



Major/ Career Connections

The "R" Interest Cluster: "Realistic"

Matching Personalities with Majors/ Careers

Majors and careers can be clustered into 6 broad interest areas that correspond to 6 different personality types. Based on the research of Dr. John Holland, this clustering system provides a preliminary way to identify undergraduate majors and careers that might be a satisfying fit for you. **Because personality, majors, and careers are too complex to be described by a single interest theme, you will see that the lists below have a 3 letter code to more accurately describe majors and careers using a combination of related interests (in order of importance).** This "Realistic" sheet reflects the interest cluster that ranks the "R" theme first, but be sure to review the other 5 sheets to see if any of those themes (A,I,S,C,E) are more descriptive of your interests.

Am I Realistic?

Check off your interests, values, abilities, and qualities to find out.

Interests	Values	Talents & Abilities	Qualities
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Few, close friends	<input type="checkbox"/> Athletic ability	<input type="checkbox"/> Stable
<input type="checkbox"/> Sports activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Practical things	<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical, electrical skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent
<input type="checkbox"/> Hands-on tasks	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear goals	<input type="checkbox"/> Managing tasks	<input type="checkbox"/> Efficient
<input type="checkbox"/> Tools, machines	<input type="checkbox"/> Showing vs. telling	<input type="checkbox"/> Common sense	<input type="checkbox"/> Action oriented
<input type="checkbox"/> Animals, plants	<input type="checkbox"/> Things vs. people	<input type="checkbox"/> Problem solving	<input type="checkbox"/> Reliable
<input type="checkbox"/> Building things	<input type="checkbox"/> Tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> Working w/ plants, animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Logical

These are characteristics of the realistic type. Realistic people are aggressive, prefer concrete vs. abstract tasks, and are less sociable and less skilled at interpersonal interactions. They have athletic or mechanical ability and often prefer to work outdoors with objects, machines, tools, plants, or animals. If this sounds like you, read on. If not, try one of the other five interest cluster sheets.

What Majors are Realistic?

Following is a small sample of majors a realistic person might choose:

Major (Interest Code)	School	Major (Interest Code)	School
Anthropology (IRE)*	LIBA	Electrical Engineering Technology (RIE)	ET
Aeronautical/ Aerospace Eng. (RIE)	NA	Environmental Science/ Health (IRE)*	SPEA
Agricultural Animal Nutrition (RES)	NA	Forestry Sciences (RIS)	NA
Chemical Engineering (IRS)	NA	Marine Biology (IRS)	NA
Computer Engineering Tech. (REI)	ET	Materials Engineering (REI)	NA
Civil Engineering Technology (IRE)	ET	Mechanical Engineering (RIS)*	ET
Computer Science (IRE)	SCI	Museum Studies (REI)	LIBA
Construction Technology (RIC)	ET	Natural Resource Conservation (RIE)	NA
Electrical Engineering (RIE)*	ET	Pre-veterinary Medicine (IRS)	SCI

* Select a profile sheet for information on these majors. Majors in **bold** are not offered at IUPUI.

What Careers are Realistic?

Following is a small sample of careers a realistic person might choose:

Accountant (CRS)	Forester (RIS)
Aeronautical Engineer (IRS)	Geologist (RIE)
Agricultural Engineer (IRE)	Industrial Hygienist (IRE)
Airline Pilot (RIE)	Materials Engineer (REI)
Anesthesiologist (IRS)	Mechanical Engineer (RIS)
Appraiser (RIS)	Neurologist (IRS)
Biochemist (IRS)	Occupational Therapist (SRE)
Chemical Engineer (IRE)	Plant Engineer (RIE)
Civil Engineer (IRE)	Police Officer (RSE)
Chemist (IRE)	Programmer, Engineering and Scientific (IRE)
Construction Superintendent (ERS)	Project Manager, Environmental Research (REI)
Electrical Engineer (IRE)	Special Agent, Customs (RSI)

Definitions of the above job titles can be found at www.doleta.gov/programs/onet. For additional realistic majors or careers consult your academic advisor or a career counselor.

How do I Select a Major/Career?

Selecting a major/career is a very involved process, requiring careful evaluation of yourself as well as academic and occupational information. No single questionnaire, assessment, or person can tell you what you should pursue. In order to make the best choices, it is important to consider your unique combination of interests, values, abilities, personality, and experiences. **Keep in mind that majors and careers can accommodate a wide range of interests; exact fit is not necessary for academic and career satisfaction.** The majors/careers above are suggested only as starting points for your exploration. Specific major/career decisions can be discussed in more detail with your academic advisor or career counselor. For more information on choosing a major you may also want to check out www.iupui.edu/~career1/studentsf.html.



Where Can I get More Information?



Assessing Academic/ Career Interests (Holland code with link to careers/ IUPUI courses)	testing.tc.iupui.edu/online/merkler (must use campus computer only)
Schools/Majors/ Degrees Offered at IUPUI	www.iupui.edu/academic/schooldegrees.htm
Course Requirements for each IUPUI Major	uc.iupui.edu/checksht/home.asp#A
Course Descriptions for all IUPUI Courses	bulletin.iupui.edu
“What I can do with a Major in...?”	www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/majors.htm www.utexas.edu/student/careercenter/career_ideas
Academic Advising at IUPUI	http://uc.iupui.edu/Aa/FAQ/Questions/Advising.asp
Career Counseling at IUPUI	www.iupui.edu/~career
Career Profiles (salary, outlook, educational requirements, etc)	http://stats.bls.gov/oco/home.htm http://www.icpac.indiana.edu/careers/career_profiles/