



An Undecided Major

Introduction:

If you're beginning your university education with an "undecided" or "undeclared" major, you're not alone. It's not uncommon for freshmen to begin without knowing what their major will be. In fact, at UW-Richland, undecided is the most common major for freshmen.

Deciding on a major is something you can do as you progress through your freshman and sophomore courses. During the first semesters, many of your courses will help you meet "breadth" or "general education" requirements. These are studies designed to give you a broad knowledge base and they include English, mathematics, fine arts and humanities, social sciences, application and performance, ethnic and interdisciplinary studies.

- Taking these courses may help you decide on a major. As you progress through these courses, you may find that certain areas interest you more than others. This may help give you a general direction.
- Working with your academic advisor or talking with faculty in the areas that interest you most may also help you as you work toward a choice for a major. They may suggest readings, projects, internships or research that could help you learn more about career possibilities in the areas where your strengths and interests lie.
- Exploring career possibilities by visiting The Resource Center, located in the Student Services area of Melvill Hall may be helpful. There you'll find career information, self-assessment videos and career assessment testing. Interactive computer programs are available to help you identify your work-related interests, skills and values. Knowing these characteristics can help you discover compatible occupations. The programs also provide information about educational requirements, potential salary, and employment outlooks for occupations in Wisconsin and nationwide.

Suggested course of study for an undecided major:

University of Wisconsin-Richland can offer you the freshman/sophomore curriculum needed to progress towards an Associate of Arts & Science degree as you decide on a major. The four-semester program outlined below is to be used as a guide. Additional information and transfer planning sheets for specific majors and universities are available in the Student Services Office. UW-Richland offers the freshman/sophomore curriculum appropriate for many majors and includes required general education and pre-major courses. Consult your academic advisor for individualized program planning assistance.

First Year

Semester I

English*	3 credits
Math*	3 credits
Natural Science	3 - 5 credits
Social Science	3 credits
Elective	1-3 credits
Total credits	13 - 17

Semester II

English*	3 credits
Math*	3 credits
Natural Science (W/lab)	4-5 credits
Fine Arts	3 credits
Elective	1-3 credits
Total credits	14 - 17

Second Year

Semester III

Social Science	3 credits
Humanities	3 credits
Ethnic Studies	3 credits
Electives	5-6 credits
Total credits	14-15

Semester IV

Social Science	3 credits
Humanities	3 credits
Application/Performance	3 credits
Electives	5-6 credits
Total credits	14-15

Courses in world language are recommended. Placement in English and mathematics will be determined on the basis of placement tests; see *. Students completing the requirements for the Associate of Arts & Science Degree must include in their course of study an interdisciplinary studies component.

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For more information on majors in the UW System, go to: <http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/majormania> .

For more information or assistance, contact:

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