

Exploratory Studies

McKendree University encourages students to explore their interests and make informed decisions about their majors and future careers. At McKendree, many resources are offered to help students identify their strengths and select meaningful career paths.

The exploratory studies program is designed to provide students who are undecided about a specific major a structured curricular plan that will enable them to take required general education courses and explore various career interests. Exploratory studies is a program, not a major; thus, students may not graduate with an Exploratory Studies major. At some point, students must select a baccalaureate major leading to a degree. The Office of Career Services will work closely with students enrolled in the exploratory studies program to help them learn about various resources, including online career assessments and career counseling.

In addition to taking general education classes, students enrolled in the exploratory studies program will take one or more of the following courses:

UNI 101	UNIVERSITY 101	
	(Sections specifically designed for exploratory studies students)	1
UNI 201	CAREER DECISION MAKING	2

University Courses (UNI)

UNI 101 UNIVERSITY 101 This course is focused on orientating students to college life, engaging them in campus activities, assisting them in the development of essential academic, college, and life skills, and providing opportunities to meet and work with faculty and staff from across campus. This course is for first-year, Lebanon campus students only.	1	UNI 110 ACADEMIC STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS This course provides academic support for students, focusing on the acquisition of knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with successful academic performance, career, and personal development. Topic include: approaches to learning, test preparation, academic goal setting, self-regulated behavior, developing an academic self-concept, becoming part of a scholarly community, active versus passive learning, and developing habits of mind for success.	3
UNI 102 FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SUCCESS This course helps students assess their academic skills and become strong, effective learners. Students develop learning strategies such as test preparation, notetaking, study skills, and final exam preparation. Students will also have the opportunity to reflect on their academic experiences—including motivations, achievements, and obstacles—create a plan for success, and develop a better understanding of the financial responsibilities of college and the skills and behaviors necessary to meet these responsibilities.	1	UNI 201 CAREER DECISION MAKING This is a discussion-based course that focuses on examining one's life purpose by exploring the world of work. Special attention is placed on understanding how personal values, beliefs, and interests relate to career decision making. The course is designed for any student who has not yet chosen a major or students who would like to explore post-graduation career options.	2
UNI 103 READING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT This course is designed to advance students' reading comprehension skills in areas such as vocabulary development, predicting outcomes, making inferences, finding central themes, supporting details, and reading between the lines. A genre of reading material will be used to help students reach college-level reading comprehension.	1	UNI 202 CAREERS, THE JOB SEARCH, AND BEYOND This course is designed to offer junior and senior-level undergraduate students the opportunity to explore various aspects of the working world and their role as actors in the professional arena. This course, restricted to the above class levels, takes students from a glimpse into self-assessment to discovery of career choice, the job search, life in the workplace, financial planning, and the path for continued career development so that students are well prepared to enter into the professional world.	1
UNI 104 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRANSITION This course provides resources and strategies to help international students acclimate to U.S. college life, engage them in campus activities, assist them in the development of essential academic, college, and life skills, and provide opportunities to meet and work with faculty and staff from across campus. This course is for first-year, Lebanon campus international students and transfer international students only.	1	UNI 208 INTELLECTUAL CLIMATE SEMINAR This course is designed to accompany the many intellectual climate events that occur at McKendree. Events may include the following: Hett speakers, Hett performing arts events, Hett films, Brown Bag presentations, poetry readings, and art gallery exhibitions. The primary goal of the seminar is to prepare students to appreciate the political, cultural, and artistic contexts of each event. To do so, students will read each speaker's writings (if applicable), watch films, and engage in discussions that will deepen their understanding of the issues addressed in the work. Students will also deliver presentations on the speakers' topics and write reflection papers throughout the course.	1
UNI 105 ORIENTATION TO MCKENDREE ONLINE This course is required of all students entering an online program. Students will be introduced to McKendree University resources and will be provided assistance establishing various accounts. Brightspace, Self-Service, Outlook, and library services will be introduced. Each orientation will also provide information specific to the student's major.	0	UNI 280-89 SPECIAL TOPICS This course will cover topics not in the regular curriculum.	1
UNI 106 TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS This course serves as an introduction to the McKendree University experience. Students will be introduced to McKendree University resources and will be aided in establishing various accounts. Students will learn about campus co-curricular offerings. The course also will emphasize taking responsibility for one's education. This course is for first-semester transfer students on the Lebanon campus. Each semester.	0		