

SVC Student Achievement Strategy: Meta-Majors

Meta-majors are collections of related instructional programs based on career and educational area. Each meta-major includes a set of courses that meet academic requirements that are common across several related programs of study.

Students taking courses within a meta-majors are able to make structured, more informed choices about the particular degree or certificate programs that are most appropriate to meet students' educational and career goals. Students taking meta-major courses are able to explore degree options without losing credit or time toward completion.

SVC's current draft meta-majors are:

- Business
- Public Service and Social Science
- Arts and Communication
- Education
- Industrial Technology and Transportation
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Manufacturing (STEM)
- Life Sciences
- Food and Beverage Management

Meta-majors are also referred to as *Schools, Academic and Career Communities, Career Clusters, and Areas of Study* at other colleges and in higher education literature.

Timeline for Implementation:

- SVC's meta-majors will be finalized in early December 2016.

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FAQ:

Question: How do meta-majors help students?

Answer: Meta-majors are based on research in the fields of behavioral economics and social psychology about how people make choices. When presented with too many options, people find it more difficult to make informed choices. Meta-majors initially narrow degree and program choices into a manageable set of common and meaningful career clusters. Students then are given the opportunity to explore a more general range of educational options and courses as they gradually progress into more specific coursework. This allows students to make, and change, their educational goals without losing time or credits toward a degree.

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