Program Description

Explorations is a nationally recognized, one-year program for first-year students undecided about a major. Students may apply directly to Explorations or may, in some cases, be referred to the program by the admissions office. Students entering Explorations, a program unique to the University of Maine System, can feel confident about their experience. It is a unique opportunity to build a network of professionals on campus who will guide them through their first year and quickly move them into their chosen major.

Specialized Information

You should not worry about being undecided. If you are not sure about your academic interests, if your academic interests fall within more than one specific college at the University of Maine or if you have not decided which college major would best serve your needs, then Explorations may help you. Research indicates that a substantial number of students enter college without a specific major in mind. Explorations has been designed specifically to meet the needs of such undecided students.

Explorations students select from the same college courses taken by other degree students at the university. These courses will be used to complete general education requirements that are required of all UMaine students and are intended to provide a strong foundation when students select their major. Courses are selected to help students explore their interests and help them select their major.

Credits taken in the Explorations program transfer to any college or program. First-year students enrolled in the Explorations program are required to take a first-year seminar taught by their academic advisor. This seminar meets once a week for 50 minutes. Students must pass the seminar as an entrance requirement to their chosen major. In addition to the seminar, all coursework completed while in the Explorations program will fulfill program requirements once the major is chosen.

Students in Explorations may be invited to participate in the Honors College.

Admission Requirements (In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I and II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (including biology)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (same language or two years of American Sign Language)

Academic electives (to equal at least 17 credits)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.