

The X Path



X Path is a guided program to give you a place, time, and space to figure out your major. You will have up to two years to explore while staying on track to graduate on time and get on your way to your next chapter.

Undecided?

We've got a place and a path for you.

Morningside's X Path is designed to give you a place, time, and space to figure out what "x" means for you. You will work alongside peers also in the process of figuring out a major while Morningside provides programs and opportunities designed to help you consider your future. While you have the option of spending up to four semesters on the X Path, you may also choose to declare a major in as little as one semester. Regardless of how long you are on the X Path, the experience will help you grow and develop skills that will pay dividends no matter what your future might bring.

The X Path

Not sure you are ready to declare a major?
Morningside has a guided option to help you figure it out. Follow X Path for up to four semesters to explore what your future might hold.

The Morningside College experience cultivates a passion for lifelong learning and a dedication to ethical leadership and civic responsibility.

Semester One

- Dig in to your Strength Quest results
- Learn decision-making strategies
- **In all semesters:** work in a cohort alongside peers in a class
- **In all semesters:** enjoy expert guidance while taking part in career exploration activities, job shadowing, professional workshops, or other career community events
- **In all semesters:** revise your X Path plan to fit where you are at, or declare your major

Semester Two

- Take part in activities designed to develop your skills for professional presentations
- Continue with career exploration activities that use your Strengths Quest results
- Take part in a class that includes a culminating visit with Morningside alumni in a major city at the end of the semester

Before you arrive at Morningside

- Create your Handshake account
- Complete Strengths Quest
- Use Summer Enrollment Days and Orientation to get connected with others on the X Path
- One-on-one sessions with Career Services

Semester Three

- Begin work with an alumni mentor
- Complete a one-credit experiential opportunity off-campus

Semester Four

- Complete a second one-credit experiential opportunity off-campus
- Take part in an all-campus activity designed to reflect on your X Path experience
- Use your reflection to choose a major

The XP Guarantee

A Morningside degree is worth it. We are so sure, there are three things we will guarantee to any full-time, first-year student who enrolls at the start of the 2019-2020 academic year and fulfills our requirements* - including students who choose the X Path.

- Earn your degree in four years or less.
- Gain employment or acceptance to grad school within six months of graduation.
- Take part in experiential learning opportunities that will help you grow and prepare for your future.

*Visit morningside.edu/XPGuarantee for requirements

Being Undecided Has Advantages

We understand not knowing what you want to do can feel unsettling, but X Path is a plan designed to help you find answers. In some ways, X Path provides more opportunities than our traditional majors, giving you confidence in your decision once you do find your path.

X Path students will:

- Enjoy the promise of the **XP Guarantee**, which is our promise that you will graduate in four years or less and find a job or gain acceptance to graduate school within six months of graduation so long as you follow our requirements*
- Have the option to double major and/or have multiple minors
- Get support and assistance in finding the right major for you
- Enjoy unique opportunities to network with Morningside alumni and other professionals
- Experience Morningside's personalized campus culture
- Have access and connections available in Sioux City that are not found in smaller college towns
- Gain on-the-job experience before the end of your second year at Morningside
- Declare a major at the end of two years, or sooner if you choose

*See morningside.edu/XPGuarantee for details and requirements



MEET A MENTOR

You won't be alone during your X Path process. In addition to academic advisers, you will also have access to faculty and staff from across disciplines to serve as possible mentors. Get to know a few of the people you may meet!

Elizabeth Coody
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

RELIGIOUS STUDIES • WRITING • INTERDISCIPLINARY

Dr. Coody uses her academic work in religious studies to invite students to respond to stories and ask questions about culture. She teaches students how to find and evaluate information, think carefully about the subjects they address, gain empathy for other perspectives, write well, and learn to tell their own stories in the process. Since she teaches how to think and learn, students can apply these skills to any discipline or field.

EDUCATION: B.A., Centenary College, 2005; M.A., Iliff School of Theology, 2009; Ph.D., University of Denver, 2015



Brandon Boesch
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

CRITICAL THINKING • ETHICS • PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

As a philosopher, Dr. Boesch is interested in many different disciplines--in addition to exploring foundational questions about science, he also examines ethical questions related to healthcare, business, and the environment. His courses at Morningside focus on the way in which philosophy can inform our living--preparing to face ethical challenges as part of living (and dying) well.

EDUCATION: B.A., Benedictine College, 2011; Ph.D. University of South Carolina, 2018



Alex Watters
Career Development Specialist

CAREER EXPLORATION • JOB-SHADOWING

Alex's life has been a testament of how building a network of connections can impact your life. Prior to returning to Morningside College as an employee he worked on multiple campaigns in Sioux City, serves on a multitude of boards and commissions throughout the state and in 2017 was elected to the City Council of Sioux City. He has worked hard establishing these connections and now enjoys introducing students to changemakers throughout the country.

EDUCATION: B.A., Morningside College, 2009; M.S., Creighton University, 2011

