

Highlighter Method:

The highlighter method gives you a way to compare majors or programs by diving into the details and then allowing you to step back to look at the big picture.

You will need two different colored highlighters and print outs from the Undergraduate Catalog of the requirements for each major you want to compare. Follow this link the catalog:

<http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/>

Step one: Select one highlighter to be “good” and one to be “bad.” For example, I like to use pink and green. Green for me is “good” because green means “go” and pink is “bad.”

Step two: Find the list of required courses for the first major of interest.

Step three: Read the course description for each required course in the major. Decide whether this course sounds “good” (interesting, valuable, fun) or if it sounds “bad” and highlight accordingly. Be careful when the major allows you to choose one of several courses, you don’t have to like all the options, just one course. Highlight that one course as “good.” If you don’t like any of the options, select one course to highlight as “bad.”

Repeat steps one through three for all majors of interest.

Step four: Lay the highlighted pages out in front of you, grouped together by major, and visually compare, looking for majors with more “good” highlighter color.

Don’t totally disregard majors where you have only some green. If you are genuinely interested in 5 or 6 courses from this program you might want to consider it for a minor instead of a major. If none of the majors you highlighted come across as predominantly green you may want to explore other options.

Remember that I am always happy to help you through the process, discuss your results with you and provide contacts from any of the majors on campus so that you can gather more information to help compare and select the right program for you.