

# Worksheet for Researching Majors

Gathering information is a critical step in making an effective career decision. Make a copy of this worksheet for each major that you are considering. Read about how to research majors in the Exploring Majors section at [www.clarion.edu/career/major/index.htm](http://www.clarion.edu/career/major/index.htm). Use print, Internet, multi-media, and people resources for your information.

<b>Major</b>	
<b>List required courses.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review information provided by the academic department (web site, brochure and other print materials)</li> <li>• Review the University catalog</li> <li>• Attach the academic program check sheet</li> </ul>	
<b>List possible elective courses.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What elective courses are recommended by faculty, alumni of the program, and employers?</li> </ul>	
<b>What are some program characteristics?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of students in major</li> <li>• Number of full-time professors</li> <li>• Special accreditations of the program</li> </ul>	
<b>What does it take to succeed in this program?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What grade point average is required?</li> <li>• What aptitudes, skills, personal characteristics, or interests do successful students in the program have?</li> </ul>	
<b>List honorary and professional organizations sponsored by department.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What leadership opportunities are available?</li> </ul>	

<p><b>What are some experiential learning opportunities?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What job shadowing programs, field trips, field experiences, or internships are available?</li> <li>• Are there opportunities to work with professors?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>What occupations do graduates of this major/program enter?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the <i>Annual Report on the Post-Graduation Activities of Clarion University Graduates</i>.</li> <li>• Use additional online resources, such as <i>What Can I Do With a Major In?</i></li> </ul>	<p><a href="http://www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html">www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html</a></p> <p>Refer to the Exploring Majors section at <a href="http://www.clarion.edu/career/major/index.htm">www.clarion.edu/career/major/index.htm</a></p>	
<p><b>What types of organizations employ graduates of this major/program?</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html">www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html</a></p>	
<p><b>Do undergraduates of this major/program attend graduate or professional school? If so, what academic programs do they enter?</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html">www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html</a></p>	
<p><b>What percentage of graduates of the program are employed full-time one year after graduation?</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html">www.clarion.edu/career/gradreport/index.html</a></p>	
<p><b>Impressions of this major</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on conversations with the department chair, faculty, students, and alumni of the program, list the positive and negative features of this major</li> </ul>	<p>Positive features</p>	<p>Negative features</p>
<p><b>List the resources used to research this major/program.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People</li> <li>• Print materials</li> <li>• Multi-media resources</li> <li>• Internet resources</li> </ul>		