URL: <https://advising.princeton.edu/degree-planning/choosing-major/finding-your-fit-self-assessment>

Title: Finding Your Fit: A Self-Assessment

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The good news about college majors is that there is not a 1:1 relationship with your career. Any major can lead down multiple, wonderful paths. Your major will help you to learn how to learn, and will hone your skills by allowing you to tap into the issues you are most passionate about. Getting to know yourself is an important first step in selecting the right one for you!

Choose a Major that Fits

Answer the questions below (honestly!) and begin to look for patterns in your responses that will help you identify your best fit. Then make an appointment to speak with an adviser to discuss your answers.

Interests

If you were given an unlimited budget to study any issue or problem, and had no limitations in your skill set, what would it be?

What do you like to do in your free time?

What section are you drawn to browse in the bookstore or online?

Name three texts (books, movies, music, theater, art, etc.) that had an important role in shaping the way you think today. What are they, and how did they inform your thinking?

What kinds of assignments do you look forward to doing most? What classes have been your favorites?

Talents

Where have you received praise in the past?

What kinds of assignments do you find most difficult?

What do your friends say your strengths are?

Which of these words best describes you: Social, Entrepreneurial, Investigative, Artistic, Realistic? Why?

Values

Who are the people you admire most? Why?

Describe the people you most like to hang out with.

What do you see as the most important social, scientific, or aesthetic problems facing the world (or your local community) right now?

If you could change one thing about your community, what would it be?

Learning Environment

Do you work best in situations in which you are independent, do you prefer personalized attention, or do you like to work in large groups?

In what sort of learning environment or community do you work best? Smaller departments? Larger departments?

Where have you found faculty members and peers who are supportive and who motivate you?

Minors/Certificates

What would you like to study beyond your major?

Are there skills you’d like to cultivate? A passion you’d like to develop?

Notes

What patterns do you observe?

Are there any outliers in your answers above that don’t fit a pattern?

What Princeton majors do you feel map well onto your interests, talents, and values?