

**MAJOR EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES CHECKLIST**

It is okay to be undeclared and explore options but all UCM students must declare a major before reaching 90 units. Throughout your time at UC Merced, we encourage you to take active steps to explore possible majors and careers. Sample different courses and experiences that build your understanding of your interests, values, and strengths. The following checklist can help you get started with activities to make an informed decision!

	ACTIVITY	WHY?	HOW?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connect with your BAC academic advisor every semester until you declare	Get help with educational planning and resources. Learn about academic majors and program requirements.	Make an appointment or utilize assigned advisor's walk-in hours: <a href="https://bobcat-advising-center.ucmerced.edu/appointments-walk/appointments">https://bobcat-advising-center.ucmerced.edu/appointments-walk/appointments</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understand MyDegreePath (MDP) plans, program matcher, and how to run "What if" audits	Your BAC 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.	MyDegreePath can be found in your portal. For more information visit: <a href="https://registrar.ucmerced.edu/mydegreepath">https://registrar.ucmerced.edu/mydegreepath</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Become familiar with the major declaration criteria for your preferred major	It is important to be familiar with the criteria to declare your intended major(s) both to develop a plan and check your time to degree. For more information, connect with your BAC advisor and review the School criteria.	* <a href="http://enr-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies/declaration-major">http://enr-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies/declaration-major</a> * <a href="https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/ns-advising-policies/declaration-major">https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/ns-advising-policies/declaration-major</a> * <a href="https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies-and-guidelines/declaration-majorminor">https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/policies-and-guidelines/declaration-majorminor</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Explore the UC Merced Catalog and browse majors and minors offered here	Discover the unique areas of study offered. Read course descriptions and prerequisites. Learn about courses required in each major or minor.	* <a href="https://catalog.ucmerced.edu/">https://catalog.ucmerced.edu/</a> * <a href="https://admissions.ucmerced.edu/academics/majors-minors">https://admissions.ucmerced.edu/academics/majors-minors</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Browse academic and major planning flowcharts online to plan and explore options	Compare academic programs. Learn about sequential courses and recommended plans developed by faculty in your intended major.	* <a href="http://enr-advising.ucmerced.edu/majors">http://enr-advising.ucmerced.edu/majors</a> * <a href="https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/academics">https://ns-advising.ucmerced.edu/academics</a> * <a href="https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/students/ssha-majors">https://ssha-advising.ucmerced.edu/students/ssha-majors</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connect with the Center for Career & Professional Advancement (CCPA) and meet with a career specialist	Explore careers, research employers, get assistance in exploring majors, learn about job/internship opportunities, and develop/review your resume.	CCPA Information: <a href="https://hire.ucmerced.edu/">https://hire.ucmerced.edu/</a>  Create Handshake Account to make a career specialist appointment: <a href="https://ucmerced.joinhandshake.com/login">https://ucmerced.joinhandshake.com/login</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete career-related assessments at no cost	Learn how your interests, strengths, skills, and values align with different careers and occupations.	<a href="https://hire.ucmerced.edu/career-assessments">https://hire.ucmerced.edu/career-assessments</a> Myers Briggs Personality Questionnaire Skills Scan Questionnaire Short Interests Questionnaire: <a href="https://www.mynextmove.org/">https://www.mynextmove.org/</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct informational interviews with professionals in your area of interest and attend career-related fairs or workshops	Connect with experienced professionals. Learn details about working in your intended field. Find volunteer opportunities. Ask about academic or career pathways.	CCPA Workshops: <a href="https://hire.ucmerced.edu/events">https://hire.ucmerced.edu/events</a>  Prehealth Advising Workshops: <a href="https://prehealth.ucmerced.edu/events">https://prehealth.ucmerced.edu/events</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Get involved! Join a student club, attend activities on campus, or volunteer in the community	Try new experiences and build your resume. Network and explore how your major/minor can intersect with your professional career interests.	Clubs & Organizations Information/Events: <a href="https://catlife.ucmerced.edu/">https://catlife.ucmerced.edu/</a>  Community Engagement Center: <a href="https://cec.ucmerced.edu/">https://cec.ucmerced.edu/</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilize career-related online resources to explore further	Browse areas of study, career preparation, and occupational options based on your personal preferences.	* <a href="https://hire.ucmerced.edu/students/career-counseling">https://hire.ucmerced.edu/students/career-counseling</a> * <a href="https://www.onetonline.org/">https://www.onetonline.org/</a> * <a href="https://www.bls.gov/">https://www.bls.gov/</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Participate in research opportunities with professors	Gain practical, hands-on experience in professional areas of interest.	Undergraduate Research Opportunity Center (UROC): * <a href="https://uroc.ucmerced.edu/">https://uroc.ucmerced.edu/</a> * <a href="#">Independent Study</a> with a professor