

Your Three-Semester Plan for Choosing a Major

SEMESTER 1: ADJUSTMENT & AWARENESS

GOAL: Focus on adjusting to college and increasing academic and career awareness

Strategy 1: ____ Get to know what is available to you on this campus

The People	Academic and Career Advisers, residence hall staff, coaches, professors, peer advisers, etc... We are all here to assist you in navigating your college experience!
The Resources	Campus has a wide variety of student support services
The Opportunities	Campus has so many ways to get involved, meet new people, and find out what you enjoy
The Balance	Take the Study Skills / Time Management course (PSL 104 / 105)

Strategy 2: ____ Get to know UWSP Academics

- [General Education Program](#)
 - [Degree Types](#)
- [Majors by Interest Area](#)
 - [Course Catalog Majors, Minors, & Certificates A-Z List](#)
 - [Admissions Majors and Minors A-Z List](#)

Strategy 3: ____ Get to know the UWSP Advising & Registration process

- [Drop/Add](#) registration deadlines, advising and [registration timelines](#), and how to navigate your [accesSPoint](#)

Strategy 4: ____ Get to know available majors and career paths

- Enroll in an introductory course within a potential major (ask your adviser for suggestions)
- Identify your values, interests, skills and personality, the relationships between personality and major, and between major and career, on the [Major and Career Exploration](#) section of our website using tools such as 16Personalities and What Can I Do with this Major?
- Complete your [Handshake Profile](#)
- Attend a campus [Career Event](#) (Employer Information Session, Career Preparation Workshop, Career Fair)

SEMESTER 2: EXPLORATION

GOAL: Actively explore possible academic and career choices

Strategy 1: ____ Talk to people and learn more about the world of work

- Narrow down potential majors with your adviser
- Talk with friends, family, and professors about their backgrounds and the paths that led them to their career
- Research specific occupations to learn hiring trends, salary projections, necessary educational level, etc.) such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics [Occupational Outlook Handbook \(OOH\)](#)

Strategy 2: ____ Seek out new experiences

- Consider studying away (abroad or in U.S.). For more information, visit the [Office of International Education](#)
- [Join a student organization](#), [volunteer within the community](#), or [pursue a part-time job](#) to further develop skills and gain new experiences

SEMESTER 3: CLARIFY & COMMIT

GOAL: Commit to a Major

Strategy 1: ____ Expand on your experiences outside of the classroom

- [Update your Handshake profile](#)
- Conduct [informational interviews](#) and/or job shadow a professional within your potential field
- Take on a leadership role within a student organization, at work, or within a volunteer role
- Identify professional organizations and read publications specific to your major / career goals

Strategy 2: ____ Make the big step

- Consider adding on minor(s) or certificate(s) and finalize your educational plan
- Declare your major with the appropriate department and establish a positive working relationship with your new adviser(s)