

THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT SAMFORD UNIVERSITY GUIDE TO MAKING DECISIONS

“Whatsoever ye do in work or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.”
- Colossians 3:17

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”
- Philippians 4:13

I. What’s the issue?

First, you need to spend some time to discover what it is you must decide before you begin the decision-making process. Get to the specifics. Do you need to choose a major? Do you wish to change the major you have already declared? Do you want to decide on which graduate school to attend? You will feel less confused and be more in control if you deal with one decision at a time and if you break it down to its most elementary point.

II. What can I do about it?

You need to analyze the decision that’s facing you. The best way to do that is to gather as much information as you can. Good decisions come from learning about the facts. The more facts you know, the more choices you can make. It also helps to identify any obstacles in your way so that you can determine how to deal with them. Once you have gathered a list of viable possibilities, the best thing to do is to begin a process of elimination to narrow the field.

III. What if that doesn’t work?

Always have several backup plans. Be prepared to be flexible. When you get new facts about something, your decision may need to change. Don’t worry; try to go with the flow.

IV. What’s best for me?

Always keep foremost in mind, “Is this decision right for me, based on what I know about myself and my values”? If it doesn’t feel right, chances are it’s not right for you.

V. Do something about it!

Only you can make your decisions and follow through. It’s self-affirming to take positive action for yourself and your future. Once you’ve decided on a positive course of action, STICK TO IT! Show the world what you can do!

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@ www.samford.edu/cardev/tev

Career Development Center
Samford University
Birmingham, AL 35229
(205) 726-2980
career@samford.edu
www.samford.edu/cardev