein, 1997

EVP and Head of Drama Development, Sony Pictures

University of Delaware

Can you guess my college major?

- A. International Relations
- B. Psychology
- C. History/Political Science
- D. Management

Joe Biden, 1965

*47th Vice President of the United States
University of Delaware*



What is University Studies?



University Studies
(Undeclared)

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Our mission

- To enhance and support the educational experiences of those admitted to the University of Delaware who have yet to declare a major or are in transition from one major to another

Our goal

- To ensure our students are given the chance to explore their interests and work closely with them to create an individualized plan to identify and declare their major

Interest Areas

Arts & Humanities

Business

Education

Environmental Studies

Life & Health Sciences

Physical & Applied Sciences

Social Sciences

Undeclared



Types of Students We Advise

Enhancing



Examining



Exploring





Course ↕	
+ ANTH101013 INTRO TO SOC & CULT ANTHROPOLO 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth
+ ECON101021 INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth/ Business Major Requirement
+ ENGL110059 SEMINAR IN COMPOSITION 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Requirement
+ MATH115011 PRE-CALCULUS 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	Business Major Requirement
+ NTD200017 NUTRITION CONCEPTS 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth Requirement
+ UNIV101039D FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE I 1 credit hour – Pass/Not Pass	University First Year Seminar Requirement

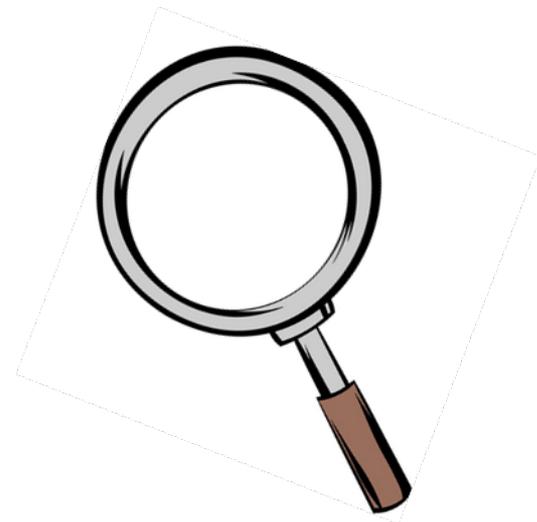
Sample Schedule: Enhancing





Course ↕	
+ CHEM103070 GENERAL CHEMISTRY See CHEM103073L	University Breadth/ Physical Applied or Life and Health Science Interest Area major requirement
+ CHEM103073L GENERAL CHEMISTRY 4 credit hours – Standard Grading	
+ ECON101017 INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth/ Business Major Requirement
+ ENGL110044 SEMINAR IN COMPOSITION 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Requirement
+ MATH231010 INTEGRATED CALCULUS IA 4 credit hours – Standard Grading	Math Requirement for Business, Physical Applied, Environmental and Life and Health Interest Areas
+ UNIV101011D FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE I 1 credit hour – Pass/Not Pass	University First Year Seminar Requirement

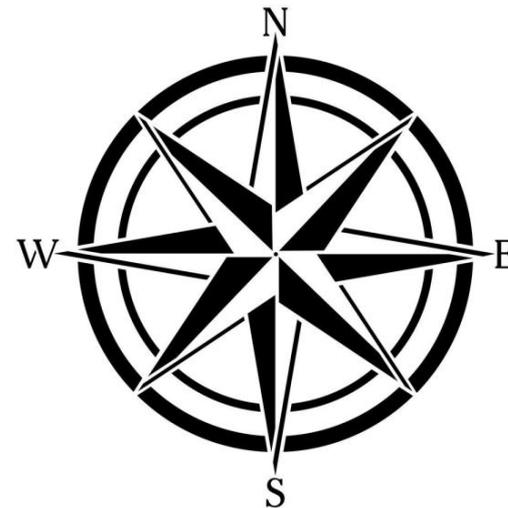
Sample Schedule: Examining





Course ↕	
+ ARTH227010 MODERN ART: THE 19TH CENTURY 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth
+ BHAN155016 PERSONAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth
+ ENGL110031 SEMINAR IN COMPOSITION 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Requirement
+ GEOG203010 INTRO TO CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY 3 credit hours – Standard Grading	University Breadth
+ SPAN107019 SPANISH III - INTERMEDIATE 4 credit hours – Standard Grading	Foreign Language Requirement (For majors that require it)
+ UNIV101055D FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE I 1 credit hour – Pass/Not Pass	University First Year Seminar Requirement

Sample Schedule: Exploring



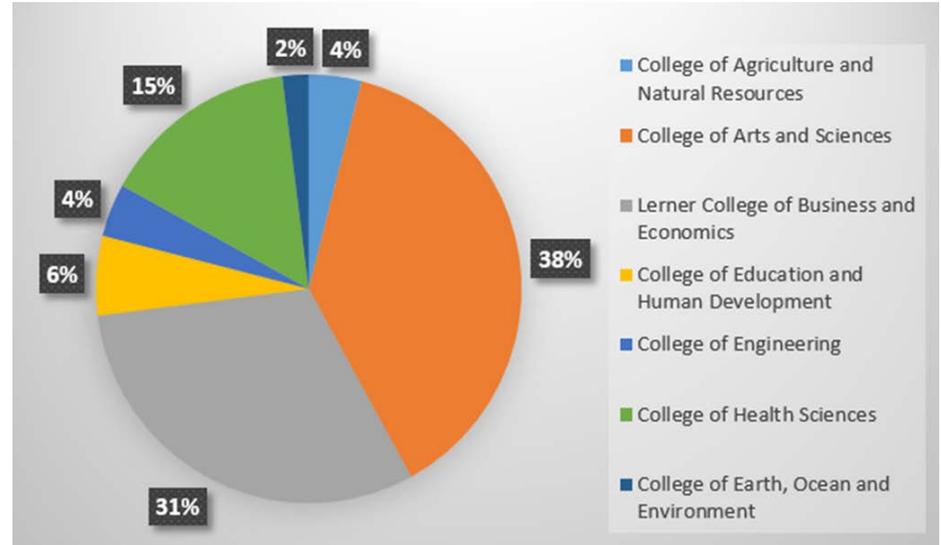
Majors

There are over 160 majors available at the University of Delaware within the 7 colleges.

UD students can choose the type of academic plan that suits them:

- Single major
- Major with a minor(s)
- Double major
- Interdepartmental major
- Double degree

UST students are expected to declare a major by the time they reach 60 credits.



UST students who declared majors in each college during 2018-2019



BENEFITS OF BEING IN UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Academic Planning



UST advisors work with students to enroll in appropriate classes for their major(s) of interest, help them incorporate study abroad plans when choosing classes, and discuss how various academic programs including double majors and minors might be accomplished during their time at UD.

UST students participate in programs such as: Honors, World Scholars, Delaware Innovation Fellows, Cybersecurity Scholars, and Community Engagement Scholars.

Workshops & Courses

Academic workshops offered by our professional advisors give students practical information to help them understand academic policies, the UD curriculum, and major exploration.

UNIV117: Exploring Your Academic Path

UST Spring Seminar that combines self-exploration, academic resources, engaging discussions, and activities to provide students with a greater understanding of the components that may lead to their success academically and professionally.



Partnerships across Campus



University Studies is conveniently located in the Center for Academic Success, which includes the Drop-In Tutoring Center. We also collaborate with other departments on campus including:

- The Career Center
- Other Colleges and Advisors
- Office of the Dean of Students
- Disability Support Services
- Student Diversity & Inclusion

Peer Liaisons

The UST Peer Liaisons is a structured network of current and former UST students with identified majors. They volunteer to share their journey in transitioning to college and finding their major.

Peer Liaisons work closely with UST Advisors to host social and academic programming tailored to helping students explore majors and engage in experiential learning.



Individualized Advising

UST has seven dedicated advisors with a variety of educational backgrounds and professional experiences. They are knowledgeable about UD's curriculum and collaborate with the other colleges.

Each student in UST is assigned to a professional academic advisor, who is available to meet with in-person or by phone or answer questions through e-mail.

Advising appointments focus on student development, academic planning, major exploration and more.

About our Advisors



- 1 was undeclared
- 2 wish they had been undeclared
 - *1 more said maybe*
- 3 changed their majors multiple times
- None had majors in their current field
- ALL use the skills they learned in their individual major(s) in their current position



What's Next?

Interested in attending UD and know what major you want? Apply!

If you decide later that it isn't the major for you, you can switch to UST.

Want to attend UD but are unsure about your major? Apply directly to UST!

To learn more about what it is like to be a student in University Studies, check out the UST Explorer blog:

<https://sites.udel.edu/ust-explorer/>

Read about current and former UST students in the Student Spotlights, check out our Meet the Staff page, learn more about the opportunities and resources that will be available to you as a UD student!



UD staff and BHAs are available to take your questions.



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

University Studies Program

Center for Academic Success

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 - Lysbet Murray
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