



Downing Student Union, A330  
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11052  
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1052

Phone: (270) 745-5065  
Fax: (270) 745-3856  
[exploratory.programs@wku.edu](mailto:exploratory.programs@wku.edu)



Dear Exploratory Student,

Welcome to the Exploratory Program! We know that choosing a major can be a stressful process, but the Academic Advising & Retention Center can help. We are centrally located on campus in Downing Student Union, and we are also the central hub of advising. Whether you need assistance choosing classes, want more information on a particular major, or are having an issue and you are not sure where to go, our staff is here to help you. Do not hesitate to email us, call us, or even stop by our office to set up an appointment to speak with your academic advisor.

Exploring major options before making an educated decision can greatly impact your time here at WKU. Many students enter college as Exploratory students. Out of those who enter with a chosen major, up to 80% are still unsure of their choice. Did you know that more than 60% of students change their major at least one time?

You will be working with Chris, Jessica, or Kassy this year. As your academic advisors, we are your go-to campus contacts should you have any problems. Be on the lookout for emails from us—we will be sending you important information throughout the year as well as campus and Exploratory activities and opportunities. We are excited you are joining us this year and we can't wait to see where you will go next.

Sincerely,

Christopher Jensen  
Assistant Director  
[christopher.jensen@wku.edu](mailto:christopher.jensen@wku.edu)

Jessica Dorris  
Exploratory Advisor  
[jessica.dorris@wku.edu](mailto:jessica.dorris@wku.edu)

Kassy Fineout  
Exploratory Advisor  
[kassy.fineout@wku.edu](mailto:kassy.fineout@wku.edu)

# The Exploratory Program

---

## Mission:

The Exploratory Program is an initiative of the Academic Advising & Retention Center (AARC) created to lead Exploratory students on a path to self discovery. Students will explore the wide array of majors that WKU has to offer. The Exploratory Program will empower students to make well informed decisions regarding their major and career options. Students who utilize the Exploratory Program will build a foundation of success in order to persist to graduation.

Students participating in the Exploratory Program will:

- Connect with campus departments, faculty, staff and students beginning at orientation;
- Express a sense of pride being an Exploratory student at WKU through campus engagement and connections;
- Exhibit knowledge of campus resources through engagement in campus events including extracurricular and academic activities each semester;
- Be academically successful through recognition and utilization of campus resources such as tutoring services, The Learning Center, etc. each semester;
- Communicate effectively and professionally with faculty, staff and peers;
- Be actively engaged citizens through volunteer opportunities and civic engagement;
- Explore and familiarize themselves with WKU colleges, academic departments, and careers in order to commit to a major before they have earned 59+ hours.

