

ACADEMIC ADVICE

Wayne State College Advising Center Newsletter

SPRING 2002



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.

Suggestions from the Office of Records & Registration

1. Log in to your **WebCat** online account and verify your personal information. Notify the appropriate office if changes need to be made.
2. When planning classes for next semester, select alternatives that are new classes, not just different sections of the same classes. Call numbers found in the first column of the schedule booklet are required in online registration.
3. Remember, this semester students need to obtain faculty and Department Chair 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 "released" you for web registration?
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.

—ADVISING NOTES—

- Remember to **check your e-mail** for important messages from your advisor. You can check your e-mail on your personal computer, in the Student Center game room, or use the computers in the Library. Update your e-mail address in **WebCat**.
- Mid-term low grade reports were sent to you on March 15th. 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 at www.wsc.edu.

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**

REGISTRATION REMINDER

Regular Registration for Fall 2002 begins by student classification April 8th, 2002. Students will register online with WebCat. Start on the WSC Home Page. Click on the WebCat icon. Online registration will be possible through August 30th, 2002.

THINGS TO DO NOW

1. Pick up your class schedule booklet from an academic building, the Records & Registration Office or the Advising Center--available after **3-25-02**.
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 listed in **WebCat**. Registration begins **4-08-02**.



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ACADEMIC NEWS

Interdisciplinary

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. 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, this course will not fulfill the math general education requirement.

School of Arts and Humanities

Music Department:

Attention Musicians! Are you undeclared? The demand for music teachers is higher than it has been for many years. The Department of Music offers endorsements in instrumental and vocal music education. Other majors include Music Performance and Music Merchandising. The Music Merchandising degree combines music and business courses to prepare students for careers in the music industry. A music minor is also available.

Attention Non-Music Majors! Students need not be music majors in order to be a part of the Music Department. If you have always wanted to learn music, we also offer private lessons for non-majors in voice, piano, or almost any other instrument. If you sing or play an instrument, you are welcome to join one of our many ensembles, including band, choir and string ensemble. Contact the Department of Music for more information.

School of Business and Technology

Undeclared and looking for a major? Stop in and visit with one of the CTIS faculty in Gardner Hall to discuss the exciting opportunities for Computer Information Systems majors and Computer Science majors. Call 375-7279 or 375-7245 to be put in contact with one of the faculty in the Computer Technology and Information Systems department.

Did you know...???? Just about every academic area and almost every area of employment is being affected by computers, communications, and related technologies. Having academic coursework or a minor or a major in a computing or technology field can help to make you more marketable and employable upon graduation. The CTIS department has majors in Computer Information Systems and in Computer Science. It also has minors in Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, and Management Information Systems.

Please contact one of the CTIS faculty to set up an appointment to visit about which of these technology-related programs might be right for you. Many students have already recognized that pairing a minor from the CTIS department with a major in their chosen field is a good strategy for enhancing their employability upon graduation. See the CTIS department for the perfect second major or the perfect minor.

Are you a Computer Science (CSC) or Computer Information Systems (CIS) major looking for a great course to fulfill your mandatory elective requirements in your program? Are you a student that is looking for an interesting course to use as a general elective? Consider CIS 475 — Topics in CIS: ECommerce. Come explore the fascinating world of electronic commerce that is transforming many of the ways in which we live our daily lives. If you have some introductory computer programming background, consider taking CSC 396 — Scripting Languages. Explore and learn these widely used and powerful languages that are so vital to many of today's computing systems.

A course rotation note: Upon an analysis of current CTIS students' needs regarding CIS and CSC electives, and to permit the offering of those elective courses, the following departures from the printed course rotation will take place during the 2002-2003 academic year only:

CIS 356, Visual Basic, will not be offered in the Fall, 2002, semester. It will be offered the following Spring.

CIS 350, CICS Application Programming, normally offered in the Fall, will not be offered in the Fall 2002, but rather, will be offered in the Spring semester of 2003.

School of Education and Counseling

Students who enroll in Intro to Professional Education (EDU 201) must complete 25 clock hours of field experience in an area school to fulfill field experience requirements for the course. If you register for this course, be sure to schedule at least a three-hour block of time between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. for school visits.

DO YOU WONDER WHAT KIND OF JOB YOU CAN GET WITH YOUR MAJOR? Visit the "What Can I Do With a Major In" part of the Advising Center's career information site at:

<http://www.wsc.edu/advising/program/career/exploration/index.html>

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



COST OF LIVING

A "Living Wage" as defined by the federal government is the minimum required to sustain an acceptable standard of living. A 1998 estimate of a Living Wage are noted below according to a report in the Jan./Feb. 2002 issue of Career Opportunity News.

Single Adult	\$14,935
Single parent with one child	\$23,648
Single parent with two children	\$31,530
Married couple	\$24,892
Married couple with two children	\$41,487
Married couple with three children	\$46,299

If you wonder where your money goes. The chart below shows changes over time. The spending patterns of families have changed, as these comparisons for an urban family with one wage earner in 1917-19 and 1986-87 show:

Percentage of Income Spent

	<u>1917-19</u>	<u>1986-87</u>
Food	41.1%	19.4%
Housing	26.8%	33.7%
Transportation	3.1%	25.7%
Clothing	17.6%	5.2%
Health Care	4.7%	4.0%
Other	6.7%	12.0%

Did you know?

**Half of the current
1.8
million federal employees
will be eligible to retire in the
next few years.**

*(Stop in the Career Resource Room,
Student Center 103 to see a list of
federal jobs and salaries.)*

STRESS IN COLLEGE

Stress is our body's physiological reaction to new, unpleasant or threatening situations. College definitely marks a time of many new pressures and transitions. As a student enters college, everything may be new including professors, living situations, classroom expectations, social life and jobs.



Some expectations may be seen as unpleasant. As students struggle with managing time for reading assignments, writing papers, preparing for exams, working and maintaining a social life, stressful feelings can seem overwhelming. When this happens, it's time to **learn to relax**. Try these ideas to manage your stress:

- * **Talk to a friend**
- * **Get enough sleep**
- * **Take study breaks**
- * **Set priorities - decide what is most important and what can wait**
- * **See a Counselor**
- * **Treat yourself-listen to music, go window shopping, play a game**
- * **Devote some time to exercise**
- * **Eat regular healthy meals**
- * **Avoid excessive caffeine and alcohol**
- * **Write a letter**
- * **Breathe, breathe again, keep breathing**
- * **Enjoy the outdoors**
- * **Plan ahead**

Reminder from Student Health



On February 11, 2002 our office mailed 124 notices to WSC students who were not in compliance with the immunization and Health form requirements. 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.

CALENDAR

(Note these events)

March 4-8 (Monday-Friday): Mid-term break

March 15 (Friday): Mid-term low grades mailed

March 26 (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 mid-point of the class.)

Ongoing: Advising for **Undeclared** students. Declared students should contact faculty advisors for an appointment.

April 1 (Monday following Easter): Spring Break

April 8 (Monday): Course registration for Fall 2002 semester begins via Web for students.

April 19 (Friday): Last day to officially withdraw from school

April 23-29 (Tuesday-Monday): Study Week

April 30 (Tuesday): Final exams begin. (Check your Final exam schedule.)

May 1-3 (Wednesday-Friday): Final exam week continues

May 4 (Saturday): Commencement - 2:00 pm



WOMEN STUDENTS

ATTENTION! Some states pay women better than others.

Taking into account earnings, representation in managerial and professional jobs, and women's participation in the work force, the Institute of Women's Policy Research developed a composite index for each state. Best, average, and worst rankings are shown in the following table. Listings within each category are alphabetical. An overview of the report is available at the association's Web site:

www.iwpr.org

Highest

Alaska
California
Connecticut
Colorado
District of Columbia
Hawaii
Massachusetts
Maryland
Minnesota
Missouri
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Virginia
Vermont
Washington

Average

Arizona
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Iowa
Kansas
Maine
Nevada
New Mexico
Michigan
North Carolina
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Texas
Wisconsin

Worst

Alabama
Arkansas
Idaho
Indiana
Kentucky
Louisiana
Mississippi
Montana
Nebraska
North Dakota
Oklahoma
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Utah
West Virginia
Wyoming

Source: Institute for Women's Policy Research, *Overview of the Status of Women in the States*

EDUCATION, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND EARNINGS



Education

Unemployment

Completed

Median

Rate

Earnings

Less than high school	7.1%	\$19,643
High school	4.0%	\$26,416
Some college	3.2%	\$30,987
Associate degree	2.5%	\$33,430
Bachelor's degree	1.9%	\$42,695
Master's degree	1.6%	\$51,085
Doctorate	1.4%	\$60,678
Professional degree	1.3%	\$73,057

Source: Based on 1998 data from the Bureau of Labor

BUSINESS OFFICE UPDATE

All students are required to pay any outstanding bills, library fines, parking tickets, etc., prior to Summer and Fall 2002 course registration.

Students wishing to pay their account balance in installments may pick up an application at the Business Office. Student Payment Plan applications for Fall 2002 are due in the Business Office by Friday, August 16, 2002.

Student account balance information may also be obtained via WebCat Online.