Tired of answering those panic inducing questions like, “So what are you going to do with that philosophy major?”

People often say that your college years are the best years of your life. You can prove them right if you take advantage of all that college has to offer. There are a lot of myths out there about how to be “successful” in college and after graduation. Here are a few:

**Myth:** All I need to do is go to class and maintain a high GPA

**Fact:** Do a lot of everything; nowhere else in life will you be around so many different people with such diverse and similar interests. Increase your options by participating in the following activities:

- Attending special lectures, panels, speeches, plays and/or concerts
- Gaining relevant experience through internships, part/full time jobs, and volunteer experience
- Job shadowing professionals in fields of interest
- Conducting informational interviews
- Meeting with faculty members
- Studying in a foreign country
- Joining a student group that is passionate about something

**Myth:** You must major in something “practical” or marketable

**Fact:** You should follow your own interests and passions (i.e. your love of glassblowing)

**Myth:** Picking your major means picking the career you will have forever.

**Fact:** That is not true anymore. “Major” does not necessarily mean “career,” and it is not unusual for a student to change majors multiple times. You may find that you want to change your major after participating in the activities listed above. So when you come home at J Term and announce to the family over dinner that you now are pursuing a career in Theater Arts, be prepared for the ‘family freak-out’ by answering their questions openly and honestly without getting defensive. Prepare yourself by backing up your plan with information about how you came to this decision and what this means for your future. It will be easier for them to support this decision if they know that you have done your homework. Then you will be able to confidently answer the question “what you are going to do with your philosophy major?” or whatever else you are majoring in.