Admission to SPU Majors

Most of SPU's 72 majors are “open,” which means they are available to any student who is in good academic standing (minimum 2.0 GPA). Students newly-admitted to SPU may directly enter any open major at the time of admission by reconfirming their intended major online at the start of their first quarter at SPU.

A small number of majors have limited capacity, and therefore require a competitive admission process. Additionally, admission to a few of SPU’s art- and design-related majors depends on the quality of the student’s work as demonstrated by submission of a portfolio.

Open Majors

Apparel Design (BA)                             Health and Fitness Education (BA)
Apparel Merchandising (BA)                      History (BA)
Applied Human Biology (BS)                      Human Development & Family Studies (BA)
Applied Mathematics (BS)                        Information Systems (BS)
Art (BA)                                        Integrated Studies (for Elementary
Art History and Visual Studies (BA)             Teachers) (BA)
Asian Studies (BA)                              Interior Design Merchandising (BA)
Biochemistry (BS)                               Journalism (BA)
Biology (BA and BS)                             Life Science (BA)
Cellular and Molecular Biology (BS)             Linguistics and Cultural Studies (BA)
Chemistry (BA and BS)                           Mathematics (BA and BS)
Christian Theology (BA)                         Mechanical Engineering (BS)
Classics (BA)                                   Music Education (BA)
Communication Studies (BA)                      Music (BA)
Computer Engineering (BS)                       Philosophy (BA)
Computer Science (BA and BS)                   Physical Sciences: 3/2 Program (BA)
Costume Design and Production (BA)             Physics (BA and BS)
Criminal Justice (BA)                           Physiology (BS)
Early Childhood Education (BA)                 Political Science (BA)
Ecology (BS)                                    Politics, Philosophy & Economics (BA)
Electrical Engineering (BS)                     Psychology (BA and BS)
English (BA)                                    Social Justice & Cultural Studies (BA)
Exercise Science (BS)                           Sociology (BA)
Family & Consumer Science – Secondary Ed (BA)   Spanish Studies (BA)
Film Studies (BA)                              Special Education (BA)
Food & Nutritional Sciences (BS)               Theatre (BA)
French & Francophone Studies (BA)              
General Engineering (BS)
Majors Requiring a Portfolio

Two majors require presentation of a portfolio as part of the competitive admission process:

Illustration (BA)
Interior Design (BA) [Note that Interior Design Merchandising does not require a portfolio]

The Art Department reviews portfolios for the Art major and Visual Communication major in early fall quarter (second Tuesday of September), early winter quarter (fourth Tuesday of January), and early spring quarter (third Tuesday of April). Portfolio guidelines are in the Undergraduate Catalog.

The Family and Consumer Sciences Department reviews Interior Design portfolios once a year. The deadline for submission is the first Friday of spring quarter in early April. View portfolio guidelines here (pdf). Students will prepare their application (written and portfolio) in one specific course – FCS 2204 – offered each year in winter quarter.

Limited Enrollment Majors

Accounting (BA)**
Business Administration (BA)**
Economics (BA)**
General Studies (BA)
Global Development Studies (BA)
Honors Liberal Arts (BA)
Music Therapy (BA)
Nursing (BS)**
Nutrition and Dietetics (BS)
Professional Studies (BA)
Student designed majors
Visual Communication (BA)**

**Students who meet specific GPA and course prerequisite criteria may be eligible to be directly admitted to this major at the time of admission to the university. Eligibility for direct admission will be evaluated in the admission process based on the student’s GPA and completion of certain prerequisites.

Students who are not eligible for direct admission to one of these limited enrollment majors should apply for general admission to the university and will have the opportunity to apply to the major once prerequisites and GPA requirements have been satisfied.

Students who enter SPU with junior or senior standing should identify and enter their major within their first two quarters at SPU. Later decisions are possible, but may impact the student’s timely completion of a degree.

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