Regardless of the major you choose, your experiences outside the classroom will help you to develop marketable skills to increase your future employability anywhere.

- Internships, volunteering, part-time or summer employment [buffalo.edu/career]
- Research opportunities [curra.buffalo.edu]
- Student clubs and organizations [buffalo.collegiatelink.net]
- Writing skills [www.buffalo.edu/cas/writing]
- Public speaking and community involvement [leadership.buffalo.edu]
- Other workshops [workshops.buffalo.edu]

Changing Your Major (Major Transitions) [advising.buffalo.edu/change]
Choosing a Major [advising.buffalo.edu/choose]
Career Services [buffalo.edu/career]
College of Arts and Sciences [casadvising.buffalo.edu]
Counseling Services [ub-counseling.buffalo.edu]
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences [engineering.buffalo.edu]
Undergraduate Advising [advising.buffalo.edu]
Undergraduate Degree & Course Catalog [undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu]

Are you struggling toward an engineering degree? Is engineering not what you thought it would be — or just not right for you?

If so, then it may be time for you to revise your academic plans. Perhaps you chose engineering because you like problem-solving, did well in high school math and science classes, or have a knack for creativity and innovation. But did you know that there are a number of other fields that will allow you to use and develop these same skills?

Here are some options within engineering that you might not have considered, as well as a few alternative majors to investigate. Speak with an academic advisor for guidance in the decision-making process and to see if you’re able to stay on track to Finish in 4 years.

Student Success and Retention
Office of Student Advising Services
109 Norton Hall
716-645-6013
sas-advisor@buffalo.edu
sas.buffalo.edu

Revised August 2016
Alternative Majors

Architecture
114 Diefendorf Hall • 716-829-5900
ap.buffalo.edu/architecture

In addition to technical skills that relate to constructed and natural environments, architects must have knowledge of human behavior and needs. In this major, students focus on architectural communications, model-making and other visual skills, as well as issues and methods of design and construction. The BS in architecture is useful as a foundation for the architectural field as preparation for a professional degree program or for employment in related areas, such as urban planning, facilities management, real estate or architectural preservation.

Art
202 Center for the Arts • 716-645-6878
art.buffalo.edu

Yes, art! If you like using your creativity and visual abilities, you may enjoy graphic design (BFA or BA). An increasingly wide range of careers value imaging skills and creative problem-solving, including commercial and freelance graphic design, Web and CD-ROM design, and arts management.

Computer Science
338 Davis Hall • 716-645-3180
www.cse.buffalo.edu

Computer science is a suitable alternative to computer engineering. Computer science is the systematic study of algorithmic methods of representing and transforming information, including theory, design, application and efficiency. In addition to algorithms and computation theory, this major focuses on software systems and engineering, artificial intelligence, graphics, networks and databases. Both the BA and the BS programs are excellent preparation for graduate study or professional positions in the computing field.

Environmental Design
114 Diefendorf Hall • 716-829-5900
ap.buffalo.edu/planning

The BA in Environmental Design, offered by Urban and Regional Planning, prepares students for careers that shape our natural and built environments. Through methods of design inquiry, students learn the planning and development of healthy and sustainable communities and acquire skills to improve physical places in which people live, work, and play. Environmental Design encompasses natural landscapes, neighborhood design, buildings, historic assets, ecological features, land development, transportation, and infrastructure systems. Environmental designers help communities make decisions concerning physical development, preservation, safety, mobility, and environmental protection, utilizing the bi-national Buffalo Niagara region as our design workshop.

Geography - Geographic Information Science
105 Wilkeson Quad • 645-2722
buffalo.edu/cas/geography

The GIS (BS) degree teaches how to address social, economic, and environmental problems through the use of geographic information technology. Core concepts, principles, and techniques of geographic information systems and other geospatial information technologies are used to visualize information in ways that reveal relationships, patterns, and trends. This degree allows training in cartography (the art and science of map making), remote sensing (digital information about the earth through electronic sensors), and GIS (a set of theories and tools for analyzing spatial data) as well as sub-disciplines in geography such as physical (e.g., environment) or human (e.g., health) geography.

Mathematics
244 Mathematics Building • 716-645-6284
buffalo.edu/cas/math

A mathematics degree has diverse applications in the social, managerial and physical sciences, and can lead to a career in business and industry, government agencies, teaching or research. The department offers both a BA and a BS as well as a variety of program tracks for students preparing for graduate study in either pure or applied mathematics.

Natural Sciences & Other Majors
undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu

Majoring in one of the sciences is a logical option, due to easily transferable course requirements and similar interests. Whether you choose biology, chemistry, biochemistry, medicinal chemistry, geology or physics, a BA or BS degree can lead to a variety of careers, from ecology to patent law, teaching to public health, meteorology to genetic research. You can also consider the BS degree in accounting or business administration, with a possible concentration in financial analysis or management information systems. Majors such as psychology, English, history, sociology or any other liberal arts field can also be equally attractive to potential employers as a degree in business.