

Academic Planning for Students

Academic planning allows a student to map out short, medium, and long-term actions designed to meet academic goals. For many students, their academic goal is to graduate in four years, so their academic planning might look like this:

Short Term Planning

First Year—Fall and Spring Semesters

- Participate in Orientation
- Schedule meeting(s) with departmental advisor to help map out sequence of courses to be taken using the department's template as a guide
- Become familiar with tracking progress using Degree Navigator (DN) report
- Take course(s) that will help meet prerequisites for future courses in the major
- Take courses that will satisfy General Education requirements. Refer to DN report, college catalog, and course schedule
- Consider whether or not to pursue an academic minor
- Join an academic club, especially the club for students in your major

Medium-Term Planning

Sophomore and Junior Year—Fall and Spring Semesters

- Continue taking major courses in sequence
- Continue taking courses to satisfy General Education requirements
- Track your progress toward the degree using Degree Navigator
- Meet with your department advisor at least once per year
- Make sure that you are taking enough upper division classes (need 45 credits total)
- Visit the Career Development Center to explore future options, begin developing your resume, etc.
- Engage in enriching academic activities such as internships, a minor, undergraduate research, etc.

Long-Term Planning

Senior Year—Fall and Spring Semesters

- Continue taking courses that satisfy degree requirements for the major
- Continue taking upper-division (generally 300-400-level) courses
- If considering graduate school, take graduate admissions tests
- Approach faculty to see if they will write letters of reference
- Visit the Career Development Center to polish your resume, practice interviewing, etc.
- Apply to graduate in your last semester