

Meeting with your Academic Advisor

Your academic advisor is here to help you get the classes, experiences, and assistance you need to earn the degree that aligns with your career goals and aspirations. Students are assigned an advisor based on their academic plan (aka major), and the advisors are experts in the specific curriculum, university and departmental policies, and graduation requirements for the majors they advise. All academic advisors have your success as the primary goal of their job, but this is your education, and you need to take ownership of your progress through your degree program.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- Helping you define and develop realistic goals
- Identifying your special needs
- Matching your needs to available resources
- Helping you design or choose an academic major (and/or minor) based on your interests
- Monitoring your progress toward your educational/career goals
- Discussing linkages between academic preparation and career preparation
- Providing you with accurate information
- Understanding the curriculum, graduation requirements, and university policies
- Being accessible and responsive
- Being courteous, timely, and prepared for meetings

WHEN TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- To discuss any problems that affect your academic performance
- To select courses for the upcoming semester
- To add or drop courses
- To discuss academic progress
- To declare/change your major
- To discuss career considerations

PREPARING FOR A SUCCESSFUL ADVISING MEETING

- Be on time
- Know your stuff
 - Program requirements
 - 4-year program plan
 - Review your transcript to make sure all transfer credits are in
 - Know important dates and deadlines
 - Check to see what holds you have and how to resolve/remove them
- Be prepared
 - Bring your preliminary course selections and schedule with alternatives in mind
 - Bring a list of questions you'd like answered
 - Bring a copy of your degree audit