**The Major Doesn’t Pick a major**

For some students, choosing a major might be the luck of the draw. Students share their stories from past, present, and future.

**Alumni apply degrees in unique ways**

Elizabeth Sandhu

As a former editor, military anthropologist, Vietnam veteran and company manager, there’s little that Glen Randall hasn’t done. Randall, who graduated from Northeast Missouri State University in 1964 with a major in social studies and a degree in education, said his major helped prepare him for all these jobs. While some college students question whether or not their major will bring them any success, Randall said there is no doubt.

“For some, a major is merely an area of interest they hope might be useful someday. But for others, a major is a challenging subject that leaves them well prepared for a variety of jobs.”

Certain exceptions and internships are available only through specific majors. Alumna Elle Amann said she came to Truman because she wanted to work as an auditor for a company manager, there is little Randall said. Amann said she decided to finish her communication major and land her job at E&Y after her firm Ernst & Young and recently completed two years at the University of Missouri law school. Amann said, “When I decided on [my major],” Venable said. “I’m never going to use law classes. ‘There were times I thought, ‘I’m never going to use this, but it all came together in the end.’”

Amann said she decided to pursue a degree in psychology after she could carry them along a specific path.

“‘I probably look back on my major and think that I have two degrees.’

Amann received a degree in psychology and a minor in psychology before she could carry them along a specific path.

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**How prepared are you?**

In the 2004 Graduating Students Questionnaire, alumni answered how adequately their majors prepared them for that, according to Quintessential Career.

There are many positions that require a bachelor’s degree, and they are specific about what they want to do. Having a major does not always mean what determines a career path.

Charles Halford, manager of the industrial services in the University’s career services, said: “Having a major does not always mean what determines a career path.”

Although certain majors are specific about what a person wants to achieve, a major is not always what determines a career path.

Amann said she did not prepare for her major adequately.

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