
Career & Employment Center

Choosing a Major

STEP ONE: Identify your interests, values, abilities, personality traits and experience to find a major you will not only enjoy, but one that can lead you to a career that you love. Choose one of the following action steps:

- Attend a workshop about choosing a major at Career/Transfer
- Make an appointment with a career counselor at the Career Center.
- Take a Career Guidance course (listed in the Guidance section of the class schedule).
- Take self-assessment tests to learn more about your abilities and how they can be linked to a course of study. Attached to this handout are websites and access codes for free self-assessment tests.
- Explore this excellent and entertaining website sponsored by Monster Trak:
<http://www.missingmajor.com>

STEP TWO: Once you know more about what interests you, and the kinds of majors and career choices that support those interests, it is time to gather information about occupational fields and careers!

- Visit the Career/Transfer Center library which contains an assortment of materials, books, DVDs, and college catalogs.
- Use the ONET* files located in the Career/Transfer center to research your field of interest.
- Use the EUREKA and DISCOVER computer programs to access occupational information. (These are the same programs you will use to complete step one above – websites and pass codes are provided on the next page.)
- Do an informational interview (see handout on Informational Interviewing in the Career Center)

STEP THREE: Find out how careers link with college majors.

- Refer to the SRJC Career Center website and our “What To Do With a Major In...” page, which links to university websites with information about what kind of jobs are possible with a degree in a particular major. Visit this URL <http://www.santarosa.edu/career> and click the “What To Do With A Major In...” link on the left side of the page.
- Refer to the Career Center’s “What To Do With A Major In...” cards.
- Refer to the “Book of Majors” on the Transfer Center shelf.

STEP FOUR: Look up degree and graduation requirements for majors and areas of interests.

- Make an appointment with an SRJC counselor regarding major course requirements and the transfer process.
- Every semester, college representatives visit the campus to meet with students. Visit the Career/Transfer Center for a list of dates.

STEP FIVE: Investigate Student Employment, Work Experience, Internship, and Community Volunteering

- Explore opportunities that may relate to your major and future career to see if it is truly something you enjoy. Don't wait until you graduate to test out whether your major has led you to a job or career you like.

Career Guidance Software for Identifying your Interests and Abilities

Career Cruising – Go to www.careercruising.com

Type in the following username and password:

Username: santarosa

Password: jc

EUREKA ONLINE – Go to www.eureka.org and click Sign Up

Under Students/Clients, enter Site ID code – MVOFNGZ – Click Next

Complete the personal information form

Skip 4

Choose a Log in name and Password.

DISCOVER – Each person must be given a separate login ID. Get yours from the Career Center, and go to this URL: www.act.org/discover/login

Websites

California Career Zone – www.cacareerzone.org

This site provides information about California jobs. There is information about assessment, careers, occupational information and links to job openings.

SRJC Career Center Website – www.santarosa.edu/career - Click on Virtual Career Center

SRJC Student Employment Center – www.santarosa.edu/stuemp - See online job listings

Monster Trak's Missing Major Website - <http://www.missingmajor.com>

*Santa Rosa Junior College Career & Employment Center www.santarosa.edu/career
707.527.494*