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Making a *MAJOR* Decision

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Agenda

**Major Choice:
Fact or Myth**

**The Major
Planning Process**

**Career Center
& Exploration
Resources**

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What You'll Learn Today

At the end of this workshop, you will be able to...



Identify Career Center and external resources that will guide you in deciding on your college major



Understand what factors play into what major(s) are right for you and your career ambitions



Debunk myths that your major automatically equals what careers you can choose from



COMMUNICATION



PROFESSIONALISM



CRITICAL THINKING



TEAM WORK



NACE®

CAREER READINESS COMPETENCIES

Obtaining requisite competencies that broadly prepare college graduates for a successful transition into the workplace.



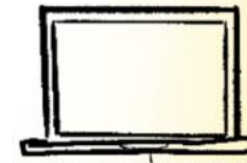
EQUITY & INCLUSION



LEADERSHIP



CAREER AND SELF-DEVELOPMENT



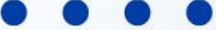
TECHNOLOGY



FACT OR MYTH #1

The vast majority of students find themselves
in a career field related to their major.

MYTH



Myth

According to data from Resume Builder, a national survey conducted found that 47% of college-educated workers reported not working in the field of their major. The survey also showed that employment in field of study varies by major.

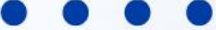
Resume Builder, 2023



FACT OR MYTH #2

Declaring a major before 2nd year still allows students to graduate in four years.

FACT



Fact

About one third of students change their major at least once. Data shows students who made a FINAL decision by the end of their 2nd year were still able to graduate in four years.

Major exploration can lead to:

- Knowledge of all the options
- Identifying a major that fits interests and skills

National Center for Education Statistics, 2023



FACT OR MYTH #3

Internships are a great way to gain real world experience and often lead to job offers.

FACT



FACT: Most Sought Out Attributes by Employers



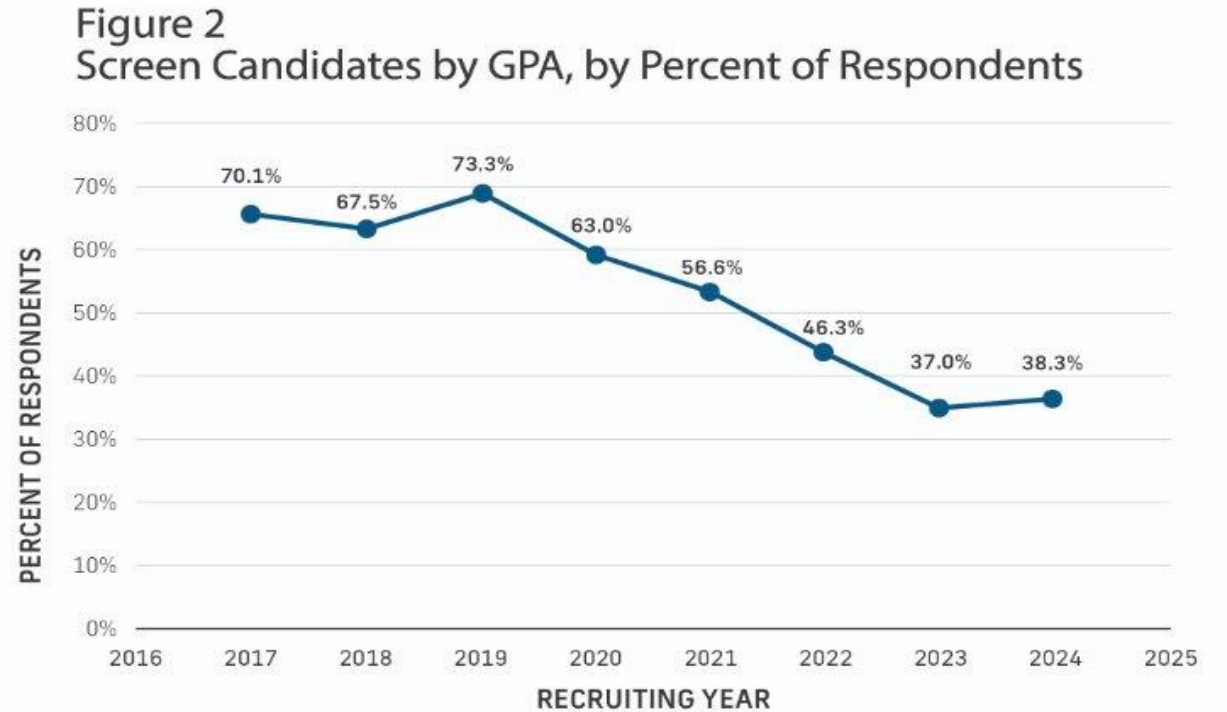


FACT OR MYTH #4

GPA is among the top concerns for employers when hiring prospective students

MYTH

MYTH: Employee's View of Candidates GPA Screening



Source: Job Outlook 2024, National Association of Colleges and Employers



KNOW YOURSELF



The first step in making a career decision is to identify your **values, interests, personality type** and **skills**.

These important “**who am I?**” pieces will help you generate career ideas that may be a good fit.



careers.ucr.edu → UCR Handshake → Career Center → Resource → Focus 2

Access Code can be found on Handshake



University of California Riverside Contact Information

FOCUS 2 CAREER - A Career, Major and Education Planning System

USER NAME

PASSWORD

[Forgot password?](#)

LOGIN

Don't have an account?
Create your own personal account now

REGISTER

[Terms and Conditions](#)

**First time user, please
create your account
here!**



Your Results ⓘ

Your Personality Type



- You focus your attention on the exploration of new ideas that can lead to improvements that can benefit people.
- Your approach to new projects is to be open minded, flexible and committed to the project goals.
- You like to work with other people who share your values and interests.
- You are enthusiastic, spontaneous, and strive for perfection in subjects that appeal to you.

Choosing Your Career:

People with your personality type are attracted to occupations that can make a contribution to society, help other people, and improve the knowledge and the well being of others. Examples of such occupations are found in the fields of teaching, counseling, health sciences, literature, art and psychology

CONTINUE

Your Results ⓘ



Open Minded, Enthusiastic, Observant, Creative, Spontaneous

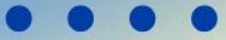


Filter Results

ⓘ ICON LEGEND

Occupations Matching Your Results

OCCUPATION	SUPPORTING MAJORS/PROGRAMS AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-RIVERSIDE	NATIONAL MEDIAN SALARY	JOB FAMILY
ACADEMIC ADVISOR	Education	\$55,030.00	Community & Social Service
ACTOR/ACTRESS	Visual and Performing Arts Dance Theater and Drama Film/Cinema Studies Music	\$74,817.00	Arts, Entertainment, Sports, & Media
ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR	Education	\$36,500.00	Community & Social Service



Career Assessment Tools Available:

- Strong Interest Inventory
- Myers Briggs Type Indicator
- Focus 2 (via Handshake)



Explore

Remember that your major doesn't dictate your career.
According to LinkedIn profiles, UCR alumni work in a variety of industries and job functions!

Business

Business Development
Operations
Accounting
Education
Information Technology
Program/Project Management

Biology

Healthcare Services
Biotech/Biopharma
Research
Education
Business Development
Community and Social Services

Computer Science

Engineering
Information Technology
Education
Research
Arts and Design
Business Development

Psychology

Healthcare Services
Education
Community and Social Services
Human Resources
Research
Information Technology



Explore

Ask Questions

✓ Talk to...

Academic Advisors

Graduate Students

Faculty

Alumni

3rd/4th Year Students

Career Specialists

Student Orgs

✓ Look for ways to combine interests through your choice of major(s), minor(s) and areas of concentration

✓ Think about the skills/experiences you would like to gain to complement your major



What Resources Are Available?

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Exploration Resources

➤ **Course Catalog (p. 6 & 7)**

<https://registrar.ucr.edu/registering/catalog>

➤ **What Can I Do With This Major?**

<https://careers.ucr.edu/resources/career-planning/explore-options>

➤ **LinkedIn Alumni**

What was their major and what career path did they pursue?

<https://www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-california-riverside/people/>

➤ **ONET (Occupational Information Network)**

<http://online.onetcenter.org>

➤ **OOH (Occupational Outlook Handbook)**

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh>

ENROLL IN EXCEL + NOW!

Start anytime during your undergrad degree, **go at your own pace**, and **earn recognition** for the valuable career readiness skills you're already building on campus.

- Pick your Competency

IE: Career and Self Development, Technological Literacy, and MORE!

- Upload and Track Progress
- Earn Competency Badges
- Highlight Your Skills to Employers

Students enrolled by 10/31 will be entered into raffle to win a \$25 UCR dinning gift card.



Excel.ucr.edu

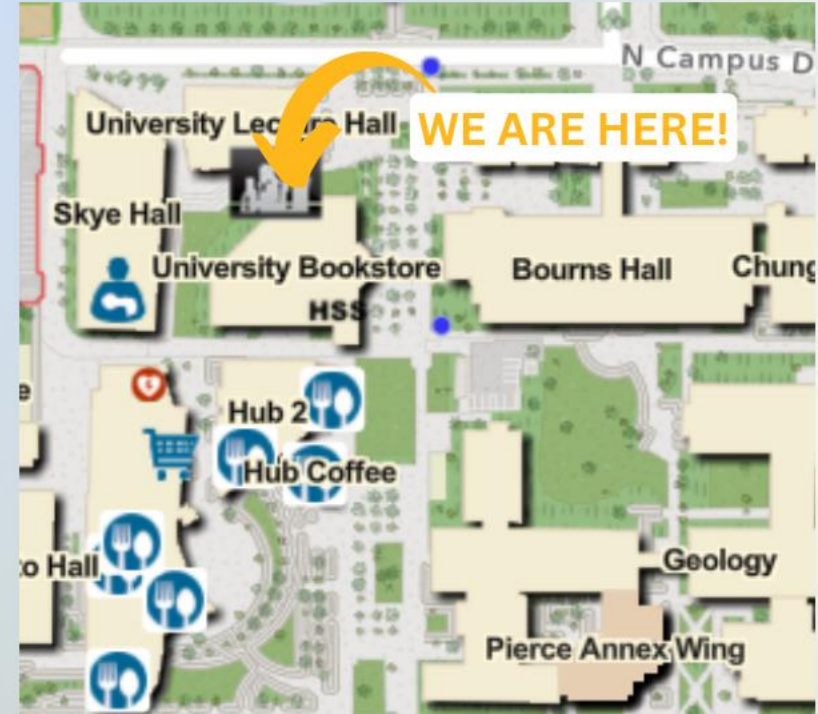
location

ENTRANCE IS ACROSS FROM ARC AND UNIVERSITY LECTURE HALL, UNDERNEATH THE BOOKSTORE

hours

8 AM - 5 PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

website home *drop in hours*



connect with us!



INSTAGRAM

@UCRCAREERCENTER



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QUESTIONS

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Post-Workshop Survey

