



# Choosing a Major/Minor

Housing Authority of the City of  
Prichard, Alabama – Project SOAR  
June 12, 2018



# Time to decide

What do you want to be when you grow up?



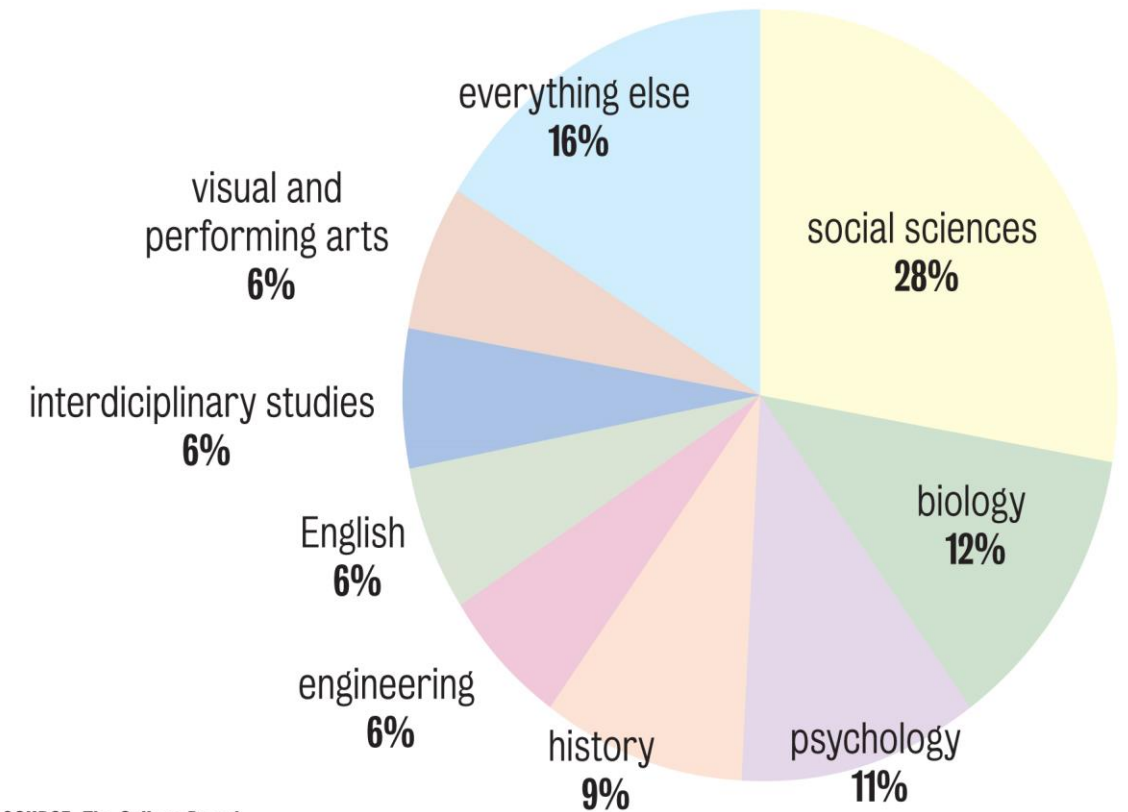


# Major/Minor Option(s)

- There's a good chance a student will change his/her mind.
- The Education Department says that about 30 percent of students switch majors at least once
- According to a [September Gallup survey](#). Only 11 percent of high school seniors had sought guidance from a high school counselor, and 28 percent from a college adviser.
- Time = Money over a four-year span.

## UCLA'S MOST POPULAR MAJORS

Percentage of total UCLA undergraduate students enrolled in each major



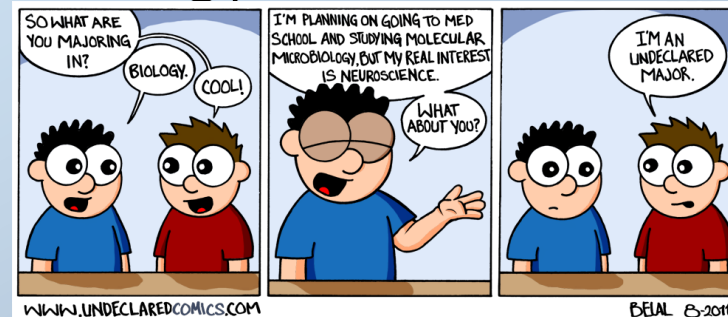
SOURCE: The College Board

# Choosing Major/Minor Myth

- **If you want to make the big bucks, STEM is the best pathway**

According to Douglas A. Webber, an associate professor of economics at Temple University [who studies earnings by academic field](#), the top quarter of earners who majored in English make more over their lifetimes than the bottom quarter of chemical engineers.

- For example, an English major in the 60th percentile makes \$2.76 million in a lifetime, a major in psychology \$2.57 million and a history major \$2.64 million.



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# From A College Participants Perspective

- In other words, you have to make good grades, and complete enough classes (credits, hours, etc.), maintain good communication with college professionals (professors, advisors, deans, & financial aid representatives) to keep moving toward successfully completing your degree or certificate in your desired major area. Keeping in a time period that's acceptable to your school.



# School's SA Policy

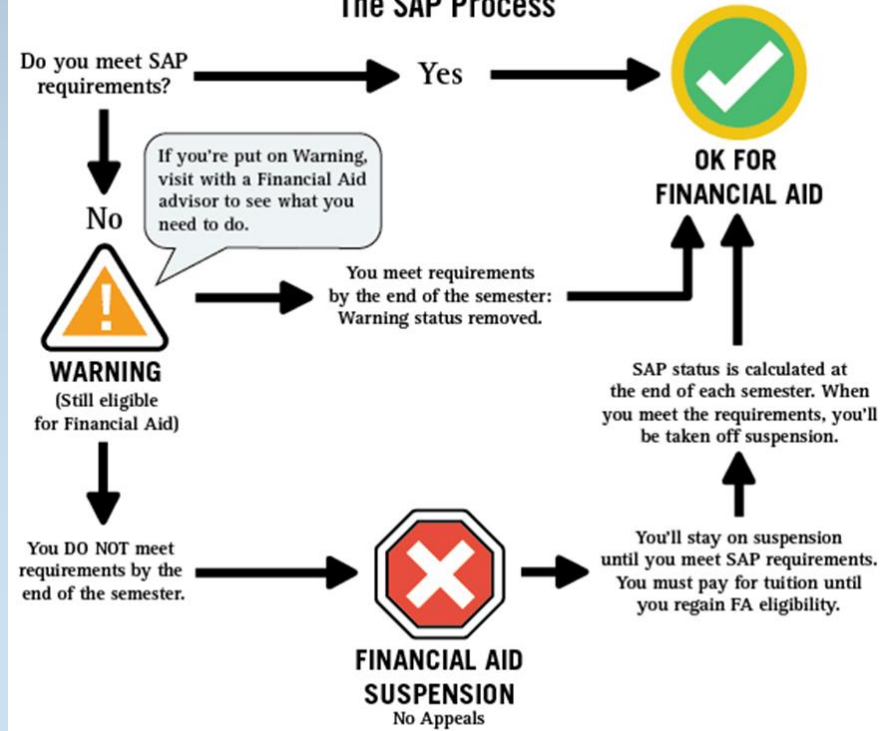


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- Financial Aid Office representative(s) will tell you:
  - what grade-point average (or equivalent standard) you need to maintain;
  - how quickly you need to be moving toward graduation (for instance, how many credits you should have successfully completed by the end of each year);
  - how an incomplete class, withdrawal, repeated class, change of major, or transfer of credits from another school affects your satisfactory academic progress;
  - how often your school will evaluate your progress;
  - what will happen if you fail to make satisfactory academic progress when your school evaluates you;
  - whether you are allowed to appeal your school's decision that you haven't made satisfactory academic progress (reasons for appeal usually include the death of a member of your family, your illness or injury, or other special circumstances); and
  - Complete your FAFSA regardless of your SAP progress
  - how you can [regain eligibility](#) for federal student aid.



## The SAP Process







# Resources: References

- <https://fafsa.gov/>
- <https://public.tableau.com/profile/douglas.webber#!/vizhome/LifetimeEarningsbyMajor/Sheet1>
- <http://stradaeducation.gallup.com/reports/219236/major-influence-students-valued-advice-study-college.aspx>
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/regain>
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out>
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