**Guided Pathways & Majors for Matadors**

**4 Pillars of Guided Pathways**

* Clarify the Path – Create clear curricular pathways to employment and further education.
* Enter the path – Help students choose and enter their pathway.
* Stay on the Path – Help students stay on their path.
* Ensure Learning – Ensure that learning is happening with intentional outcomes.

**What are Meta Majors?** Programs are gathered into broad categories of related areas of study called Meta Majors. Meta

Majors are educational pathways that have related disciplines and student experiences. They include program maps (course sequences, student support, and program learning outcomes) that meet academic and/or industry requirements across several disciplines and specific programs of study. Enrollment and completion of courses within a Meta Major guides students through initial foundational requirements, into more specific programs of study. Meta Majors allow students freedom of choice while supporting them toward a degree or certificate.

Benefits of Meta Majors:

* Students do not have to declare a major immediately
* Fewer excess credits and less uncertainty about requirements for completion
* Planned intentional exploration of careers and opportunities within a general field of study

**Why not specific degrees?** When students transfer to any of the three state universities to complete a degree, course requirements and articulation varies. In other words, some courses required for an Engineering degree at UofA, may not be required at ASU; similarly, some courses accepted as direct transfer at NAU may only count as elective credit at UofA. This means students have to determine their program of study quickly and then identify their transfer university—and currently we have over 45 specific major degrees. Additionally, Financial Aid only funds courses specified in the student’s program of study. By eliminating specific majors at AWC and instead focusing on the Associate’s degrees, students are able to tailor their programs of study, explore areas of interest within a Meta Major prior to determining their transfer major, and preserve their financial aid.

**Majors for Matadors:**

**AWC Degree**

**AA/AAS A-Bus/AS/AA/AAS AA/AAS AA/AAS AS/A-Bus/AA/AAS AAS**

**Meta Majors**

Arts, Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences

Business & Computer Info Systems

Education

Healthcare & Public Safety

Science, Engineering, Ag, & Math

Technology, Trades, & Food Sciences