



Double Majoring Double Majoring



Twice the fun? or Double the Trouble?

Double Majoring is becoming increasingly popular on campus, but is it right for you?

Why do you want to double major?

Is it because a double major sounds impressive and/or you think it will strengthen your resume or graduate school application? If this is your reason for attempting a double major you may want to reconsider. While double majoring does tell your potential employer that you are focused and hard-working, it does not necessarily make you a more competitive applicant.

Where do your passions lie?

If you truly have a passion for two **distinct** fields of study, then a double major may be ideal for you. However, it is important to have a 'keen intellectual interest' in the two areas you decide to focus on. Since a double major requires a lot of time and effort, you need to make sure that your time is spent doing something you enjoy. Enjoyment in your fields of study will reflect positively in your GPA, thus, creating more graduate school and career opportunities. The opposite applies as well, taking on too much without having a passion for what you are studying could harm your overall GPA.

What could you miss out on with a double major?

An important thing to keep in mind when double majoring, is that you might miss out on the chance to take elective courses. With a double major you will have very little flexibility in your course options. Electives are vital for discovering new interests and for gaining valuable knowledge outside your major. Challenging yourself in different disciplines, doing an honors program in your major or independent studies, and exploring new possibilities are at the core of receiving a college education.

What will you gain with a double major?

You will gain an in-depth perspective in two disciplines of your choice. A double major may not give you a significant advantage in applying to professional schools or jobs. However, certain combinations are considered especially marketable. For example, anything technical combined with a field of analytical focus would make you look exceptional next to your peers of a purely technical or purely liberal arts background. The point is to be well-rounded, but more importantly, to study something of interest.

What are the requirements for a double major at UCSD?

- Completion of 90.0 units but no more than 135.0 units.
- Significant completion of prerequisite work in each major.
- A minimum GPA of 2.50.

**Must graduate with no more than 240.0 total units (excluding AP/IB), and within 15 quarters (for students entering as freshman) or 9 quarters (for transfer students).*