Program in Exploratory Studies

Assistant Director
University Exploration & Advising Center

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Program in Exploratory Studies
Home to over 1300 students in 2019

Admission to PES
  • Direct
  • Alternative based on original application

PES students transfer into one of 7 different colleges/schools, typically after 1st year

Focus of PES → Exploration
How to Start Exploring: Ask Yourself

- Why CU Boulder?
- What are you interested in?
- What do you value?
- What do you hope to accomplish with your degree?
Career: What Employers Want

- 85% of job success comes from transferable skills:
  - express thoughts and ideas clearly – both written and oral
  - interpersonal: empathy, diplomacy, relating to others
  - strategic thinking
  - presentation skills
  - project management – ability to plan and execute effectively
  - embracing inclusiveness
  - work confidently in a group

Research conducted by Harvard University, the Carnegie Foundation, and the Stanford Research Center
Degree: Yours to Create

- Combine your passions and interests - customize your academic and career path
- Major does not = career
- Engage in experiential learning: internships, volunteer, research, and other hands-on experiences are key

(Bureau of Labor Statistics)
Multiple Pathways

Interested in technology?

How about a major, minor, or certificate in:

- Information Science in Media, Communication and Information
- Computer Science in Engineering
- Creative Technology & Design in Engineering
- Music Technology in Music
- Statistics and Data Science in Arts & Sciences
- Mathematics - Computational Track in Arts & Sciences

https://www.colorado.edu/exploratorystudies/discover
How We Support Students - Academic Advising

• Summer support to prepare for enrollment in Fall classes
• Semesterly requirement, daily drop-ins
• Personalize academic path with majors, minors, certificates
• Preparation for transition to all colleges/schools on campus
How We Support Students - Academic Coaching

- Several individual meetings throughout the semester
- Transition from high school to college
- Focus on study skills, learning strategies, and executive functioning skills
- Reach competitive academic goals
Courses Designed For Exploration

First Year Seminar (FYSM 1000)

Academic Exploration & Critical Decision Making (FYXP 1000)

Academic Success Seminar (FYXP 1100)

First-Year Interest Groups (FIGs)
Transferring Within CU Boulder

• Intra-University Transfer (IUT):  
  https://www.colorado.edu/office-undergraduate-education/intra-university-transfer

• Every college/school sets their own requirements

• Most require:
  • Successful completion of certain courses
  • Meet minimum grade, GPA and credit hours

• Usually takes at least two semesters to complete

**MYTH** - Starting in PES means I cannot graduate in four years.
Putting It All Together

Fall 2020:

- ECON 2010  Principles of Microeconomics - Leeds IUT
- MATH 2510  Intro to Statistics - Leeds IUT
- PSCI 1101  Intro to American Politics - PSCI Major/Minor
- PHIL 1100  Ethics - PHIL Major/Minor
- FYXP 1000  Academic Exploration & Critical Decision Making

Allows a student to explore interests in Business, Political Science, Philosophy, Law and their intersections
Questions?

Resources
- colorado.edu/exploratorystudies
- colorado.edu/academics/create-your-personal-journey
- colorado.edu/office-undergraduate-education/intra-university-transfer
- colorado.edu/business/current-students/pre-business-program/prospective-pre-business-program-students

PES Email: ExploratoryStudies@colorado.edu

Upcoming Virtual Information Fairs:
https://ugrad.apply.colorado.edu/portal/virtual-info-fairs
  Academic & Information Fair: Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 3:00–7:00 p.m. MDT
  Housing & Involvement Fair: Monday, April 27, 2020, 1:00–5:00 p.m. MDT