

CHOOSING A MAJOR

What You Can do to Choose a Major Checklist

MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE • CAREER AND RE-ENTRY SERVICES

Review the MCC General Catalog (on-line):

- ✓ for descriptions of degrees/majors
- ✓ for required courses and course descriptions
- ✓ enroll in a class related to a major of interest

Use the resources in the MCC Career Center:

- ✓ explore the MCC Career Profiles
- ✓ take a computerized career interest assessment
 - Arizona Career Information System (Interests, Abilities, Values)
 - HumanMetrics Personality Assessment
 - Career and Re-Entry Services website at www.mesacc.edu/students/career
- ✓ collect information regarding the skills important for various career fields
- ✓ attend the MCC Career Expo and talk to employers about degrees needed

Talk to an advisor in the Career Center:

- ✓ investigate degree check sheets to determine what courses you need to complete the major requirements
- ✓ select courses that will allow flexibility for a variety of major options (i.e. select general studies requirements required for any major)
- ✓ identify exploratory courses for majors of interest (i.e. interested in the Psychology field? Take PSY 101.)

Network:

- ✓ volunteer in a professional setting and gain career work experience in various major areas (i.e. do an internship for credit)
- ✓ take the opportunity to do informational interviews with professionals in various career/major areas
- ✓ talk to an instructor in your field of interest
- ✓ talk with parents, friends, relatives, and professionals about career areas

When deciding “What career is the best for me?”

- Develop an action plan.
- Identify the steps to the goals and list dates for completion.
- What do you want to happen?
- When do you want it to happen?
- Compare self-knowledge with career knowledge.
- Where can you get the education required?
- Start to network and get experience in your field while you are attending college.
- Remember, it's YOUR decision. Nobody but YOU knows what career you would be happy doing.

There is NO test that can tell you what career is best for you!

ACTION PLAN

List two actions you will take to investigate majors:

1. _____
2. _____

List three majors you are going to explore:

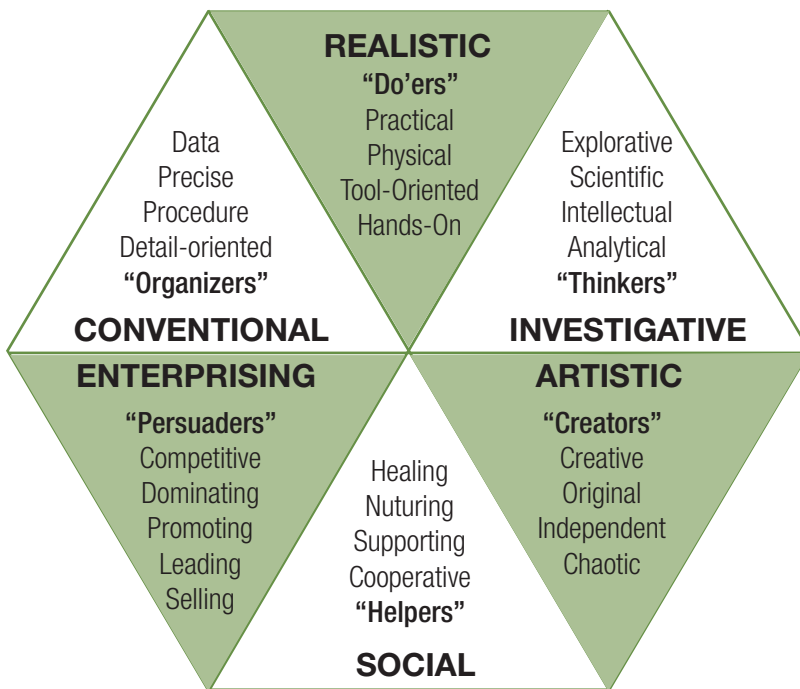
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

FINDING YOUR CAREER DIRECTION

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Interest assessments are not designed to tell you exactly what job is right for you. Rather, they are great for getting you to think about work interests. Each of the six groups below represent an interest category. You will typically find that occupations that match your interests will be more satisfying and rewarding than those that don't meet your interests. Stop in at the MCC Career Center to find career areas that match the interest groups.

Imagine you arrive at a party and the six different groups of people below are conversing in separate areas of the room...



Select which of the six groups you would want to interact with as your first, second and third choices and the reason:

1st _____

Reason _____

2nd _____

Reason _____

3rd _____

Reason _____

Providing Guidance for Career and Workplace Success

www.mesacc.edu/students/career

Email career questions to career@mccmail.maricopa.edu

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www.mesacc.edu

