

## FAQs on Major/Minor Declaration

### 1. When should I declare or confirm my intended major(s) and/or minor(s) online?

**BSc students** have to declare their primary Science major online during the course selection period in August before the start of their third year of study. However, they can still change their major/minor declaration as long as the online course selection system is opened in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of their final (fourth) year of study.

**BSc(ActuarSc) students** may optionally take a major or minor(s) offered by any Faculty. If they intend to do so, they may make their online major/minor declaration during the course selection period in August before the start of their third year of study. They can still change their declaration as long as the online course selection system is opened in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of their final (fourth) year of study.

**BASc(AppliedAI) students** have been assigned the Applied Artificial Intelligence major as their designated (primary) major at the time of admission. They may optionally take a second major or minor(s) offered by any Faculty. If they intend to do so, they may make their online major/minor declaration during the course selection period in August before the start of their third year of study. They can still change their declaration as long as the online course selection system is opened in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of their final (fourth) year of study.

### 2. How many majors and minors can I declare online?

**BSc students** are required to complete at least one Science major as their primary major for graduation and they can at most declare 2 majors and 2 minors online.

**BSc(ActuarSc) students** may optionally take a major or minor(s) offered by any Faculty and they can at most declare 1 major and 2 minors online.

**BASc(AppliedAI) students** are required to complete the Applied Artificial Intelligence major as their primary major for graduation and they can at most declare 1 major (2<sup>nd</sup> major) and 2 minors online.

It is the responsibility of students to check with the relevant major/minor offering Faculty for the detailed requirements when declaring online. Student who fails to fulfill the course requirement of the primary science major (for BSc) / the programme (for BSc(ActuarSc) & BASc(AppliedAI)) is not eligible to graduate. For student who fails to fulfill the 2<sup>nd</sup> major or the minor(s) upon graduation, such major (2<sup>nd</sup> major) or minor(s) will be deleted automatically from record and student will then have only the primary major (for BSc) / the programme (for BSc(ActuarSc) & BASc(AppliedAI)) listed in the transcript.

### 3. Can I change my declared major later?

Yes, but you should consider whether:

- a) you are capable of studying a major that is totally new to you;
- b) you have fulfilled the pre-requisites of that major and you may have to extend your study;
- c) the courses you have successfully completed can be used towards the new major; and

d) you are indeed going to commit to the major that you will switch to.

**4. Would all the credits that I previously took for a particular major be wasted and would I need to start from scratch again if I switch to another major?**

A regular Science major requires 96 credits of courses and an intensive Science major requires at least 144 credits of courses (or a higher credit requirement by the accredited bodies). If you switch major, you may have to start with the introductory courses in the major. You should consider carefully whether you can finish your degree on time. The credits that you have already earned can generally be counted as electives. In all cases, you should consider consulting a Course Selection Adviser if you plan to change your major very late in the course of your University study.

**5. Are there any academic requirements for double majors and major-minor?**

Some non-Science faculties may set a minimum requirement for their majors and minors offered. You should check with the relevant Faculty for the detailed requirements.

**6. If I have declared a 2<sup>nd</sup> major or a minor, but I cannot go on to complete the 2<sup>nd</sup> major or the minor, what should I do?**

If you cannot complete the 2<sup>nd</sup> major or the minor, it would not be shown on the transcript. Nonetheless, it is a good practice to double check if your declared major(s)/minor(s) in the SIS have been updated and make any final adjustment before the closure of the online course selection system in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of your final (fourth) year of study. If you have any further queries, you are always encouraged to contact the Faculty Office or a Course Selection Adviser for advice.

**7. Who can I ask for advice about major and course selection?**

There are Course Selection Advisers (CSAs) for each major who can answer questions related to the particular Science major(s) and individual courses. If you have not made up your mind, you may seek advice from multiple CSAs of your interested majors. You can also visit our Administrative Assistant in the Faculty of Science Office.

The contact details of Course Selection Advisers can be found from the Faculty website: <https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/aa/csa>.

**8. Is there any activity held by the Faculty to introduce information about major and course selection?**

An Induction Day will be held in August for all first year BSc students. A general talk would also be held to provide students an overview of the BSc curriculum and on course selection. Teachers will also be available in the information booths for each Science major and minor to answer your questions.

For non-freshmen, they can attend the Consultation Session in August in which representative(s) of each major/minor will be available to meet with them during the consultation hours. (*Suspended in 2020 because of the outbreaks of COVID-19.*)

To facilitate students to have a better preparation for the declaration of major/minor in the course selection period, a Science Major/Minor Selection Talk Series is organized in mid of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of each academic year, which enables students to have a thorough understanding on the course requirements, the selection of courses in different areas of interests, etc.