

With so many career and college major options available today, more and more new students embrace the idea of coming into college undeclared while investing time and energy into researching different paths. Purdue University's Exploratory Studies program utilizes a knowledgeable staff of academic advisors, required coursework, innovative teaching methods, and a low student to advisor ratio to guide these students to their chosen destination.

The academic advisors in Exploratory Studies offer advising unique to each student. Students and advisors work together to explore possibilities and find the best fit to meet the students' goals through highly individualized advising meetings and a required, academically rigorous, three credit hour exploring course.

The program has experienced extraordinary growth since its inception in 1996. Historical data supports the notion that students who take the time to investigate options make better decisions. Indeed, 88% of Exploratory Students who finish college do not change their mind once they have declared their major. The program's success is further proven through students' successful entrance into any major at Purdue as well as high student confidence in discovering and being able to better communicate their interests, abilities, career, and life goals once they exit the program.

The vision for Exploratory Studies to "be an exemplary advising program in the nation for exploratory students" has remained unchanged over the program's 22-year history. The program has seen great success in student outcomes and is viewed by many as a model program for how to successfully support undecided students through their journey.