

# UNIVERSITY STUDIES



## FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT DECLARED A MAJOR

### WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT THE PROGRAM?

The University Studies Program is for students interested in exploring a variety of academic interests. During this time of discovery, students can take advantage of all the services on campus designed to help them develop a rich and rewarding plan of study.

### WHAT IS UNIVERSITY STUDIES?

*The University Studies Program is designed to enhance and support the educational experiences of matriculated students who have a wide variety of interests and have either not yet declared a major or are in transition from one major to another. Through classroom interaction, individual academic advising, and specially tailored programming, the University Studies Program ensures that students are given the opportunity to explore the many majors available to them before they choose their academic path.*

Because of the structure of the baccalaureate degree, students during their first semesters are often able to choose coursework that allows them to be “on track” for a number of different majors. By carefully selecting courses with their advisor, it may be possible for University Studies students to consider several major and minor options before making any commitments. Since there is a good deal of overlap in required coursework for many majors and degree programs, students often plan course schedules for the first few semesters that will fulfill requirements in more than one potential major. This may not be possible with highly structured programs such as nursing, engineering, or elementary teacher education.

### FACILITIES, RESOURCES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

UST students are assigned a professional Academic Advisor dedicated to helping the student make informed decisions while pursuing their intellectual interests. Through their coursework and interactions with faculty, advisors, staff, and peers, students learn more about how their interests and skills might correspond with certain majors. Students are encouraged to become involved in extracurricular activities, volunteer services and discovery learning opportunities such as internships, undergraduate research, or study abroad. These experiences enhance students' abilities to choose the major

best suited for them.

### CAREER PATHS

The career paths taken by former University Studies students are widely varied. Because UST students eventually choose majors from among the full range of options available across the University, there is not one typical career path. All UD degree programs emphasize traits valued by employers and graduate programs, such as effective skills in oral and written communications, the ability to think critically, the ability to solve problems effectively, to develop familiarity with information technology, and to enhance their capability to work independently and collaboratively.

### ADVISING UNDECLARED STUDENTS

University Studies Administrative Academic Advisors and professional staff are housed in Elliott Hall. All of the UST program professionals are familiar with undergraduate programs, academic policies, and resources across the University and provide information and referrals to help students explore all of the options available to them. University Studies students initially meet with an advisor before their first semester of classes, during the new student orientation programs called DelaWorld 101.

Once students arrive on campus, the Academic Advisors and professional staff of UST are always available to help in planning a fulfilling educational program. University Studies students have access to a wide array of advisement resources including but not limited to web-based advisement tools, in-person appointments, various workshops, informational programs, and a First Year Experience course which helps them make a smooth transition from high school to college.



## DECLARING A MAJOR

University Studies students are free to declare a major as soon as they are ready; even during new student orientation. Most students declare a major between their first semester and the end of their sophomore year. Students are expected to declare a major by the fifth semester or before earning 60 credits.

### TYPICAL FRESHMAN SCHEDULES FOR UST STUDENTS BASED UPON MOST FREQUENTLY EXPRESSED INTERESTS

#### HUMANITIES/SOCIAL SCIENCE INTEREST

Humanities or Social Science	3 credits
Social Science	3 credits
Freshman English Course	3 credits
Foreign Language	3-4 credits
Elective or General Education	1-3 credits
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>typical load is 13-16 credits</b>

#### LIFE AND HEALTH SCIENCES INTEREST

Biology or Other Life Science Course with Lab (according to major)	3-4 credits
Major Related Course or Social Science (All Biology Majors should choose Chemistry here).	3-4 credits
Math Course	3-4 credits
Humanities Course or Foreign Language	3-4 credits
Elective or General Education (Optional)	1-3 credits
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>typical load is 13-16 credits</b>

#### BUSINESS INTEREST

Economics	3 credits
Math Course	3 credits
Social Science Course	3 credits
Humanities Course or Foreign Language	3-4 credits
Lab or Non-Lab Science	3-4 credits
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>typical load is 13-16 credits</b>

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

The University Studies Program staff is always willing to talk about majors and the ways in which the UST program can help you reach your educational goals. Please feel free to contact us at:

University Studies Program  
102 Elliott Hall  
University of Delaware  
Newark, DE 19716  
Phone: (302) 831-4555  
Fax: (302) 831-6684  
TDD: (302) 831-4563  
ust-advise@udel.edu  
www.ust.udel.edu

Admissions Office  
University of Delaware  
Newark, DE 19716-6210  
(302) 831-8123  
(302) 831-6905  
(302) 831-4563  
admissions@udel.edu  
admissions.udel.edu