### MAJOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES CHECKLIST

It is okay to be undeclared and explore different majors but all UCM students must have a declared major before the completion of 90 units. Throughout your semesters, you will begin to define which major and career paths you would like to focus on through exploring different courses, experiences, and further understanding your interests, values, and strengths. The following checklist can get you started with activities to make an informed decision!

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>WHY?</th>
<th>HOW?</th>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Connect with your BAC Academic Advisor every semester until you declare</td>
<td>Get assistance with educational planning, resources, learn about academic majors, and program requirements.</td>
<td>Make an appointment or utilize assigned advisor’s walk-in hours: <a href="https://bobcat-advising-center.ucmerced.edu/see-my-bac-academic-advisor">https://bobcat-advising-center.ucmerced.edu/see-my-bac-academic-advisor</a></td>
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<td>☐ Understand MyDegreePath (MDP) plans, program matcher, and running “What if” audits</td>
<td>Your advisor can show you how to run a “what if” audit and start an MDP plan based on your intended major. All UCM students must develop a graduation plan in MDP to declare a major.</td>
<td>MyDegreePath can be found in your portal. For more information visit: <a href="https://registrar.ucmerced.edu/mydegreepath">https://registrar.ucmerced.edu/mydegreepath</a></td>
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| ☐ Become familiar with the major declaration criteria for your preferred major | It is important that be familiar with the declaration criteria for intending major(s) to plan and check your degree time, for more information connect with your BAC advisor and visit the school’s website. | * [http://engr-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies/declaration-major](http://engr-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies/declaration-major)  
* [https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/ns-advising-policies/declaration-major](https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/ns-advising-policies/declaration-major)  
* [https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies-and-guidelines/declaration-majorminor](https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies-and-guidelines/declaration-majorminor) |
| ☐ Explore the Catalog, browse majors & minors offered at UC Merced | Find out what areas of study are offered at UCM, read course descriptions, and requirements of programs. | * [https://catalog.ucmerced.edu/](https://catalog.ucmerced.edu/)  
* [https://admissions.ucmerced.edu/academics/majors-minors](https://admissions.ucmerced.edu/academics/majors-minors) |
| ☐ Browse academic and major planning flow charts online to plan and explore options | Compare academic programs and pathways, learn about academic major recommended plans and requirements. | * [http://engr-advising.ucmerced.edu/majors](http://engr-advising.ucmerced.edu/majors)  
* [https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/academics](https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/academics)  
* [https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/students/ssha-majors](https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/students/ssha-majors) |
| ☐ Connect with the Student Career Center and meet 1:1 with a career specialist | Explore careers, research employers, get assistance in exploring majors, learn about job/internship opportunities, and develop/review your resume. | Student Career Center Information: [https://hire.ucmerced.edu/](https://hire.ucmerced.edu/)  
Create Handshake Account to make a career specialist appointment: [https://ucmerced.joinhandshake.com/login](https://ucmerced.joinhandshake.com/login) |
| ☐ Complete career-related assessments at no cost | Learn about how your interest, strengths, skills, and values align with different careers and occupations. | [https://hire.ucmerced.edu/career-assessments](https://hire.ucmerced.edu/career-assessments)  
Myers Briggs Personality Questionnaire  
Skills Scan Questionnaire  
Short Interests Questionnaire: [https://www.mynextmove.org/](https://www.mynextmove.org/) |
| ☐ Conduct informational interviews with professionals in your area of interest and attend career related fairs or workshops | Connect with professionals, learn details about fields of interest, find volunteer opportunities, and ask questions about academic and career pathways. | Student Career Center Workshops: [https://hire.ucmerced.edu/events](https://hire.ucmerced.edu/events)  
Prehealth Advising Workshops: [https://prehealth.ucmerced.edu/events](https://prehealth.ucmerced.edu/events) |
| ☐ Get involved! Join a student club, attend activities on campus, or volunteer in the community | Try new experiences, network with others. Explore how your academic pathway can intersect with your professional areas of interest. | Clubs & Organizations Information/Events: [https://catlife.ucmerced.edu/](https://catlife.ucmerced.edu/)  
Community Engagement Center: [https://cec.ucmerced.edu/](https://cec.ucmerced.edu/) |
| ☐ Utilize career related online resources to explore further | Browse areas of study, career preparation, and occupational options based on your personal preferences. | * [https://hire.ucmerced.edu/students/career-counseling](https://hire.ucmerced.edu/students/career-counseling)  
* [https://www.onetonline.org/](https://www.onetonline.org/)  
* [https://www.bls.gov/](https://www.bls.gov/) |
| ☐ Participate in research opportunities with professors | Gain hands on experience in professional areas of interest. | Undergraduate Research Opportunity Center (UROC):  
* [https://uroc.ucmerced.edu/](https://uroc.ucmerced.edu/)  
* Independent Study with a professor | [https://bobcat-advising-center.ucmerced.edu/](https://bobcat-advising-center.ucmerced.edu/)  
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