Explore with Us!
Exploratory Preference
Undergraduate Education
University Advising
Welcome

Mark Largent
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies
University Advising

• Vision
  To be a launchpad for students who would like to reflect, learn and grow academically as they take opportunities to gain exposure to multiple pathways of success.

• Mission
  Support students through academic exploration as they gain insight, knowledge, and confidence in choosing a college/major path that aligns with the individual they choose to become. We believe that every Spartan has the capacity to LEARN, THRIVE and GRADUATE from Michigan State University.
University Advising Leadership Team

Ebony D. Green, Ed.D.
Assistant Dean for University Advising

Freddie DeRamus
Associate Director

Justin Landis
Associate Director

Debra Thornton-Fitzpatrick
Associate Director

Charlie Liu
Associate Director

Jonelle Golding
Director of University Advising

Dr. Qiana Green
Director of Leadership and Professional Development Initiatives
University Advising Exploratory Preference Team

Agriculture, Environment, and STEM

- Justin Landis
  Associate Director
- Hyein Jee
  Academic Advisor
- Sam Nellis
  Academic Advisor
- Shay Sandoval-Flores
  Academic Advisor
- Jinyang "Donna" Mei
  Academic Advisor

PACES (Public Services, Arts & Cultural, Communication, Education, Social Studies)

- Freddie DeRamus
  Associate Director
- Morgan Johnson
  Academic Advisor
- Emily Abell
  Academic Advisor
- Dr. Carmen Ruiz-Sanchez
  Academic Advisor
- Jeff Lent
  Academic Advisor
- Olivia Guy
  Academic Advisor
- Troy Villanueva
  Academic Advisor

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University Advising Exploratory Preference Team

**Business and Innovation**
- Debra Thornton-Fitzpatrick
  - Associate Director
- Dr. Kang Li
  - Academic Advisor
- James McGill
  - Academic Advisor
- Ashely Shafer
  - Academic Advisor
- Amy Stice
  - Academic Advisor
- Nestor Espinoza
  - Academic Advisor
- Nate Colon
  - Academic Advisor
- Alixandra Summitt
  - Academic Advisor

**Health Sciences**
- Charlie Liu
  - Associate Director
- Erika Espinoza
  - Academic Advisor
- Dr. Kang Li
  - Academic Advisor
- James McGill
  - Academic Advisor
- Ashely Shafer
  - Academic Advisor
- Tammy Root
  - Academic Advisor
- Heather Wilson
  - Academic Advisor
- Josh Herrin
  - Academic Advisor

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EXPLORATORY AND EXPLORING BUSINESS PREFERENCE MAJORS

University Advising helps students explore majors at MSU based on their interests and passions.

We serve students intending to complete criteria for majors with secondary admission processes.

ADVISING ACROSS CAMPUS

THE UNION - ROOM 26
HOLDEN - ENGAGEMENT CENTER
MCDONEL - ROOM C101
BRODY - ROOM 160
HUBBARD - C130

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ADVISING.MSU.EDU
University Advising

Exploratory Preference
and Exploring Business Preference Students

Academic Interest Areas

• Business and Innovation
• Health Sciences
• Political Science, Arts and Culture, Communications, Education and Social Science (PACES)
• Agriculture, Environment, and STEM

Academic Exploration

• 1:1 Advising
• Undergraduate Studies (UGS) Courses
• Exploration and Transition workshops
• Review and monitor criteria for transfer and/or secondary admission to a preferred major by 56 credit hours
Types of Advising at MSU

**University Advising: Exploratory Preference Advisors**
Exploratory advisors primarily work with first-year and second-year exploratory preference majors (up to 56 credits) and other students who are interested in exploring various major options. University advisors specialize in advising students about a variety of majors and will defer to a major advisor when necessary.

**College/Major Advisors**
The Academic Colleges serve as the primary academic advisors for all degree granting majors at MSU. These advisors are experts in their specific majors and assist students as they transition to graduation. The College/Major Advisors are located in their Colleges or departments, located throughout campus.

**Honors Advisors** (for student admitted into the Honors College)

**Support Advisors** Career exploration, student life support, personal support, campus resources, financial aid, etc.
The University Structure

• Colleges
  • Departments
    • Majors/Minors
• University Requirements
  • College Requirements
    • Major/Minor Requirements
• Co-Curriculum and Beyond Class Activities
  • Internships/Externships
  • Study Abroad
  • Student Organizations
  • Work Experience
72% of students actively change their major at least once
Top major chosen by students who began Exploratory Preference 2019-2022

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<tr>
<td>Exploratory Pref (1,280) 97%</td>
<td>Exploratory Pref (473) 36%</td>
<td>Exploratory Pref (56) 5%</td>
<td>Exploratory Pref (12) 2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business (160) 12% Communication Arts (110) 8% Social Science (109) 8%</td>
<td>Social Science (191) 18% Communication Arts (167) 16% Business (147) 14%</td>
<td>Social Science (151) 20% Communication Arts (133) 18% Business (118)16%</td>
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Pathway to Degree Declaration

• Major Changes
  • Students in University Advising should be prepared to choose a major by the end of the 2nd year.
  • Students can complete a major change form for any non-restricted major between 1st – and 4th semesters.
  • Exploration should limit the need to change your major multiple times, although it is possible to do

• Restricted Majors/Secondary Admission Majors
  • A restricted major is a major that has additional admission requirements, including the successful completion of specific prerequisite coursework, a competitive grade point average or a required number of credits.
Major Exploration is an A.C.T.I.V.E. process

Aspirations

Characteristics

Talents

Interests

Values

Experiences

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Major Exploration and Purpose Planning

• Academic Advising (Exploratory Advising)
• Career Advising (Career Services Network)
• Exploratory Classes
• Assessments - Spartan Interest Inventory, MBTI, etc.
• Research Majors - Academic Programs Catalog
• Research Careers - What Can I Do With This Major?
• Get Involved!
  • Registered Student Organizations (Involve@State), Undergraduate Research, On-Campus Employment, Community Service, Education Abroad, Internships, etc.
• Reflection - Interests, Skills, Values, Needs, Passions...
• Personal Initiative and Risk Taking
Year 1
EXPLORE-DECIDE

Year 2
EXPLORE-DECIDE-DECLARE

Year 3
DECLARE

Year 4+
GRADUATE
Stay Connected...
Opportunities to Explore...

Classes
Department Information Sessions
Work Experience
Internships
Student Organizations
Major Specific Organizations
Undergraduate Research
Academic Advising
Academic Websites
Volunteering
Questions

University Advising
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