WORKSHOP 1: CHOOSING THE RIGHT MAJOR FOR YOUR CAREER

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WHAT I WILL LEARN

Today’s workshop will assist you in the following ways as you plan for your next steps:

• Learn various techniques to help you decide on a career path
• Practice reflective exercises to consider the best fit major for your career
• Learn how to research degrees and majors
• Learn how to create an academic pathway to help you transfer from CCC to your major at a 4-yr. institution.
Decisions, Decisions...

Making a career choice can be a daunting task.  

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you have yet to decide on a career and your major, follow the steps in this series to help you make a decision with confidence.
STEP 1: Begin with the End in Mind...

Reflection Exercise (this exercise works best if you take your time):

Think ahead to your first day on your dream job:

- What does the workplace look like?
- Are you working alone or with others?
- Who is in the workplace with you?
- What tasks are you responsible for completing?
- What about this place brings you the most joy?

Write down what you discovered in a journal or share with a trusted friend, family member or your College Advisor.
STEP 2: Take an Assessment Test

Focus2™ is a career assessment and planning system for college students. It combines self assessment, career and major exploration, decision making and action planning into one comprehensive site.

Students can access Focus 2 by signing into the portal at my.ccc.edu and clicking the Focus 2 Quick Access link. Once you have completed Focus 2, share your results with your College Advisor and Career Planning and Placement staff and select an academic pathway.
STEP 3: Make Sure Your Career Choice Matches Your Strengths

- Understand what you like about your career choice and go from there. Then ask yourself:
  - Are the major courses that I will have to take for this degree of interest to me?
  - Are the major courses for this degree courses in which I have the ability to do well?

If the answer to these questions are no, it does not mean a completely new career, but consider other degree choices within the general career field (e.g. healthcare jobs can mean a physician or an administrator or a data management position)
STEP 4: Research Degrees

• Research the degrees required for your career choice
  • What degrees are employers requiring for entry level positions?
    • Use online.onetcenter or the Bureau of Labor Statistics to help you research this information
    • You can also use job search sites such as simplyhired or indeed.com to look up current job opportunities and determine what degrees employers require.
  • What degrees are required for you to advance within your career?
STEP 4: Research Majors

• Take a look at the types of careers that majors in your field can provide to you. You will be surprised at the variety and options available within many majors.

The College Board is a perfect site to help you with this research.
STEP 5: Create an Academic Pathway

- Create an account on Transferology™ to help you determine the courses you need for your major at your chosen institutions.
- Set up a time to meet with your College Advisor to develop an education plan to complete your associates prior to transferring.
The next workshop in the series will discuss researching and selecting your top 5 colleges/universities in which to transfer.