

Guidelines for Exploring Majors at Western Kentucky University

1. Review the Career Pathways to see the variety of undergraduate majors offered at Western Kentucky University.
2. Choose up to 7 majors that interest you and write them below. When exploring majors, consider the following:
 - Are you genuinely interested in the subject? Could you see yourself enjoying the classes, even the challenging ones?
 - Do you have the academic strengths needed to succeed in that program? What subjects have you done well in so far in college?

Tip: Check the [program requirements](#) and sample 4-year plans for any major you're considering. For example, if math isn't your strong suit, avoid majors that are math heavy. Be honest with yourself - choosing a major that fits your interests **and** your abilities can save time, money, and stress in the long run.

3. Talk to a Career Coach to explore potential entry-level jobs or common career paths related to different majors. Your Academic Advisor can help you plan your coursework and stay on track for graduation. Both work together to support your success.

Majors that I am interested in and/or want to learn more about:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Western Kentucky University Career Pathways for All Majors

(updated July 1, 2025)

1. Business, Finance, and Leadership

Do you enjoy planning, leading, problem-solving, or thinking about how businesses grow and succeed? This pathway includes majors that prepare you for careers in management, entrepreneurship, financial services, human resources, marketing, and more. You'll learn how organizations function and how to lead people, manage resources, and make data-driven decisions. Whether you're interested in running your own business, analyzing markets, or helping teams work more effectively, this path offers flexible, high-demand career options in almost every industry.

Majors:

Accounting	Marketing
Business Data Analytics	Mathematical Economics
Business Economics	Military Leadership
Economics	Organizational Leadership
Finance	Workforce Administration
Management	

2. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

If you're naturally curious, enjoy working with numbers, solving complex problems, or building things, this pathway offers exciting options in technology, research, and innovation. STEM majors provide a strong foundation in analytical thinking and technical skills, preparing you for careers in engineering, data science, scientific research, computer programming, environmental work, and more. These fields are constantly evolving, offering strong job prospects, high earning potential, and opportunities to make a real-world impact through discovery, design, and development.

Majors:

Agriculture	Geological Sciences
Biochemistry	Mathematics
Biology	Mechanical Engineering
Chemistry	Mechatronics Engineering Technology
Civil Engineering	Medical Laboratory Science
Computer Information Technology	Meteorology
Computer Science	Molecular Biotechnology
Data Science	Neuroscience
Electrical Engineering	Physics
Engineering Technology Management	Psychological Science

3. Health and Human Services

Are you drawn to helping others, promoting wellness, or making a difference in people's lives? This pathway includes majors that lead to careers in healthcare, counseling, public health, and social services. You'll learn how to support individuals, families, and communities through direct care, program development, and health education. Whether you want to become a nurse, therapist, public health advocate, or healthcare administrator, these majors blend science, empathy, and service for rewarding and meaningful work.

Majors:

Child & Family Services	Nursing
Communication Disorders	Physical Education
Dental Hygiene	Psychology
Environ. & Occupational Health Science	Public Health
Exercise Science	Recreation, Park & Non-Profit Admin.
Health Care Administration	Social Work
Health Information Management	Sport Management
Health Sciences	

4. Arts, Humanities, and Communication

This pathway is for students who thrive on creativity, curiosity, and communication. Whether you express yourself through writing, performing, visual arts, or digital media, you'll gain the tools to share stories, shape ideas, and influence culture. These majors lead to exciting and flexible careers in the arts, entertainment, communications, publishing, education, and cultural institutions.

Majors:

Advertising	Music (Liberal Arts)
Art History	Performing Arts
Broadcasting	Philosophy
Communication	Public Relations
Dance	Religious Studies
English	Spanish
Film	Theatre
Film Production	Visual Arts
Journalism	Visual Journalism and Photography
Music (Education & Performance)	Visual Studies

5. Society, Justice, and the World

If you're interested in how societies function, how people behave, or how to impact your community or the world, this pathway explores human behavior, social structures, history, justice, and global systems. These majors prepare you for careers in public policy, law, research, advocacy, criminal justice, and international affairs. You'll develop strong research, communication, and analytical skills while gaining a deeper understanding of the forces that shape individuals, communities, and nations.

Majors:

Anthropology	Legal Studies
Asian Studies	Political Science
Criminology	Professional Legal Studies
History	Social Studies
Interdisciplinary Studies	Sociology
International Affairs	

6. Education and Teaching

Are you passionate about working with children, teens, or adult learners? Do you want to help others grow, learn, and succeed? This pathway prepares you for teaching in elementary, middle, or high school settings, as well as in special education or early childhood education. WKU offers majors with hands-on classroom experience and subject-specific preparation. Teaching is more than a job—it's a calling that shapes future generations. These majors also provide a strong foundation for careers in educational leadership, curriculum design, and training.

Majors:

Elementary Education	Middle Level Educ. (Lang. Arts & Social Studies)
English for Secondary Teachers	Middle School Science
Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Educ.	Science & Mathematics Education
Mathematics (Teacher Education)	Special Education & Elementary Education
Middle Grade Mathematics	

7. Design, Sustainability, and Service

This pathway brings together majors that focus on improving the spaces, systems, and services we use every day. Whether you're drawn to sustainable solutions, creative design, or guest experiences, these majors give you the tools to lead and innovate in industries that shape how people live, work, and travel. You'll learn practical and creative skills to serve others while designing a better future.

Majors:

Architectural Science	Hospitality Management & Dietetics
Construction Management	Interior Design & Fashion Merchandising
Environ., Sustainability & Geo. Studies	