

Discovering Your Major

Are you...

undecided about which major to pursue?

unsure about the major you have already declared?

still deciding between several possibilities?

If so, the University College Discovery Advising Program can help. See your advisor to get started.

Identify your Holland Code by selecting the three personality traits in which you scored highest on the DISCOVER web site or Self Directed Search:

Realistic, "Hands-on"

Prefer to work with tools or objects

Value practicality, tradition, or common sense

Prefer solitude over social scenarios

Like work that requires physical activity

Social, "Helper"

Care about the well-being of others

Value cooperation and service to others

Prefer social and educational endeavors

Enjoy community service

Investigative, "Inquisitive"

Are curious, creative, and studious

Prefer to explore and develop knowledge

Enjoy observational and creative investigation

Function well working on your own

Enterprising, "Leader"

Enjoy presenting a compelling case

Value leadership roles

Prefer to work with people

Prefer business-related fields

Artistic, "Creative"

Value originality and innovation

Enjoy creative production

More comfortable with flexible schedules

Actively seek opportunities for self-expression

Conventional, "Methodical"

Prefer clearly defined duties and schedule

Like working with words and numbers

Enjoy data management and analysis

Prefer computers over committees

Use your Holland Code to explore VCU's majors

	Realistic	Investigative	Artistic
VCU Majors - Holland Codes	◦ Biomedical Engineering IRE	◦ Actuarial Science ISE	◦ Art Education AIS
	◦ Ceramics RAI	◦ Anthropology IRE	◦ Cinema AIS
	◦ Communication Arts (Illustration) RAI	◦ Art History IAS	◦ Dance/Choreography AIR
	◦ Computer Engineering RIS	◦ Art History: Architectural IAS	◦ English ASI
	◦ EMT/Paramedic RSI	◦ Biochemistry IRS	◦ Fashion Design AIR
	◦ Glassworking ARE	◦ Biology IAR	◦ Fashion Merchandising AES
	◦ Graphic Design ARE	◦ Chemistry IRE	◦ Film AIR
	◦ Kinetic Imaging (Video and Animation) ARE	◦ Chemical & Life Science Engineering IRE	◦ Interior Design AIS
	◦ Mechanical Engineering RIE	◦ Crime Scene Investigation IES	◦ Journalism AIS
	◦ Metalsmithing/Jewelry ARC	◦ Dentistry IRS	◦ Music Business AES
	◦ Woodworking/Furniture Design ARC	◦ Economics ISE	◦ Music Education ASI
		◦ Environmental Studies IER	◦ Music Performance AIS
		◦ Forensic Science IRC	◦ Painting and Printmaking AIR
		◦ General Science IRE	◦ Photography ASR
		◦ History ISC	◦ Sculpture AIR
		◦ Homeland Security ISE	◦ Technical Theatre/Design ARI
		◦ Medicine IRS	◦ Theatre Performance AIS
		◦ Pharmacy IES	◦ World Film Studies AIS
		◦ Philosophy ISA	
		◦ Physics IRE	
		◦ Psychology ISE	
		◦ Radiation Sciences IRS	
		◦ Sociology IER	
		◦ Urban Studies/Geography IRE	

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Social

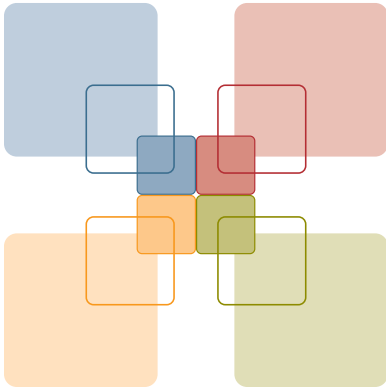
Enterprising

Conventional

VCU Majors - Holland Codes

○ African American Studies	SEI	○ Advertising	ESA	○ Accounting	CEI
○ Criminal Justice	SER	○ Business Administration	ERS	○ Computer Science	ICS
○ Dental Hygiene	SAI	○ Entrepreneurship/Small Business	ESR	○ Electrical Engineering	IRC
○ Early, Elementary or Secondary Education	SEA	○ Finance	ESC	○ Financial Technology	ESC
○ Exercise Science	SIR	○ Financial Planning	ESC	○ Mathematics	IRC
○ French	SIA	○ Financial Technology	ESC	○ Information Systems	CSE
○ German	SIA	○ Insurance/Risk Management	ESC	○ Insurance/Risk Management	ESC
○ Human Resource Management	SEC	○ International Management	ESI	○ Statistics	ICR
○ International Studies	SEI	○ Music Business	ESA		
○ Marketing	SAE	○ Political Science	ESI		
○ Music Education	SAI	○ Public Relations	ESA		
○ Nursing	SIE	○ Real Estate and Urban Land Development	ESR		
○ Occupational Therapy	SRE				
○ Physical Therapy	SRI				
○ Religious Studies	SIE				
○ Secondary Education	SEA				
○ Social Work	SEC				
○ Spanish	SIA				
○ Women's Studies	SEI				

Discovery Program



Next Steps...

This worksheet should have helped you learn more about yourself, the majors that VCU offers, and possible career paths available to you. You are now well on your way to choosing a major, and these next steps should help you finalize your decision.

Investigate and Gather Information

Search the department web page for majors that interest you. Visit www.vcu.edu/a2z/programs.php

Take an introductory course in the major, when possible.

Review course requirements in the VCU Undergraduate Bulletin. Visit www.pubapps.vcu.edu/bulletins

Are these types of courses interesting to you and do you feel you will do well in them?

How will the credits you already have fit into this program?

Begin to Narrow Your Choices

Conduct informal interviews with upper-level students, faculty, and professionals in the majors you are considering

Explore internship possibilities through the Career Center or major department

Identify career possibilities and salary ranges through the Occupational Outlook Handbook at www.bls.gov/oco

Evaluate and Declare Your Major

Review information above with your advisor and consider your options carefully

Narrow your selections to one or two possibilities

Complete a change of major form with your advisor

Update your graduation worksheet for your new major