



# A Community for Completion

*Promising Practices to Increase Completion  
in the Florida College System*

**Volume 4• Issue 1• January 2014**

*From the desk of Narcissus Willis*

## Meta-Major Madness

### Did You Know?

*The meta-major concept was first introduced in December 2012 as a result of a collaborative effort among the Charles A. Dana Center, Complete College America, Inc., Education Commission of the States and Jobs for the Future. The Core Principles for Transforming Remedial Education: A Joint Statement included:*

*Principle 7. Students should enter a meta-major when they enroll in college and start a program of study in their first year, in order to maximize their prospects of earning a college degree.*

### Inside this Issue

META-MAJOR MADNESS 1

META-MAJOR SAMPLES 2-3

MISSION, VISION, 4

CONTACT

Pursuant to section (s.) 1008.30, Florida Statutes (F.S.), *Common Placement Testing for Public Postsecondary Education*, meta-major academic pathways must be developed as a component of each Florida College System institution's approved comprehensive advising plan.

*"Meta-major" may be a new term but it is not a new concept. Advising based on a student's intended program of study is common in the Florida College System.*

### What is a meta-major?

A meta-major is a collection of academic programs that have common or related content (per s. 1008.02 (3), F.S.). The meta-major academic pathways were created to provide Florida College System institutions a method to advise students of the gateway courses aligned with their intended academic and career goals.

Eight meta-majors were identified in rule 6A-14.065, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.):

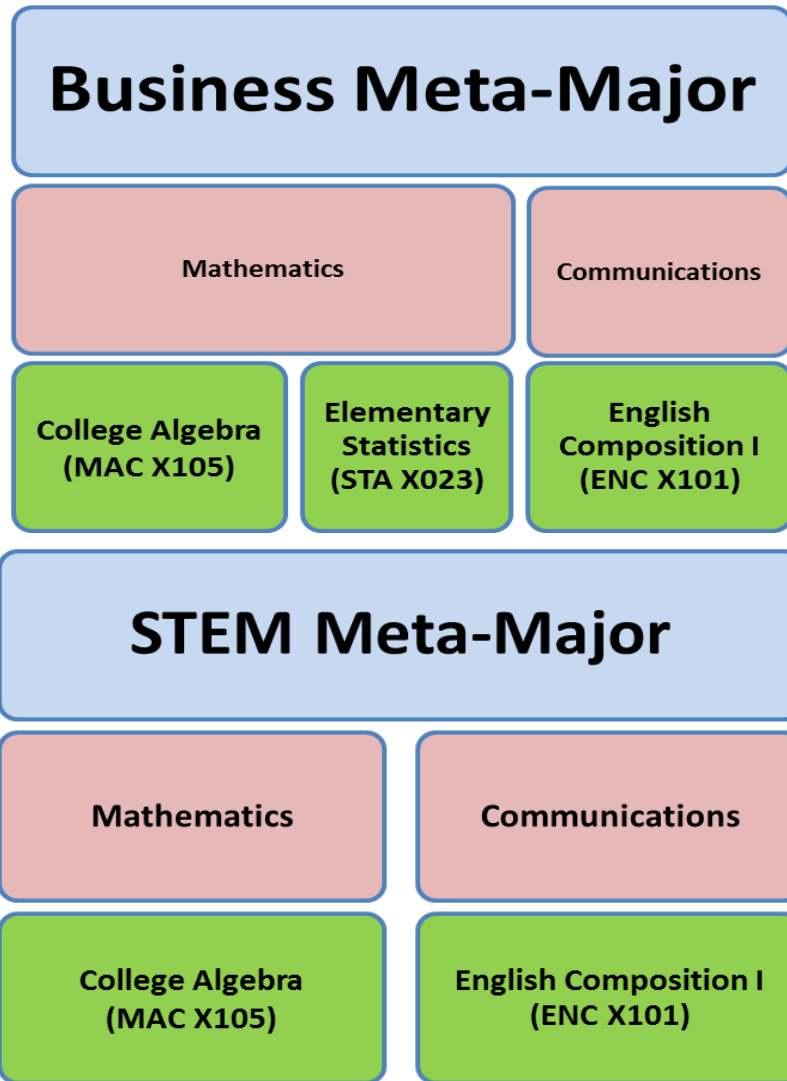
1. Arts, humanities, communication and design
2. Business
3. Education
4. Health sciences
5. Industry/manufacturing and construction
6. Public safety
7. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics
8. Social and behavioral sciences and human services

The following gateway courses were also identified in rule 6A-14.065, F.A.C. :

- a. English Composition I (ENC X101) is the gateway course for all meta-major academic pathways.
- b. The gateway courses for mathematics are aligned with the meta-major academic pathway.
  1. The gateway courses for business are College Algebra (MAC X105) or Elementary Statistics (STA X023).
  2. The gateway course for science, technology, engineering and mathematics is College Algebra (MAC X105).
  3. The gateway courses for all other meta-major academic pathways identified in subsection (1) of this rule are College Algebra (MAC X105), Liberal Arts Mathematics I (MGF X106), Liberal Arts Mathematics II (MGF X107) or Elementary Statistics (STA X023).

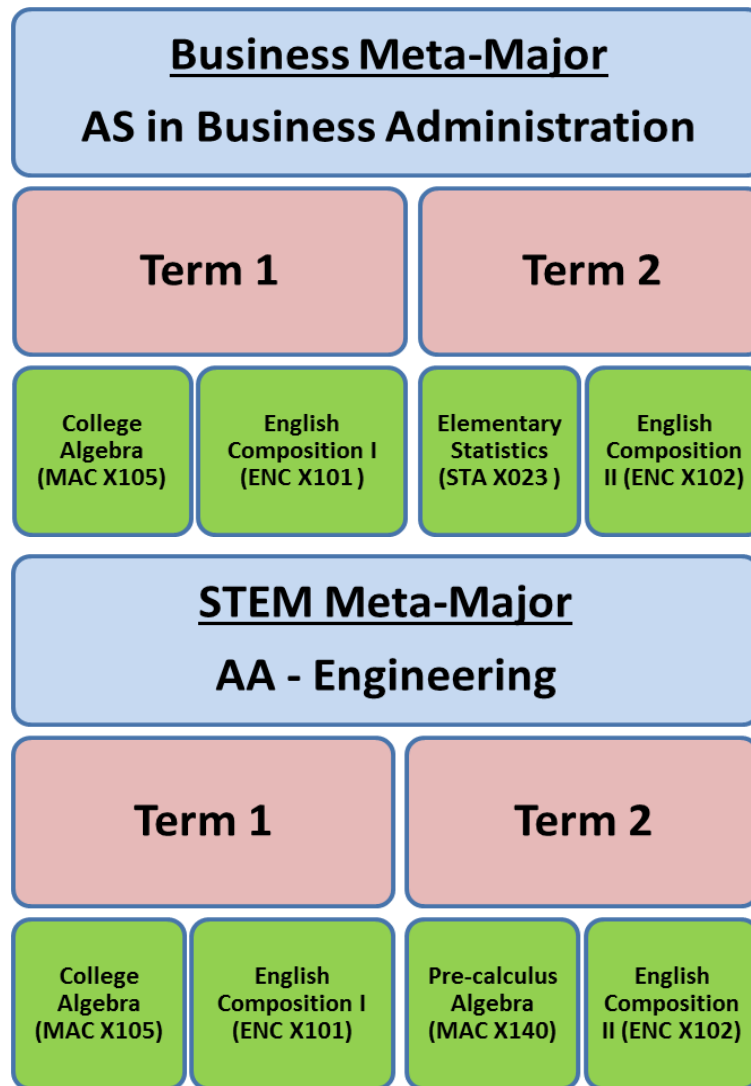
Students should be advised so they will be able to enter college credit courses as quickly as possible, limiting developmental education to the content needed for success in the meta-major.

## Meta-Major Advising- General



Rule 6A-14.065, F.A.C., requires each Florida College System institution to include meta-major academic pathways as a component of the approved comprehensive advising plan pursuant to section 1008.30(6)(a), F.S., for entering, first-time-in-college (FTIC) students. Meta-major academic pathway advising should be a tool for assisting students who are unsure about their specific program of study but have identified a general area of interest or meta-major to select coursework. For students who are required to complete developmental education coursework, meta-major academic pathway advising should include developmental course options for students to progress quickly and efficiently to gateway courses.

## Meta-Major Advising- Customized



Entering FTIC students who know their associate degree intent may need to have customized advising based on their specific program of study or baccalaureate degree intent, if they have one. The examples above are intended to show that FTIC students may be advised to enroll in a specific gateway mathematics course that has been identified in rule as one of two or more gateway options. It is important to remember that the meta-major academic pathways are “established for the purposes of advising Florida College System associate degree seeking students of the gateway courses that are aligned with their intended academic and career goals” (Rule 6A-14.065, F.A.C.).



## **Division of Florida Colleges**

325 West Gaines Street  
Suite 1544  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-245-0407  
Fax: 850-245-9466

---

Visit us online at  
<http://www.fldoe.org/fcs/>

---

## **Our Mission**

The Division of Florida Colleges is a dynamic and responsive Department of Education team. We provide leadership and advocacy to promote education innovation and continuous improvement within the Florida College System, fueling economic development for the state of Florida and its citizens.

## **Our Vision**

The Division of Florida Colleges will be the nation's leading advocate for postsecondary educational opportunity, access and student success. We help our colleges change the world!

**Happy New Year!**

**From the Division of Florida Colleges**