


ACADEMIC ADVICE

Wayne State College Advising Center Newsletter

SPRING 2001

What is Academic Advising?

Academic Advising is a process through which advisors assist students in developing life plans and career goals and in clarifying institutional requirements, policies, procedures, resources and educational options.



**FROM THE
ADVISING CENTER
(Room 103, Student Center)**

The Advising Center has many resources to help you through the registration process. Call 375-7557 with advising questions. Drop-in assistance is available daily:

**1:00 - 8:00 Monday-Thursday
1:00 - 4:00 Friday**

—ADVISING NOTES—

- ◆ Remember to **check your email** for important messages from your advisor. You can check your e-mail in the Student Center game room or use the computers in the Library.
- ◆ Mid-term low grade reports were sent to you on March 16th. Contact your advisor to discuss mid-term low grades.
- ◆ Check the Academic Web Pages for information on a particular major, minor or endorsement. The links can be found on the WSC home page.

REGISTRATION REMINDER:

Regular Registration for Fall runs from April 9th through April 11th, 2001 in the Student Center. (After the 11th, students can continue to register until classes begin at the Registrar's window in Hahn 105.)

Suggestions from the Office of Records & Registration

1. Check your registration form. Is the pre-printed information correct?
2. When planning classes for next semester, select alternatives that are new classes, not just different sections of the same classes.
3. Remember, this semester students need to obtain Division Head signatures to enroll in closed classes. Faculty signatures alone are not sufficient to enroll in a closed class.
4. Reminder to veterans and students in the military - you do not need to take PED 103 & 203.
5. If you have questions about your academic progress, please check with your assigned advisor.
6. Has your academic advisor signed your registration form?
7. **Athletes & Veterans:** Enrollment must be in applicable courses in order to meet eligibility requirements; check with appropriate personnel before repeating previously passed courses to retain athletic eligibility or veterans benefits.

THINGS TO DO NOW

1. Pick up your class schedule booklet from your major division--**available beginning 3-27-01.**
2. Make an appointment with your advisor.
3. Plan classes for fall.
4. Discuss your choices with your advisor.
5. Register for classes according to the time schedule in the registration booklet.

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School of Natural and Social Sciences

1. The American Presidency - POS 350

Professor Stacy McMillen will explore the modern presidency by studying the evolution of the institution, the power of the presidency, and the scandal and media frenzy which surround the modern presidency. The course is open to all students who seek an upper level elective. Please contact Professor McMillen at stmcmill@wsc.edu if you have any questions.

2. POS 100/ENG 102

Professors Siobhan Kelly and Stacy McMillen will teach linked sections of **American National Government** and **English Composition**. Professors Kelly and McMillen will coordinate topics of discussion and class assignments for the courses, which will focus on the increasing cultural diversity in the United States and the importance of that diversity to our identity as Americans. Please contact Professor McMillen at stmcmill@wsc.edu if you have questions.

3. SOC 101/ENG 102

Monica Snowden's **Sociology 101**, linked with ENG 102 will meet on TR at 9:30 a.m. This will be an introduction to social behavior, institutions, and processes, with a focus on diversity issues, specifically the complex intersecting dynamics of race, class, gender, and sexuality. Katja Hawlitschka's **Composition 102** class offered TR at 11:00 a.m. in the same classroom, will thematically link with SOC 101, focusing on writing and reading about diversity. By taking both courses, students will not only gain a more in-depth understanding of diversity issues from a sociological perspective, but will also experience a greater sense of purpose and context in their writing class.

4. Please note that Professor McMillen is the **Pre-Law Advisor** and that she is available to talk about academic planning for students who are interested in attending law school after graduation.

5. Is there a curse on Tutankhamon's tomb? Did space aliens really build all those pyramids in Egypt and Mexico? Have you ever wondered how Indiana Jones found all those marvelous places to which he traveled? If these and other questions about the past intrigue you, join us in **IDS 196: History of Archaeology**. This 4-credit Honors course will present the past from the unique perspective of archaeological sites. World travelers Dr. Taber (Europe) and Dr. Ellis (Middle East) will be your guides for an integrated course through the great sites of the past. You will handle actual ancient artifacts, see authentic photographs taken by these two intrepid adventurers, and metaphorically trek over the hallowed ruins of the past. If you take advantage of this unique opportunity, you can substitute this course for the Gen. Ed. History 120 and the SOC 110. Contact Dr. Linda Taber (Ext. 7019, CH 248) or Dr. Susan Ellis (Ext. 7146, CH 213). *(Not an Honors student? Entry into the class is possible by permission of the instructors for a fortunate few.)*

6. Environmental Politics—POS 444

In this course students will discover both natural and social distinctions of life on the Great Plains. The course will start with a description of the natural environment of the Great Plains including its geology, hydrology, flora, fauna and environmental issues, followed by an exploration of its culture with connections being drawn between the nature and society on the Great Plains.

7. **Spanish for Law Enforcement** course has been renumbered from SPA 196 to SPA 119. This course will count for the General Education language requirement and is especially designed for Criminal Justice majors, for both Corrections and Law Enforcement concentrations. Students can still take SPA 110 to meet the language requirement.

CALENDAR

(Note these events)

March 27 (Tuesday): Last Day to Withdraw from a Class. There will be no fee adjustment. (The last withdrawal date for those classes which do not meet for the entire semester will be one week following the midpoint of the class.)

April 4 (Wednesday): CLEP Exam

April 2-5 (Monday-Thursday): Advising for **Undeclared** students. Declared students should contact faculty advisors for an appointment.

April 9-11 (Monday-Wednesday): Course registration for Fall 2001 semester

April 16 (Monday):
Spring Break (Monday following Easter)

April 20 (Friday): Last day to officially withdraw from school

April 24-27 (Tuesday-Friday): Study Week

April 30 (Monday): Study Week continues

May 1-4 (Tuesday-Friday): Last class meetings/Final exam week. (Check your Final exam schedule.)

May 5 (Saturday): Commencement - 2:00 pm

May 7 (Monday): May Session classes begin

May 9 (Wednesday): CLEP Exam

ACADEMIC NEWS

Interdisciplinary

1. Beginning Algebra - GST 102

The course reinforces basic mathematical skills by exploring problem solving strategies, operations with real numbers, and the solving and graphing of algebraic equations. This course is designed as a preparation for Math 105, 110 or a higher math class and for the student who has a limited math background, a high level of math anxiety, or has been out of the school environment for several years. It is also useful for PPST preparation. This course will not fulfill the math general education requirement. No prerequisites are required for this course.

2. Writing Lab - GST 196 (1)

By advisory placement only. Writing Lab offers a review in basic writing fundamentals. Diagnostic writing and testing is done to pinpoint problem areas. Students will also be coached in using a current English handbook to improve independent writing, proofreading, and editing skills.

3. Basic Research Skills - GST 196 (1)

This eight week class will be offered during the first half of the fall semester. It focuses on introducing students to library and information organization, access, and retrieval. It provides hands-on learning experiences in using a variety of print and electronic resources, such as online catalogs, the Internet, full-text databases, printed indexes and abstracts, reference works, government documents, and statistical materials.

4. English as a Second Language Writing Lab - GST 196 (1)

This course is designed for ESL students to take as a foundation for continuous writing improvement and serves as a complement to other courses the student may be taking or will take. Placement testing will be completed to establish the student's current English language writing skills. Structure of Standard English is explored in order to prepare the learner for regular mainstream college classes.

BUSINESS OFFICE UPDATE

All students are encouraged to pay any outstanding bills, fines, etc., prior to Fall 2001 registration.

E-mail your advising questions to:
advising@wsc.edu

School of Arts and Humanities

NEWS FROM THE VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT:

PLANNING A CAREER...According to Michael Day, leading researcher in Art Education, "...thousands of new art teachers..." will be hired over the next ten years. Wayne State College prides itself on the reputation of its Art Education program, providing innovation and leadership throughout the region.

LOOKING FOR A FUTURE...Graduates of the Graphic Design program choose from a variety of excellent employment opportunities including publication, advertising, web page, advertising design and distinctive graphic design for the music, television, and movie industry.

CAN'T DECIDE? EXPLORE THE VISUAL ARTS...

Explore the possibilities of your creative potential. Studio Arts classes enable you to develop your artistic abilities and expressive capabilities in a variety of areas including painting, drawing, ceramics, printmaking, sculpture and art metals (jewelry). A degree in Studio Arts is the first step in becoming an artist either through personal initiative or through the pursuit of a professional degree in graduate school. Other options range from retail to gallery and museum work and things you haven't even thought of yet.

School of Business and Technology

Students who are undeclared may find what they are looking for in a career by visiting the **Applied Science** Program. There are a wide range of majors offered that prepare students for entry level positions in many fields. Students can major in Fashion Merchandising, Interior Design, Early Childhood, Foods and Nutrition, Construction Management, Manufacturing Management, Planning and Design and Teacher Education in Family and Consumer Sciences and Technology Education. In addition to the degree offerings the ITE program sponsors several student club activities such as the SAE (*Society of Automotive Engineers*) Mini-Baja buggy building team, Technology Education Collegiate Association, Skills-USA-VICA (*Vocational Industrial Clubs of America*) and the National Home Builders Association. Family and Consumer Science students can join the Association of Family and Consumer Science Professionals. Interior Design students can join the Student Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. All of these activities allow students to get involved with the college and with the community in the surrounding area. In addition, students have the opportunity to travel to regional and national conferences. Participation in these events provides that next level of activity that employers like to see. Stop by anytime to visit with the faculty if you have further questions.

CHOOSING A MINOR



You made a big decision about what to major in. You may have always known what your major was going to be or maybe you researched, discussed the issue with your advisor, family and friends and finally came to a decision. You are happy with your choice of major. The next questions to arise concern how to decide what minor should accompany your major.

Some students don't have to choose a minor. If you are pursuing a teaching program, you will have already chosen one field or two subject endorsements. If you have chosen a large comprehensive major, a minor isn't required. Some students choose a double major so they don't have to choose a minor. However, those of you who don't meet any of those criteria will have to choose a minor field of study.

These are some issues to consider when pursuing your choice of minor.

1. Do you have a second area of interest?
2. Have you accumulated credits in a field of study that you previously explored that could become a minor?
3. Do you have transfer hours from a previous college or university that could be applied to a minor?
4. Do you wish to select a minor that will compliment or support your career choice?
5. Do you want to consider a field that compliments or accommodates a hobby or other interest that could give you a broader academic background when job hunting?

Remember there are many things to consider when deciding on a choice of minor. It's up to you to determine what works for you.



Reminder from Student Health

On February 1st, our office mailed 121 notices to WSC students who were not in compliance with the immunization requirement. If you are one of these students, contact the Student Health Office, Room 104 of the Student Center or call us at 375-7470. Failure to comply will cause a hold to be placed on class registration.

What Color is Your Parachute?



Is this a question to ask as your plane is about to crash? Is it a question only relevant to art majors?

No is the answer to both questions above. **What Color is Your Parachute?** is a book about job-hunting. The book gives the reader a guided tour of how to conduct a job hunt. A new edition is published each year by Ten Speed Press and is available in the WSC campus bookstore.

Who should read this book? Any student who is ready to start thinking about future jobs is a good candidate to review the book. You don't have to be a senior to think about what you want to do and where you want to be employed. For example, did you know that answering newspaper ads and randomly mailing your resume to employers are not the best ways to find a job?

Career planning help is available through the Advising Center and the Career Services staff is there to assist you with preparing your resume and learning how to interview. Stop by the Student Center and check out the offices.



What's In A Degree: B.A. vs. B.S.?

By Virginia Feeley, Academic Advisor

So, you've decided on a major, filed the necessary Change of Major form with the Registrar's Office, and are feeling relieved. However, there's one other item you might consider when planning your program of study: Would a **Bachelor of Arts** or a **Bachelor of Science** degree help you realize your goals more quickly? Many students express their bewilderment regarding the differences between a B.A. and a B.S. Here are a few things to consider.

Both degrees require that students complete the general education requirements as well as major and minor programs or subject/field endorsements where applicable. The major difference between a B.A. and B.S. is that students who earn a B.A. must complete at least five hours of study in a foreign language at (*or above*) the 200 course level. Having a background in language is extremely beneficial for students who anticipate entering graduate school as it provides a breadth of understanding which comes from language studies. Even if graduate school is not in your immediate future, a background in a second language can make you more attractive to prospective employers as it demonstrates some experience with other peoples and cultures.

Students should contact their respective advisors for more specific advice on how a B.A. or a B.S. fits into their academic studies.