There are numerous studies, which indicate that most college students change majors prior to graduation. Although the actual number of changes to and from majors is not agreed upon, it is safe to say that most students will change at least once between freshman year and graduation. It is crucial that students determine the major that best fits their interests and abilities as early as possible. All majors at SJSU are “impacted” or full and as such changing majors has become increasingly challenging. Students may no longer simply declare a major, but now must be “accepted” into a major by meeting the impaction criteria of the requested major. This week we will begin an exploration of pathways to graduation consisting of a primary pathway towards graduation and alternate paths to an SJSU degree. You will grapple with developing academic success plans for a primary and secondary major, to assist you in identifying the major(s) most suitable for your interests and abilities. The “Pathways” assignment will be your vehicle of exploration, so drive it well and good luck!
Purpose:
The purpose of the Pathways assignment is to help you develop “pathways” to graduation. As all majors are impacted, it is important that you select a major that emphasizes your strengths and will facilitate your timely graduation from SJSU.

If you are an undeclared or assigned undeclared student, you have a limited amount of time to identify, apply, and be accepted into a major. The same is true if you are considering changing your major or determine that you won’t be successful in your current major. This assignment provides the opportunity to research two different majors to facilitate your selection or change of major.

Planner Instructions:
1. Complete 2 pathways academic planners, one for your primary major and one for your alternate major.
The planner should include the following (depending on your class level):
   a. General Education (GE) courses both core and SJSU studies
   b. Major courses including any major prerequisites
   c. Kin Activity courses (2)
   d. American Institutions requirement

   On the academic planner identify if the course is a GE, major, or general elective course (if applicable). If it’s a GE specify the category it meets, e.g., A3 or B4. The planner should begin with the current semester and continue until all requirements are met; the total number of units should add up to 120 (unless major total differs).

2. Work on developing a graduation success plan. As you work on your plan take into account the following:
   a. Do you work? How many hours per week?
   b. How many hours can you dedicate to study per week? Use the study formula in reverse and calculate the number of courses that you have time to study for. (If 2 X number of units = minimum study hours then study hours divided by 2 = number of recommended units)
   c. Are you full time or part time?

3. Declared Majors Only
Students who are declared can obtain signatures from their major or center advisor. Your alternate major Pathways planner does not require a signature.

4. Undeclared Students Only
   Students who are undeclared must obtain final signature from an AARS advisor for each pathway. You are strongly encouraged to seek information and advising about majors you are interested in from the major department. If possible you may obtain a signature from a major or center advisor on the “Advisor” line if they are willing to sign your plan however your Pathways planner will require a final signature from AARS.

   Questions you may wish to ask advisor
Some of the questions you may want to discuss with your advisor include: Are some courses usually offered in Fall or Spring semesters or only? If so, which semester? Can courses in the major be taken at other institutions?

5. The Pathway plan is an Activity Section homework assignment worth 100 points. The Pathway plan must be submitted to your activity instructor for final review and subsequently recorded by your PA once your plan has been accepted and graded.