

MYTHBUSTERS!

Myths and Facts About
Choosing Your Major!



#1 MYTH OR FACT?

“Everyone but me is certain of their academic major!”



MYTH!

National statistics vary but up to 50% of entering college students are undecided about their major.



#2 MYTH OR FACT?

“Once I declare a major I will be stuck with it.”



MYTH!

50-70% of students
change their
majors at least
once.

On the average
students change
their major 3 or
more times
before they
graduate.



#3 MYTH OR FACT?

“I should study the job market and select a major based on the careers that show the most rapid growth.”



MYTH!



Job markets can change quickly and dramatically. Careers in demand today may not be viable in 4-5 years.

Choose a major that genuinely interests you and the rest will fall into place!

#4 MYTH OR FACT?

“I should choose a major that directly relates to my chosen career.”



MYTH & FACT!

- The majority of majors have a wide variety of opportunities and do not lead to one specific career.
- However, there are certain majors that lead to specific careers such as Engineering, Nursing and Accounting.
- Most studies show that less than 50% of graduating seniors report accepting a job directly related to their major.



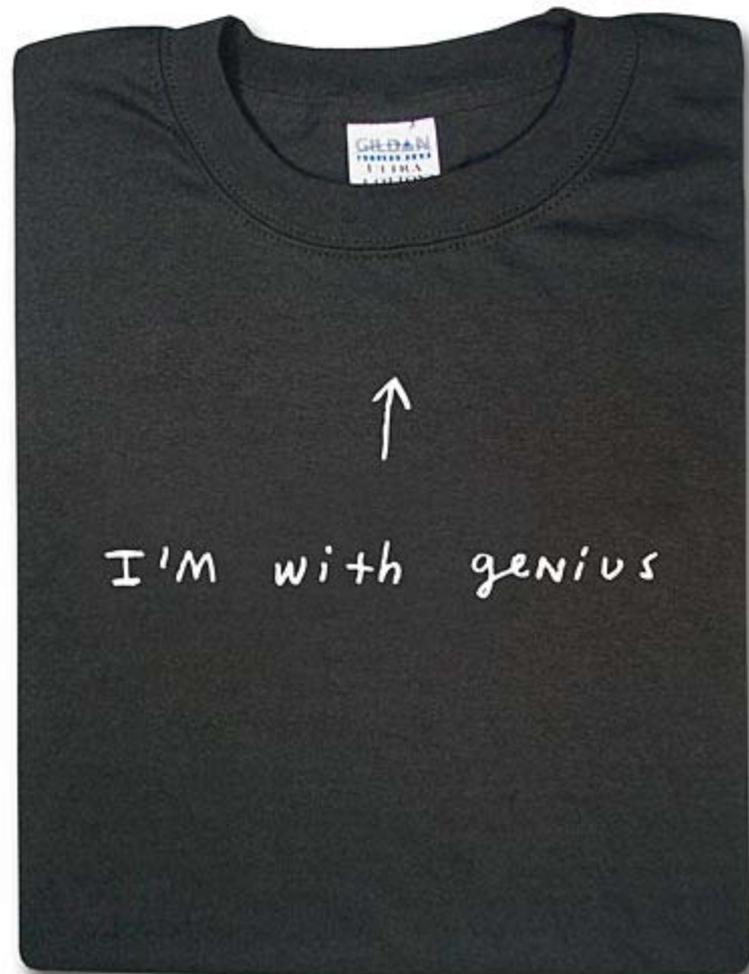
#5 MYTH OR FACT?

“There is no test or expert that can tell me what I should do for the rest of my life.”



FACT!

- ◉ The only expert on what is best for you is YOU!
- ◉ There are several individuals and resources you can use for support including your academic advisor and career counselors!



#6 MYTH OR FACT?

“I can get into most law, medical and professional schools with any major.”



FACT!

- While some professional schools require or recommend the completion of certain academic prerequisites, in most cases no specific major is required.
- In fact, humanities majors have higher acceptance rates to medical schools than do Biology majors!



#7 MYTH OR FACT?



“If I major in History
I’ll have to teach it
because there are no
other job
opportunities for
Liberal Arts majors.”

MYTH!

The skills one develops with a liberal arts education are those most desired by employers:

Communication skills, interpersonal skills, analytical skills and the ability to adapt to change.



#8 MYTH OR FACT?

“I have to take a variety of classes to help me decide on a major.”



MYTH!

- There are many other ways to explore a major other than taking an introduction course.
 - Find students in that major to ask questions.
 - Talk to faculty that teach in the area you are interested.
 - Most professors will allow you to listen in on a class with prior approval.
 - Visit the bookstore and browse through the required textbooks in that major.
 - Many majors have student organizations that would welcome your attendance.

#9 MYTH OR FACT?

“If I have several interests I can incorporate many of them in my college education.”

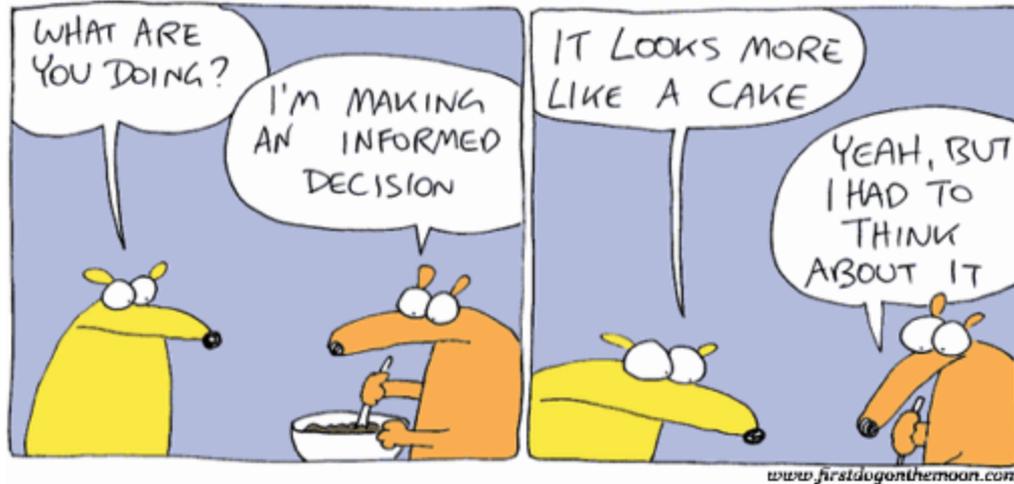


FACT!

- ◉ There are a wide variety of ways that you can combine your many interests while at college:
 - Choosing a minor(s)
 - Double majoring
 - Using electives to take classes that satisfy other interest areas
 - Gaining experience outside of the classroom with clubs, internships, study abroad, etc.

#10 MYTH OR FACT?

“It is best that I put off declaring a major until I have all the information.”



FACT!



- ✓ Study, discuss and analyze your skills, interests and values.
- ✓ Match them to majors/careers you think you would enjoy.
- ✓ Gather experiences to try out some options.
- ✓ Then move in the direction of your dreams.

You have feet in your shoes.

You can steer yourself any direction you choose.

You're on your own and you know what you know.

And you are the guy who'll decide where to go!

– Dr. Seuss

