

EXPLORATORY STUDIES & STUDENT DEVELOPMENT



The Department of Exploratory Studies & Student Development helps undecided students choose a major based on their individual interests and strengths.

Exploratory Studies allows students who are undecided on a major to take general education courses that work toward degree requirements, while developing their interests, until they are ready to declare a major.

You can explore majors in a variety of ways: by taking general education courses or open electives in an area of interest, by doing “homework” on programs we offer and by doing self-assessment on what you want out of a college education.

As an Exploratory student, you will be assigned an academic advisor who is trained to work with students on course selection, campus involvement, student services and major exploration through student-directed assessment of strengths and interests.

WE'RE ON A MISSION

At Millersville, we're here to encourage you to graduate on time while giving you the opportunity to explore a variety of interests to match your passions and skills with a major. The resources described here will help you do just that; they keep you on track and motivated while satisfying your curiosity. Even though you may start as a first-year student unsure of what direction you may want to go, you will still be working toward your degree requirements while exploring your options. The program gives you flexibility to change direction if necessary. Entering college in Exploratory Studies doesn't mean you'll be here longer; it just means your path to graduation may be a little different, but just as fulfilling!

GENERAL EDUCATION

Whether you are a student in Exploratory Studies or one who has already declared a major, Millersville's general education curriculum helps well-rounded individuals prepare for the real world. The aim of the general education curriculum is to cultivate students' intellect to reason logically, to think critically, to express themselves clearly, and to foster an understanding of the human condition and the role of value judgments in the human experience.

EXPLORATORY ADVISORS

In Exploratory Studies, advisors will not only help you in exploring your options, but aid you in your college transition and in your success.

You and your advisor will get to know each other. Our advisors strive to know students individually and learn about their personal journeys and unique interests, aptitudes and abilities. Advisors are faculty and are a wealth of knowledge to help you with your transition at Millersville. Advisors take interest in their students' experiences, achievements and accomplishments on campus. In short, your advisor won't tell you what to do — rather, they will listen, make suggestions and guide you along the way.

Undeclared Transfer Students

The advisors in Exploratory Studies are well trained to work with Exploratory/Undeclared transfer students as well, no matter what community college or other university they may be coming from. Each transfer student has a different story, but our advisors, faculty and staff are here to aid with your transition into the Millersville community. From seeing how your transfer credits fit into our general education curriculum and exploring majors that would best use the credits you've completed at other schools, to general advisement and adapting to the different educational environment at Millersville compared to your other school(s), Exploratory Studies is geared to be a great resource for you.