What are you majoring in?

- It’s a question every college student is asked over and over again, and if you haven’t decided on a major yet it can be nerve wracking! CBU offers over 20 majors and 25 minors in various disciplines, so there’s sure to be something that will spark your interest.

- If you intend to graduate from CBU you need to choose a major offered by CBU. On the pages following you will find a list of CBU’s academic schools and departments and the majors offered by each. Begin the journey toward choosing your major by looking through the options that you have available.
College of Arts and Sciences:

Department of Communication and Visual Arts:
  Journalism
  Speech
  Theatre
  Visual Art

Department of History, Political Science, and Criminal Justice:
  History
  Political Science
  Criminal Justice

Department of Kinesiology:
  Kinesiology

Department of Modern Languages and Literature:
  English

Department of Natural and Mathematical Sciences:
  Biology
  Mathematics
School of Behavioral Sciences
Behavioral Science
Christian Behavioral Science
Psychology
Sociology

School of Business
Accounting
Business Administration

School of Christian Ministries
Christian Studies
Intercultural Studies
Philosophy

School of Education
Liberal Studies

School of Music
Music

School of Nursing
Nursing
Tips for Deciding Your Major

Work toward your strengths and interests!
- You are going to invest years of your time, energy, and money – you should enjoy what you’re doing!

Be realistic. Know your abilities and limitations.
- For example, you should reassess your goals if:
  - You want to be a doctor but you consistently struggle with biology, math, and chemistry coursework.
  - If your dream is to teach but you have no patience explaining things to people who do not understand you the first time.
Research your career interests and major possibilities using the internet!

Helpful Websites and Web Pages

What Can I Do With This Major?
http://www.calbaptist.edu/InsideCBU/majors/default.html
A website that helps you connect majors with careers. For each major that interests you, there is an outline of common career areas, typical employers, and strategies designed to maximize career opportunities.

California Baptist University – Academics Page
Explore the different academic options available to you at CBU. Become familiar with your catalog and research the different schools and departments. Look over the majors we offer and descriptions of our courses.

Degree Guide in Inside CBU
Play around with Degree Guide and see what the different majors require and how they work with the courses you have already taken!
People you can talk to

Deans, Department Chairs, and Professors
Deans, Department Chairs, and Professors have intimate knowledge of the courses within their major and of the career fields many of their students go into. Through their experience and knowledge, they can help guide and motivate you in your academic career. They can also give information about programs and options for graduate schools in their field.

Kushi Jones in Career Services  (YCTR B154, phone: 951-343-4344)
Kushi can assist with information such as: careers that are available, salary and job trends. Also, if you are interested in getting some practical knowledge while you complete your degree, she can help you find an internship or possibly a job opening in your field.

Enrollment Advising (YCTR B150, phone: 951-343-4567)
Your Enrollment Advisor can help you assess how a potential major will impact your academic career. Advisors can give you an idea of how long it will take to graduate with your desired major/s and the best order in which to take your classes.
More People You Can Talk To

Friends and Family
People who know you well (who know your interests and motivations) can be instrumental in helping you see what fields would be good for you. Also, fellow students who are in or who have gone through the programs in which you are interested can give valuable insight into their experiences in courses and programs, which can help you get an idea of the demands of that program. However, please remember that each person relates differently to subjects and teachers and that courses and requirements can change (sometimes drastically) over time.

Professionals working in your field of interest
Those who are “living the dream” can give you a very clear idea of what they had to do to get there and what life is like for them now (hours, pay, unforeseen job demands and stressors, surprising benefits, etc.). Keep in mind that life is not stagnant and that jobs can (and usually will) change significantly over the course of a few years.
Timeline Issues
(How long do I have to decide?)

Most majors at CBU can be completed in two years if the lower division prerequisites have already been completed!

- In order to finish in four years you need to determine your major by the end of your Sophomore year and begin major coursework at the beginning of your Junior year.

- During your Freshman and Sophomore year spend some of your time taking Lower Division prerequisite coursework for majors you are seriously interested in (take them to meet your General Education requirements, rather than as electives, as much as possible).

Notable exceptions to the two-year rule:

- Liberal Studies
- Music
Options for the *overachievers* (and those who change their mind late in the game)!

- **Double majors** are an option for students who want to learn in depth more than one field of study.

- **Minors**, while not required, are very good ways to focus elective units (for students who will need a large number of electives to graduate) or to get a stronger knowledge of a secondary area of study without having to complete all of the units required for a second major.

- **Graduate School** is a necessity for certain careers and a good option for students who change their career goals too late to change their major and still finish on time.
So, what should I take next semester?

**Freshmen and Sophomores:** Work on G.E. and, whenever possible, take courses for your G.E. which are prerequisites or requirements for majors in which you are interested. It is NOT a good idea to take classes indiscriminately! Taking too many elective courses in your Freshman and Sophomore year can lead to additional time in college.

**Tip:** A good way to help you decide if you are likely to enjoy a course is to browse through the textbook. If you are interested in the information given in the textbook, enough to study it in a bit more depth, you should enjoy taking the course.

**Juniors and Seniors:** You should determine a major program and begin taking the required coursework. Check all of the requirements for prerequisites so you can take the prerequisite coursework as soon as possible.

**Tip:** Go to Major Advising Sessions for majors you are interested in!
How do I declare a major?

Declaring a major is easy! Just stop by the Enrollment Advising office (located in YCTR B150) and fill out a Declaration of Major/Minor/Concentration Form. You can also obtain this form at www.calbaptist.edu/advising. No appointment is necessary unless you want to check with an advisor to see what impact the change will have on your overall academic plan.
Your feedback is important to us!

The Advising office is working to make our online tools as accessible and easy to follow as possible. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on how to improve this Advising tool please email us at Advising@calbaptist.edu.