

## ***Become a Major Mentor at UC!***

### **Center for Exploratory Studies**

#### **What is the Center for Exploratory Studies?**

The Center for Exploratory Studies (CES) at the University of Cincinnati is designed to serve students who are undeclared or undecided on majors/ areas of study or would like to explore the academic program options offered at UC. The center will help students to choose their best-fit major(s) through experiential learning opportunities, personal assistance, and academic advising for students who want more information on program options. To learn more about CES see our website at [www.uc.edu/explore](http://www.uc.edu/explore).

#### **What is a Major Mentor?**

A Major Mentor is a student who has been identified by the Center for Exploratory Studies as a peer mentor in a particular area of study. Major Mentors must demonstrate academic excellence, strong interpersonal and communication skills, and must be advanced in their own areas of study.

#### **What does a Major Mentor do?**

A Major Mentor will meet with another University of Cincinnati student who has requested a mentor through the Center for Exploratory Studies. Mentors and mentees may meet in the center, for lunch, at an academic club function or other appropriate times to discuss the mentor's major area of study. Discussion often includes topics such as: what it's like to study in your major, who are the best professors with certain teaching styles, what the program is like, or what other students have to say about studying in your major. A brief training is provided for Major Mentors and they are not expected to conduct academic advising.

#### **What is the time commitment and how does it work?**

The Major Mentor position is flexible based on schedule and availability, as well as the needs of each mentee. When a student requests a Major Mentor through the Center for Exploratory Studies, a staff member will contact you to let you know you have a mentee request. It is then up to the mutual schedules of the Mentor and mentee to determine when to meet, have lunch, talk on the phone, e-mail, or attend a function together. Any single contact or combination of these types of contacts may be needed in order to fully assist the mentee. Often, a mentee may feel she or he has determined all they want to know about your major in just one contact. Major Mentors will not usually be assigned to work with more than one mentee at a time and may often have long gaps when they do not work with any mentees. This is entirely driven by requests of students who would like to have a Major Mentor.