Nevada State University
Career Services Center

Nevada State University
Student Academic Success

Academic and Career Explorers

Welcome!

At Nevada State, we believe that discovering your path is just as important as reaching your destination. If you haven't chosen a major yet, that's not a setback —it's an opportunity.

As an Explorer, you're joining a community of curious, open-minded students who are intentionally taking time to find the best academic and career fit. We know the beginning of this journey can feel uncertain. With so many choices, it's hard to know where to begin.

That's where the Academic and Career Explorers program comes in. Through personalized advising, a supportive first-year seminar, and hands-on discovery experiences, you'll explore your strengths, uncover your interests, and gain clarity about what comes next.

By the time you complete the program, you won't just be choosing a major—you'll be making an informed decision with purpose and confidence.

This program is facilitated by the Career Services Center and the Vice Provost for Student Academic Success as well as in part by FYE 101 instructors and the Academic Advising Center.

Kaytee Johns, MS
Director, Career Services Center

Gregory Robinson, PhD
Vice Provost, Student Academic Success

Who are Explorers?

Explorers are NSU students with less than 30 completed college credits who have not yet declared a major. You may be:

- Considering multiple areas of interest
- Looking for career clarity before committing to a major
- Reassessing your academic goals after a change in direction

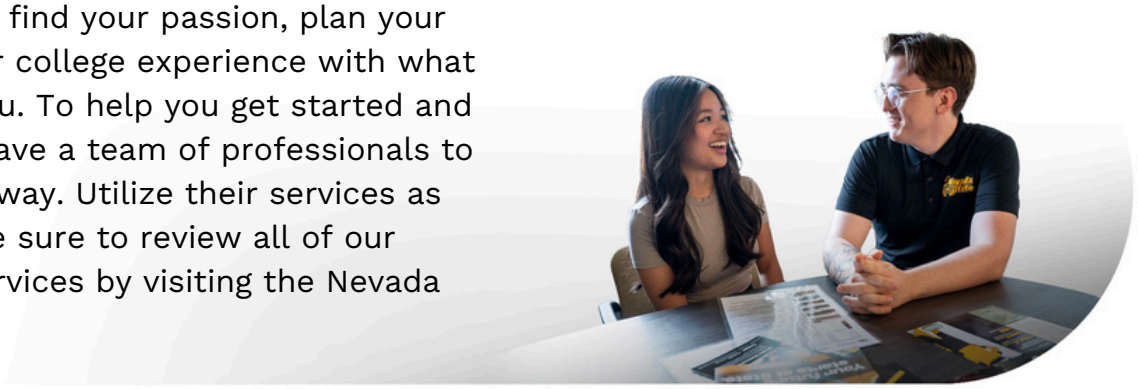
Explorers take core curriculum courses while retaining their classification as a degree - seeking student.

Limitations & Considerations

- Transfer students admitted to Nevada State with 31 or more credits cannot declare the Explorer designation.
- Students with the Explorer designation may only take courses that fulfill core curriculum requirements to be eligible for financial aid.
- Students must first declare a major before they can declare a minor. Therefore you cannot add a minor as an Explorer.
- Students who are exploring majors in physical or life sciences, health sciences (including nursing), education, speech pathology or mathematics should be aware that these programs have rigid course sequences. Explorers should meet with an Academic Advisor to discuss pathways they are considering to ensure they complete required core curriculum courses for majors of interest to avoid substantial delays in degree progression.

Your Success Team

We aim to help you find your passion, plan your path, and align your college experience with what matters most to you. To help you get started and stay on track, we have a team of professionals to help you along the way. Utilize their services as often as needed! Be sure to review all of our student support services by visiting the Nevada State website.



1. Academic Advisors (Academic Advising Center)

- Help you select general education and exploratory courses
- Guide degree planning and timelines
- Support your major declaration process

2. Career Advisors (Career Services Center)

- Facilitate career assessments and help you explore career options
- Help you research job trends and understand requirements and qualifications for various careers
- Support you with resume development, interviewing skills, internships and career planning

3. Success Coaches (Academic Success Center)

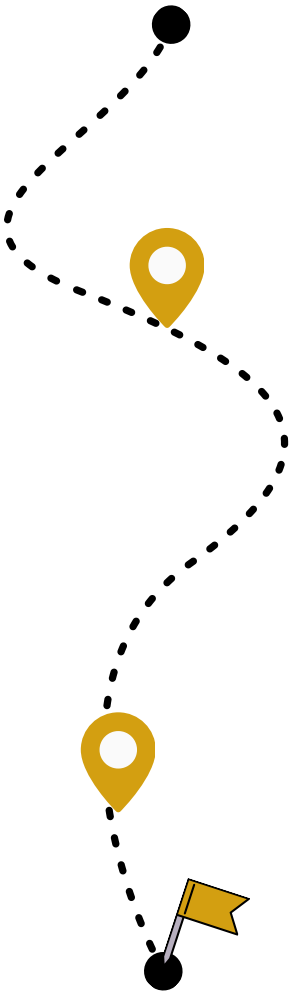
- Help you build academic habits and time management skills
- Connect you with tutoring, mentoring, and support services

4. Resource Coordinators & Peer Mentors (Student Transition & Retention; STAR)

- Help you find student communities
- Support your transition into life in college
- Help you learn how to get involved on campus

Milestones

We aim to help you find your passion, plan your path, and align your college experience with what matters most to you.



Before your first semester

- Schedule an appointment with an Academic Advisor to enroll in courses, including the designated Explorer section of FYE 101 (First Year Experience)

First Semester

- Take engaging classes, including FYE 101, in our Core Curriculum
- Review academic majors offered at Nevada State; begin narrowing down majors of interest
- Attend at least one career event hosted by the Career Services Center

Second Semester

- Finalize your intended major and declare it by the credit limit (30 credits)
  - Optional: Add a minor
- Work with your Academic Advisor to draft a preliminary graduation plan based on your intended major
- Continue attending events hosted by the Career Services Center to explore your options and prepare for your future career!

Explorers and the Core Curriculum

Nevada State requires all students to complete our Core Curriculum, no matter what major they ultimately declare. Since all majors require classes from the Core Curriculum, you can take a variety of classes in different disciplines without hindering your progress toward graduation. Examples of Core Curriculum classes include:

Courses that foster your creativity & expression, like ART 100: Visual Foundations. Explore the building blocks of visual art while creating your own projects. No prior art experience required!

Courses that help you develop critical thinking, like CRJ 104: Introduction to Administration of Justice: Learn about legal systems, crime, and justice—and how social structures impact equity and safety.

Courses that give you insights into yourself and others, like PSY 101: Introduction to Psychology: An engaging look at how the human mind works—perfect for students interested in people, learning, and behavior.

Courses that teach you about science and discovery, like AST 103: Introduction to Astronomy: Explore planets, stars, black holes, and galaxies—no telescope required! This course opens your mind to the universe and our place in it.

Courses that help you communicate clearly, like ENG 101/102: Composition I & II: Foundational writing courses that help you articulate your ideas clearly—vital no matter what major you choose.

Frequently Asked Questions

When should I declare a major?
You will need to declare a major by the time you've earned 30 credits. This might be a tough decision, but we're here to support.

Can I change my major later?
Yes, many students change their major at least once. What matters is making informed choices.

What if I don't know what I like yet?
That's okay. That's what the Academic and Career Explorers Program is for. We will help you uncover your interests and strengths and find a path that works for you.

Who should I contact for more questions?
If you have questions about admittance to Nevada State, please contact Admissions & Recruitment. For questions specifically about the Explorers program, please contact the Career Services Center.

Important Contacts

Career Services Center
Location: Roger's Student Center (RSC) - Suite 128
Email: career@nevadastate.edu
Phone: 702-992-2611
Website: nevadastate.edu/career

Admissions & Recruitment
Location: Raker Student Success Center (RSS) - 1st Floor
Email: recruitment@nevadastate.edu
Phone: 702-992-2170
Website: nevadastate.edu/admissions

Academic Advising Center
Location: Raker Student Success Center (RSS) - Suite 250
Email: aac@nevadastate.edu
Phone: 702-992-2610
Website: nevadastate.edu/advising

Academic Success Center
Location: Roger's Student Center (RSC) - 2nd Floor
Email: asc@nevadastate.edu
Phone: 702-992-2990
Website: nevadastate.edu/asc

Student Transition & Retention
Email: star@nevadastate.edu
Phone: 702-992-2680

Be bold. Be great. Be State.