

FINDING THE RIGHT MAJOR:

A Prayerful Journey of Discovery & Exploration



WHEATON
COLLEGE
For Christ & His Kingdom

The first step is to have a prayerful, open mind.

Perhaps you have your heart set on a specific major that Wheaton may or may not offer, or maybe you're staring at the many options and thinking, "Where do I begin?" Start here. No matter where you are in the journey to declaring a major, it should be exactly that: a journey—one starting with prayer.

The Christian liberal arts curriculum at Wheaton College prepares you to think and live well as a faithful servant of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to pray for wisdom and discernment as you embark on your exciting vocation as a student—offering up your gifts and desires to Christ as you pursue growth and discipleship in all areas of your life.





Christian Liberal Arts Experience at Wheaton

The integrative nature of the Christian liberal arts experience at Wheaton creates a dynamic, whole-person pathway that allows you to explore your God-given gifts and passions, discover new interests, and find what excites you about your calling and purpose as a lifelong follower of Christ. And who knows? You may even surprise yourself as you explore your undergraduate vocation at Wheaton.

During your first year, you are encouraged to visit the [Center for Vocation and Career \(CVC\)](#). Positioned to come alongside you from freshman year through graduation, our [CVC Career Coaches](#) are thrilled to welcome you! The CVC offers a specially designed [blueprint](#) to help you understand your current vocations, consider future careers, and discern ways your major or internship can inform your exploration. With a nationally ranked worldwide alumni network and a team of trained coaches, the CVC is poised to support your prayerful journey of personal discovery and vocational exploration.

Here's how it all unfolds at Wheaton.

1

Freshman Year.

Wait! Before we even get into majors, you should know more about our innovative general education curriculum. We encourage you to design a schedule by using the [Major Academic Plan \(MAP\)](#) for a major that you're exploring on this journey of discovery. You can choose from a range of Christ at the Core course options and, depending upon which major you're exploring, a number of discipline-focused courses. This foundational approach will provide the framework for your whole-person, faith-integrated journey at Wheaton. A few highlights:

- [Christ at the Core](#) consists of three cores: Shared Core (courses that every student takes), Core Competency (competencies that every student demonstrates), and Thematic Core (learning outcomes that every student achieves).
- Every freshman starts with the First Year Seminar, which centers learning around the theme of "What Is the Good Life" and other enduring questions.
- During your first semester, you'll also take Holistic Human Flourishing—a course that will help you achieve a holistic Christian understanding of your physical, emotional, spiritual, and relational well-being.
- Attend one of the Center for Vocation and Career's AlumNight discussions to hear from a panel of alumni about how their time at Wheaton informed their current vocations. And don't miss out on discovering your unique strengths with other first-year students at our WAYS event in the spring.

The goal of this cohesive and holistic experience is to help you develop a vision for your vocation and equip you with a strong mindset for discerning and declaring a major. (This year, you'll also begin talking about majors with your first-year faculty advisor.)





2

Sophomore Year.

An important thing to note about Wheaton: You'll encounter friendly people along the way who'll offer support. This includes helping you get ready to confidently declare your major by the spring of your sophomore year. Among the many resources at your disposal, a few ways you'll find support is through:

- **Your professors:** *Our faculty want to spend time with their students! They enjoy collaborating with them on their vocational journeys; it's what they feel called to do.*
- **Academic advisors:** *The advisors at our [Academic Advising Office](#) (AAO) are an incredible resource for helping students navigate their options and determine their best-fit major. You can meet in person whenever you're ready, or you can even book virtual meetings online.*
- **Major Academic Plans (MAPs):** *Again, our [MAPs](#) are straightforward guides that show you the recommended sequence of classes for each major. You are encouraged to use the [blank MAP Worksheet](#) to help you envision your future.*

A few more notes: *You may choose more than one major, although you are not required to do so. Wheaton has an award-winning, nationally ranked [Interdisciplinary Studies Major](#) plus an array of concurrently integrated majors that may be just what you are looking for. Also, if you decide to change your major, your faculty advisor and the Academic Advising Office are happy to help.*

3

Junior & Senior Years.

Now is when you'll really dive into your major by taking relevant coursework, learning from Christian scholars who are thought leaders in their fields, and completing an internship in your industry of interest.

At the same time, you'll still be exposed to all kinds of topics through the Thematic Core part of Christ at the Core. This consists of ten themes:

- Applied Abstract & Quantitative Reasoning
- Diversity in the United States
- Global Perspectives
- Historical Perspectives
- Literary Explorations
- Scientific Issues & Perspectives
- Scientific Practice
- Global Perspectives
- Social Inquiry
- Visual & Performing Arts

Remember, there are also a few things you can layer onto your major, including [certificates](#) and [minors](#), plus endorsements within majors, such as the [data science endorsement](#) for Math majors.





4

Graduation & Beyond.

At this point, you're equipped to begin your life after Wheaton with Christ-centered leadership and tools for faithful living. No matter what major you choose, receiving a Christian liberal arts education is truly a life-changing experience that has prepared Wheaton's graduates to land in a wide variety of rewarding destinations: ministry leadership, law school, medical school, doctoral studies, non-profit organizations, healthcare, counseling, education, engineering and technology industries, the performing arts, government, and more. With a Wheaton degree, you are empowered to make a positive, lifelong impact for Christ and His Kingdom.

You'll have built durable skills that are transferrable, lasting, and adaptable. You'll have learned how to connect disciplines and ideas, and you'll be empowered to build the church and benefit society worldwide.

Our graduates have gone on to study and work at places like:

- 3M
- Amazon
- Cushman & Wakefield
- Cisco
- Boston University
- Harvard University
- Samaritan's Purse
- Prudential Financial
- Stony Brook Hospital
- University of Oxford
- World Relief
- Young Life

See where recent Wheaton graduates have [launched!](#)



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Wheaton College is an explicitly Christian, academically rigorous, liberal arts college and graduate school located just 25 miles west of Chicago. Established in 1860 in Wheaton, Illinois, Wheaton is guided by its original mission to provide excellence in Christian higher education, and offers more than 50 academic programs in various fields of study.

**Ask bigger
questions.
Ask them
right here.**

[Register for an in-person or virtual visit.](#)

[Information on applying to Wheaton.](#)

[Learn more about Wheaton.](#)

