

KU Majors Research Guide

Use this guide to help you along as you research different majors that interest you. The resources and activities listed below are great tools to help you not only learn more about KU majors, but also learn more about yourself and where you might fit at KU. Be sure to keep track of the information you gather so you can bring your research with you when meeting with academic advisors and career coaches.

Three Majors I Would Like to Research

Major #1 _____

Major #2 _____

Major #3 _____

Where to Look & Who to Ask

- Departmental websites & offices - <http://www.ku.edu/academics/> (catalog can be found here)
- Online career planning resources for these majors – <http://career.ku.edu/careersandmajors>
- Academic advisor in department/school, University Advising Center, etc.
- Faculty members that teach courses for these majors
- Current/former students with these majors

Questions to Ask & Things to Do

- What are the course requirements for these majors? *Tip: Check department websites or ask your academic advisor for an up-to-date list of course requirements.*
- Are there admission requirements for these majors? If yes, what are they? How competitive is the admission process? *Tip: Ask your academic advisor what the average GPA is of admitted students.*
- Using the undergraduate course catalog, look up the courses for these majors. As you read the class descriptions, highlight classes you like and cross-out ones you don't like. Once you are done, make a list of any themes you see in the classes you liked and the ones you didn't.
- What are the sub-fields for these majors? *Example for Geography: Human, Physical, Statistical, etc.*
- What skill sets do students with these majors develop through their coursework? *Tip: Talk to your career coach to brainstorm occupations that would value these skill sets and put them to use.*
- Are there student groups on campus related to these majors? *Tip: Check the Student Involvement & Leadership Center's online organization directory for a comprehensive list of KU student organizations.*
- What are some common occupational areas that alumni of these majors pursue? What internships are available in these fields? *Tip: Check out <http://career.ku.edu/careersandmajors>, and books in the UCC Resource Library (110 Burge Union).*
- Make a list of friends/family acquaintances who might know about these majors; meet with at least one person for each major. Develop a list of questions to ask them ahead of time so you are prepared. Don't forget to thank them!
- Visit the actual offices of each department. Take notice of the environment, posters and messages on bulletin boards, interactions with students, staff and faculty. Did you feel like you "fit in"?