UNDECIDED

THE POTENTIAL

Undecided students are assigned an academic advisor to help them in choosing their courses each semester and in monitoring their academic progress. All of the faculty have had significant personal and professional experiences in selecting undergraduate majors and careers, so students are encouraged to draw upon the faculty’s experiences for advice and guidance.

For the first semester, advisors recommend that students begin to enroll in their Core Curriculum classes as a way of sampling various areas of study. In addition, students who think they may be interested in a major in the Schools of Engineering, Education, or Business, or who might be interested in the health sciences, should seek advice from faculty advisors in these areas during their first semester. Early planning in these areas is fundamental to proper preparation and timely graduation.

Choosing a major can be a challenging task for many students. Students need to gather as much information as possible about themselves, different majors, and realistic career opportunities. The Gonzaga University Counseling Center is available to assist students in the process of researching and choosing an academic area that fits their interests, values, and needs. Research has demonstrated that the more aware students are of their career goals and dreams, the better able they will be to turn them into reality.

THE PASSION

A liberal arts university, by definition, offers students a broad selection of courses including literature, art, philosophy, languages, history, and science. Gonzaga University requires all undergraduate students to take the University Core Curriculum, a set of liberal arts courses. These Core Curriculum classes provide students with a base of knowledge and skills that distinguishes a college-educated person. This advanced-level curriculum challenges students:

- to explore and excel in their abilities to read, write, analyze, reflect, discuss, and persuade
- to evaluate learning with discernment and empathy
- to explore the past for the light it sheds on the present and future
- to create works of the imagination
- to practice ethical decision-making
- to develop a foundation for choosing a career

The Center offers students several different career inventories, including the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, the Strong Interest Inventory, and the SIGI 3 program. The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator provides insights into personality styles and preferred work settings. The Strong Interest Inventory identifies work, leisure, and living environments compatible with specific interests. Finally, the SIGI 3 (System of Interactive Guidance and Information) computer program clarifies interests, values, and skills while identifying compatible academic majors and career fields. From this information, students can discover ways to translate their academic experiences into skills needed in the workplace.

For more information, visit the Counseling Center website at: www.gonzaga.edu/counselingcenter.