Advising Matters: First-Year Geography Syllabus

Office of Academic Advising www.uni.edu/advising
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Department of Geography: www.uni.edu/geography

Department Notes:
Geography is the science of place and space. We use high-tech tools to discover and explain spatial patterns in the natural and human worlds. Geographers are active in the study of global warming, natural hazards, globalization, homeland security, rural and economic development, disease outbreaks, and much more. We still make maps, of course; but these days you aren't likely to see a geographer hunched over a drafting table. We use space-based technology and cutting-edge computer technology to create digital maps and interactive representations of the Earth and people.

The purpose of Academic Advising
Advising is a personalized educational experience, empowering you to explore, articulate, and achieve your academic, career, and life goals.

Graduation Goal: 3-2-2
UNI research has shown students who achieve a 3.0 G.P.A., two leadership experiences, and two pre-professional experiences are the most competitive for employment. With these goals in mind, the focus for your first year will be:
1. Setting a solid academic foundation with a 3.0 GPA goal
2. Exploration and involvement in campus community, clubs and organizations
3. Exploring the connection between the Criminology major and careers, and how they fit with your goals

Making It Happen: What you need to do
1. Academic Foundation
   • Attend your advisor’s Meet & Greet during UNI NOW
   • Make a time management plan (168 hours/week)
   • Evaluate your personal study habits; identify and practice effective study skills
   • Identify and use academic resources to establish study habits with the goal of achieving 3.0 G.P.A. or above this year.
   • Meet individually with your academic advisor at least once per semester
   • Introduce yourself to your professors; don’t be afraid to ask questions
   • Learn how to use your advisement report for academic planning and course registration.
2. Involvement
   • Attend Student Involvement Fair on September 15 to explore options
   • Participate in activities (residence hall, student organization, intramurals, Volunteer UNI, the UNI Traditions Challenge, etc.)
   • Explore the Cedar Valley community (Main Street, Hartman Reserve, George Wyth Park, Waterloo Black Hawks hockey, etc.)
   • Join the Geography Club, http://sites.google.com/site/unigeographyclub.
Andrey Petrov, Andrey.petrov@uni.edu, advisor
3. Connections
   • Meet with faculty to discuss major and future plans
   • Attend Majors in Minutes on October 24 to speak about the Geography major with juniors and seniors
   • Use the UNI Online Catalog and departmental websites to explore majors and four-year plans of study.
   • Career Services- Attend Career Fair in September and Internship Fair in February.
   • Job Shadow people in careers that could be possibilities for you in the future
### Important Advising Dates/Events

<table>
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<th>Fall 2016</th>
<th>Spring 2017</th>
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| **8/18**  
UNI NOW: Meet & Greet       | **1/9 - 1/13**  
Walk-In Advising               |
| **9/19 – 10/7**  
Complete MAP-Works Survey!  
$1000 Scholarship/ Ten $50 gift cards | **1/16 -1/20**  
Appointment with Advisor  
For students on Academic Alert or Probation |
| **8/29– 11/11**  
Advisor Appointments:  
Call 273-3406 to schedule | **1/23– 2/24**  
Advisor Appointments as needed |
| **9/19**  
Career Fair  
*McLeod Center* | TBA  
Internship Showcase |
| **10/24**  
Majors in Minutes  
7 pm Maucker Union Ballroom | **2/15**  
Career/Internship Fair  
*McLeod Center* |
| **11/11 - 11/16**  
Registration for Spring 2015  
*Check My UNIverse for exact time and date* | **2/28**  
Major Spotlight |
| **11/2 - 11/11**  
Preregistration Appointments  
*if needed*  
Note: Walk-in advising only from Nov.9 - Nov.18 (8:30-11:30 am and 1:15-4:30 pm) | **3/20 – 4/5**  
Summer School/Fall Registration |
| **11/21 - 11/25**  
Thanksgiving Break | **3/20- 3/28**  
Individual Preregistration Appointments  
*if needed*  
Note: Walk-in advising only from March 29 – April 7 (8:30-11:30 am and 1:15-4:30 pm) |
| **12/12 – 12/16**  
Finals Week | **3/13 - 3/17**  
Spring Break |
| **12/12 – 12/16**  
Finals Week | **5/1 – 5/5**  
Finals Week |

**How to Make an Appointment with Your Advisor:**

**Phone:** 273-3406  
A receptionist will help you set up a time that works best for you. Due to double booking of advisor times, we do not set up appointments via email.

**Skills/Qualities Employers Want: Ability to-**

- Work in a Team
- Make Decisions and Problem Solving
- Plan, Organize, and Prioritize Work
- Verbal & Written Communication
- Critical Thinking Skills
- Analytical Qualitative Skills
- Knowledge Related to Job
- Proficiency with Computer Software Programs
- Create Written Reports

**Resources to Help You**

- Academic Learning Center: tutoring, writing assistance
- New Student Handbook
- Office of Academic Advising
- MyUNIverse Student Center Tour
- Catalog
- Rod Library Assignment Calculator
- Rod Library Research Help
- Undergraduate Guide to Rod Library

*Please address any special needs or special accommodations with me at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you become aware of your needs. Those seeking accommodations based on disabilities should obtain a Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form from Student Disability Services (SDS) (phone 319-273-2677, for deaf or hard of hearing, use Relay 711). SDS is located on the top floor of the Student Health Center, Room 1*