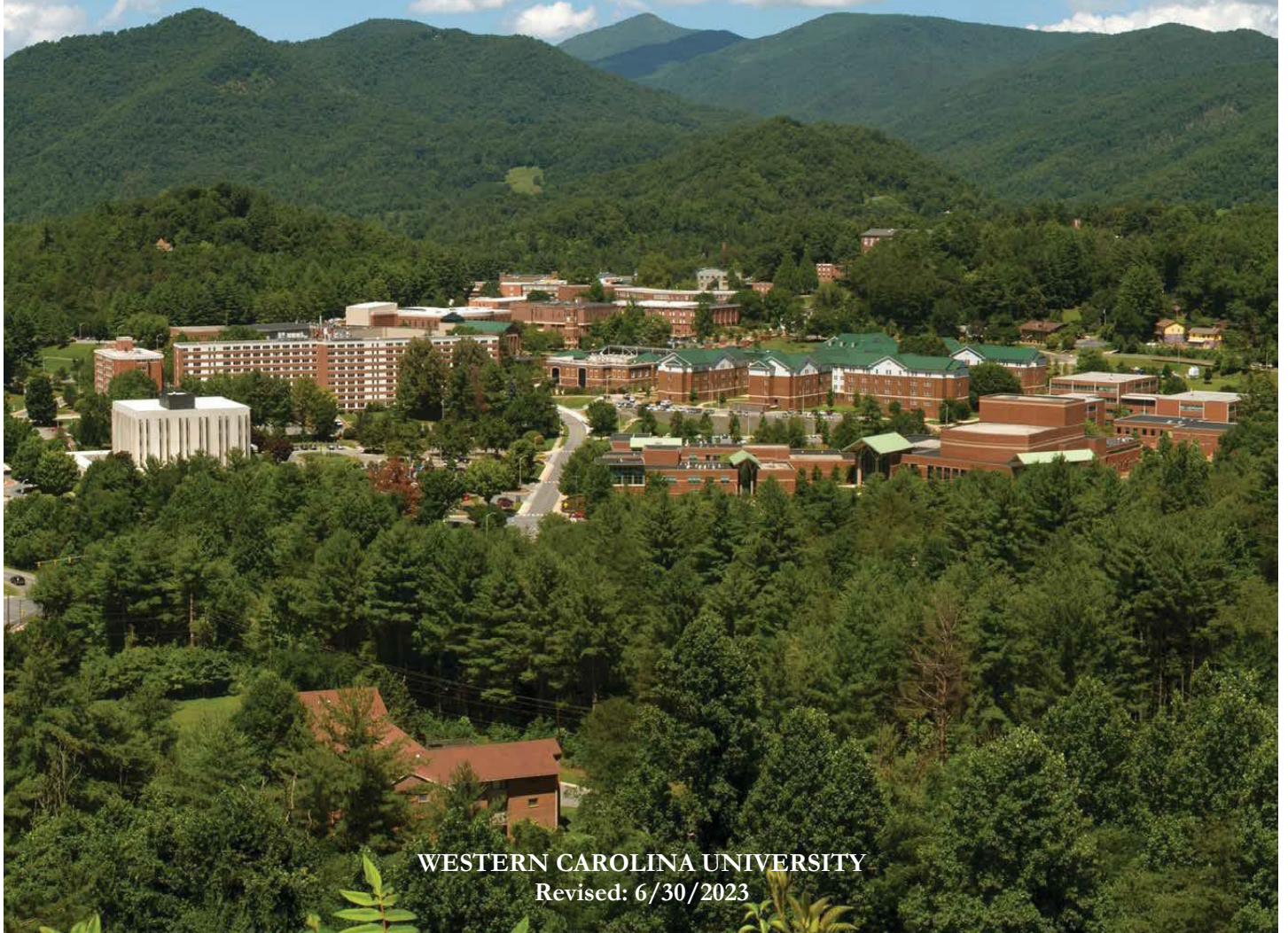


FACULTY ADVISING GUIDE

Academic Year 2023-2024



WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Revised: 6/30/2023

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Units in the Division of Student Success

Advising Center (ADVC)- 828-227-7753; advisingcenter@wcu.edu

The Advising Center offers comprehensive academic advising to undeclared and declared undergraduate students at Western Carolina University. The Center provides a holistic approach to advising by addressing students' academic and social potential. Advisors help students to select proper courses, choose appropriate majors, understand university academic policies & procedures, and cope with the transition to college.

Mentoring and Persistence to Success (MAPS)- 828-227-7127; maps@wcu.edu

Mentoring and Persistence to Success provides academic advising, mentoring, one-on-one tutorial support; workshops focused on career, financial aid, and graduate school preparation; and other resources to four groups within the student body:

- Students who are first generation college students (parents do not have Bachelor's degrees)
- Students who meet income guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Emancipated youth, formerly homeless or without consistent residence, or aged out of foster care
- Students participating in Academic Success Program (ASP)

Office of Accessibility Resources (OAR)- 828-227-3886; accessibility@wcu.edu

The Office of Accessibility Resources is a voluntary program for students with documented disabilities. It is designed to ensure the receipt of necessary accommodations and equal treatment in all areas of campus life. Students are encouraged to be active in the determination of accommodations.

Mathematics Tutoring Center (MTC)- 828-227-3830; mtc@wcu.edu

The MTC offers drop-in tutoring to help with homework, review of concepts, help with study skills, and by answering questions about math courses.

Writing and Learning Commons (WaLC)- 828-227-2274; tutoring.wcu.edu

The WaLC, located in Belk 207, provides free small-group course tutoring, one-on-one writing tutoring, Writing Fellows for writing-intensive classes, individual academic skills consultations, support for international students, in-class writing and learning workshops, and online writing and learning resources.

Office of Student Retention- 828-227-2959; retention@wcu.edu

The Office of Student Retention implements targeted advising interventions and cross-campus case management for students in need of supplementary support. Additionally, it coordinates and measures existing initiatives to support student persistence, with a focus on retention efforts beyond the first year. Through its initial UNC System grant-funded program, the *Academic Success Coaching initiative*, students are coached in one-on-one virtual sessions (topics include how to navigate online learning platforms, online tutoring and support resources, successful academic habits, career resources) supplemented by reflective exercises designed to build strong academic habits and identify key areas of need for each individual student, in the context of an online learning environment.

Faculty can refer students who could benefit from the coaching program by email and can refer students needing additional support by email or by submitting an Issue Alert using the Navigate student alert system.

Related Units

Registrar's Office (RO)- 828-227-7216; registrar@wcu.edu

The Registrar's Office fosters student success through the management of the University's student information system. In close partnership with other academic units, the Registrar's Office oversees publication of the academic calendar and university catalog, the schedule of classes, classroom scheduling, room reservations and final exams scheduling; registration, grading, and academic standing, graduation and student records, the degree audit, transfer equivalencies and transfer articulation; transcript services, enrollment certifications and enrollment verifications.

Office of Global Engagement- 828-227-7494; international@wcu.edu

WCU Global provides leadership and advocacy for students and scholars through international programs and activities on campus and its surrounding community, promotes study abroad opportunities, and coordinates international-related resources for the campus community. The Study Abroad Office at WCU, part of the Office of Global Engagement, is located at 109 Camp Building. This office assists WCU undergraduate and graduate students who would like to study abroad, do internships, and/or participate in service learning internationally while earning college credit toward the completion of their academic program. Undergraduate students can study abroad for up to three semesters not including summer programs. Global provides information sessions twice a week to assist students in beginning the process to study abroad.

Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD)- 828-227-7133

The CCPD assists students with finding non-work study student employment, choosing a major and career path, identifying related work experience in the form of externships, internships and co-ops, and creating job search documents. Through career fairs and etiquette events, CCPD helps with securing employment and graduate school opportunities after graduation.

College of Education and Allied Professions (CEAP)- 828-227-3317

Education majors are advised in Suite 201 within CEAP. The mission of Suite 201 is to develop a college-wide system of support by centralizing the functions related to recruitment, preparation, field placement, licensure, and professional development for future and current educators. Suite 201 also seeks to promote a seamless continuum for the ongoing development of professional educators. As part of the CEAP's efforts to support our students from recruitment through the beginning years of teaching, a centralized office was established for all support services. Advising and outreach for CEAP have grown in recent years as advisors work with faculty and students in undergraduate, graduate,

residential, and online programs. Student (and beginning teacher) success is our mission, and we feel strongly that Suite 201 inside the Killian Building is a welcoming and bustling place for students to come for services, meetings, and even just to hang out.

College of Health and Human Sciences Advising- 828-227-7271

Health and Human Science majors are advised in in the HHS building by designated Advisors.

Center for Community Engagement & Service Learning- 828-227-7184

This office connects faculty, students, and staff with service opportunities in the region and actively supports the University's commitment to community engagement.

Coulter Faculty Commons (CFC)- 828-227-7196

The CFC, located on the main floor of Hunter Library, leads the WCU community in providing collaborative, innovative, and confidential support for faculty, staff, and programs in the pursuit of instructional and professional excellence. The CFC promotes transformative practices in teaching, scholarship, instructional technology, and student development, both on and off campus, in support of the academic mission of WCU.

Honors College- 828-227-7383

The Honors College is a community of high-achieving students. The purpose of the Honors College is to direct and inspire great students to get the most out of their WCU experience by taking The Honors Path and by getting to know other students who are taking a similar path. Ultimately, the Honors College helps students to be as competitive as possible for careers or graduate school after graduation from WCU.

Technology Commons (Ground Floor of Hunter Library)- 828-227-7487

The Technology Commons, is a place for students to enjoy a relaxing collaborative atmosphere while having access to expert technical assistance and an open computer lab. They also provide technology support, equipment for checkout, software & technology training, and Apple & Dell computer purchasing.

University Participant (UP) Program- 828-227-3297

The UP program provides an inclusive, two-year, on-campus living and learning experience for persons with an intellectual disability between the ages of 18 and 25. The goal of the program is to facilitate the transition of participants from secondary school to adult life in the areas of education, employment, and independent living. During the two-year period, UP Program participants complete requirements to receive a UP Certificate of Accomplishment based on an Individual Plan for College Participation.



The Finish in Four initiative is Western Carolina University's pledge to provide students with the resources and guidance necessary to finish their undergraduate degree in four years. In Finish in Four, we seek to provide students with a clear roadmap for success and the tools necessary to realize their dreams.

Utilizing available tools and resources and in consultation with their professional and faculty advisors, students will outline the courses they need to complete their degree program successfully. The plan will account for [Liberal Studies](#) courses, major courses, and their appropriate sequencing, concentrations and/or minors, and any electives needed to reach the minimum number of hours required for the specific degree program. The Finish in Four Plan should also allow students to intentionally plan for summer sessions, study abroad opportunities, service learning, internships and externships, and other curricular and co-curricular opportunities.

How does the Finish in Four initiative affect advisors and students?

The Finish in Four initiative will put policies in place which are intended to keep students moving forward toward graduation:

Withdrawal Policies

Students may withdraw from a maximum of 16 credit hours during their career at Western Carolina University. Course withdrawals affect a student's completion rate but do not affect the GPA. Any withdrawal beyond the 16-hour limit will result in a Withdrew-Failing (WF) which will affect the semester and cumulative GPA as if it were an F.

Students must remain over 12 credit hours to be considered a Full-Time student (full-time status affects financial aid and residential life)

University withdrawals (withdrawals of ALL courses at once, mid semester) will affect satisfactory academic progress and course completion rates (0% for the semester) but will not count towards the student's 16-hour course withdrawal limit.

Grade Replacement Policy

Students may repeat a maximum of 16 credit hours for a grade replacement. When a student completes a Grade Replacement request form and repeats a course, only the most recent grade will be used in the calculation of the student's grade point average and counted in the hours toward graduation. However, all grades shall remain on the student's transcript.

Academic Standing Policies

In addition to earning and maintaining acceptable grade point averages (at least a 2.0), students are required to successfully complete at least 67% of their attempted semester and cumulative credit hours. This percentage is found by dividing the hours successfully completed (Grades A+ through D-) into the hours a student attempted (Includes Withdrawals and Unsatisfactory Grades). These minimum requirements account for both semester and cumulative GPAs and completion rates.

For detailed information on these policies, please see Chapter 3 or review the Academic Regulations section of the Undergraduate Catalog: catalog.wcu.edu



Roles

Professional Advisors

Advising Center, College of Health and Human Sciences Advising, Mentoring and Persistence to Success, and the Honors College

Responsibilities: Professional advisors advise undeclared students and assist advisees in identifying an area of interest and declaring a major. They are assigned as the **primary advisor** to students who have completed **0-45** credit hours. In addition, each professional advisor in the Advising Center will be assigned to a College or departments within Colleges to work with students intending to declare majors in that College. Professional advisors in the Advising Center serve as liaisons to academic programs to facilitate communication and student hand-off.

Assigned professional advisors will communicate regularly with the Department Head/Program Director for freshmen and transfer students in each major to facilitate the declaration of a major process and to assist students and faculty as needed regarding academic advising.

Additional responsibilities:

- Build initial schedules for all incoming undergraduate students
- Meet with parents and students at Orientation
- Meet with first-semester freshmen and transfer students to check in and assist with their transition to WCU
- Assist students who are changing their major
- Assist students with course withdrawals
- Answer general academic questions
- Assist students with transfer concerns and issues
- Teach LC 101, the Learning Contract class for students who are not in good academic standing.

Appreciative Advising

Appreciative Advising is the intentional collaborative practice of asking positive, open-ended questions that help students optimize their educational experiences and achieve their dreams, goals, and potentials.



The Six Phases of this Advising Model:

1. Disarm: Make a positive first impression with the student, build rapport, and create a safe, welcoming space.
2. Discover: Ask positive open-ended questions that help advisers learn about students' strengths, skills, and abilities.
3. Dream: Inquire about students' hopes and dreams for their futures. Design: Co-create a plan for making their dreams a reality.
4. Deliver: The student delivers on the plan created during the Design phase and the adviser is available to encourage and support students.
5. Don't Settle: Advisers and students alike need to set their own internal bars of expectations high.

College of Education and Allied Professions/ Suite 201

Responsibilities: Suite 201 professional advisors advise students majoring in Elementary and Middle Grades Education, Physical Education, Inclusive Education, Birth-Kindergarten Distance Education Program, and the Wheel Teach Living and Learning Community.

Educational Outreach- 828-227-7397; learn@wcu.edu

Responsibilities: WCU Distance learning students must complete a two-stage process. Stage one is admission to WCU. Stage two is admission to an approved program. Students not yet admitted to an approved program may be offered enrollment as an undeclared student to complete coursework toward [Liberal Studies](#) requirements. Educational Outreach provides academic advising support to students who are in this stage.

School of Health Sciences

Responsibilities: School of Health Sciences Professional Advisors support all students in the School of Health Sciences. The majors Professional Advisors advise in the School of Health Sciences are: Pre-Recreational Therapy, Pre-Nutrition and Dietetics, Residential Emergency Medical Care, and Integrated Health Sciences.

Faculty Advisor (Major advisor)

Responsibilities: Faculty advisors in each major will provide comprehensive advising to declared advisees in the program. They are assigned as the **primary advisor** for students who have completed **46+** credit hours. Faculty advisors will be supported by their departmental liaison advisors with students who have **46-60** completed hours, and will be the sole advisor for all students with more than **60** completed hours. Topics that should be discussed with freshmen and first semester transfer advisees include:

- The major's eight-semester plan. (A copy should be given to the advisee.)
- Specific requirements and expectations for the major.
- Course sequencing, specifically what years and/or semesters various courses are offered.
- Careers and various career paths for graduates of the major.
- Reported fifth-week grades (with students who request advice).
- Program-specific scholarship opportunities (Rhodes, Truman, etc.).
- Internship/co-op opportunities.
- Adjustment to the university as it relates to academic progress.
- Encourage students to join student professional organizations and become involved in other student life organizations/activities.
- Encourage advisees to use available support on campus as needed. Advise for early registration and approve next semester's course schedule.
- Provide all advisees who have declared majors with their alternate pin numbers (ALT PIN) for web registration. (Students with declared majors cannot get this number from the Registrar, Advising Center, Student Support Services or Honors College because these agents do not know whether the student has met with the faculty advisor.)



Academic Advising at Western Carolina University

Academic advising at WCU includes academic, career, and personal components. Faculty and Professional Advisors must be experts in the academic component, including academic policies and support resources. They must also be informed about career opportunities and resources in their disciplines as well as related disciplines. Advisors should make appropriate referrals when it is in the best interest of the student.

Academic advising is the responsibility of both faculty and professional advisors.

Why Advising?

Research in higher education indicates the primary reason students succeed in their undergraduate studies, regardless of level or institution, is the relationships they build with others, from friends to faculty. The primary relationship serving as the foundation of this success is between the student and his/her academic advisor.

There are many myths and misconceptions surrounding the advising experience.

Myth 1: Advising primarily involves giving out ALT PINs.

- Providing information and giving out ALT PINs is only one aspect of advising. In many ways, it is the smallest and least significant step. Since the time of many faculty members' enrollment, higher education has undergone several fundamental shifts including the move towards a student or learner-centered paradigm. This has resulted in a shift in the nature of academic support.
- The dominant model for understanding academic advising today is often deemed "advising as teaching." This model draws on the existing expertise and experience of faculty members and brings this wisdom into the advising relationship. Under this model, in many ways, the advising experience serves a critical role in integrating the knowledge the student has gained into a meaningful, cohesive, and directed whole.

Myth 2: Advising is for professional advisors only.

There are several fallacies in this statement. Professional advisors are just that, professionals, and they are specifically trained to be effective at advising students. The Advising Center is often the first place students encounter academic advising and, as such, it sets expectations for the advising that follows. Professional advisors should play a significant role in the advising experience, especially in the transmission of information about university policies and standards. There is significant overlap in the roles of professional and faculty advisors; however, professional advisors do not have the depth of expertise in your field, including the pedagogy, the prospects, and the underlying perspectives of your field. This is where the role of the faculty advisor is distinctive and important. Effective advising is achieved through a partnership between professional advisors, faculty advisors, and university administration.

Myth 3: Advising is not worth the time

Effective advising does take time, but it also conveys numerous intrinsic and extrinsic rewards.

- Quality advising is considered a critical institutional priority and directly affects graduation and retention rates. In an increasingly digital world, the conversations you have with students have a crucial impact on them.
- To be able to share directly in student success can provide a profound sense of meaning to what we do as faculty members.
- A strong advising relationship can continue well after a student has graduated and can build into professional mentorship.
- Advising can help you to better understand not just your advisees, but your students in general. This, in turn, can facilitate stronger teaching and learning in your classroom.

Advising as a Teaching Model

Researchers who study advising suggest you think of academic advising as consisting of three interrelated aspects: bookkeeping, counseling, and teaching (Lowenstein, 2005).

Advising as Bookkeeping -This perspective places the advisor's primary job as making sure the student has checked off all the necessary requirements to make it to graduation. This aspect of advising constitutes the baseline—the minimum goal to be reached. In this case, the role of the advisor is primarily to provide specific information and to enforce guidelines.

Advising as Counseling -This developmental model posits the advisor's role as contributing to the student's personal development, including maturity, confidence, and responsibility. This view of counseling is likely familiar to many of us, as it had been the dominant paradigm until recently. This model depicts the role of the advisor as a person who engages in guided and meaningful dialogue with individual students.

Advising as Teaching -This model suggests that we should apply the same perspectives and best practices to excellent advising as we do to teaching. Advising should engage the student in its curriculum and do so in ways that are intentionally designed to maximize student academic outcomes. As one researcher states, an excellent advisor does the same for an entire curriculum that the excellent teacher does for one course. (Lowenstein, 2000).

The Advising Relationship

Faculty advisors should expect to have between 20-33 active advisees at any given time. Research has demonstrated this is a reasonable number given faculty workloads in other areas. This number may or may not include inactive students, i.e. those who have been suspended, withdrawn, or otherwise left the university. At a minimum, the advising relationship consists of the following interactions:

1. Advisor assignment
2. Introductory Meeting
3. Advising Meeting/Advising Day
4. On-Going Communication
5. Application for Graduation

Step 1: Advisor assignment:

The Advising Center assigns professional advisors based on the intended major indicated by the student during completion of WCU's Pre-Registration Process. Pre-Registration is a

web-based survey that students complete prior to attending Orientation. In addition to the Advising Center, students are assigned to professional advisors in MAPS, the Honors College, Health Sciences, and Suite 201. Student-Athletes are assigned to the Student-Athlete Advisors in the Advising Center.

Faculty advisors are assigned when a student has declared a major. Most faculty advisors are assigned by their department head.

- For faculty advisors, the official list of advisees can be found under the “Advisor Home” tab on your Navigate Account (Advising/Tutoring link under the quick links in your MyWCU account. You can also run a list of your advisees and their ALT PINs and Registration Timeslots through Report Portal. (See [The Report Portal and Navigate User Guide](#) for additional information)

Department communication regarding advising varies—please note, you may or may not be told directly when a new advisee has been assigned to you.

- Students have the right to request a different advisor should they find the initial assignment unworkable, but whether these requests are granted or not is at the discretion of the department or unit head.

Step 2: The First Meeting

- Most faculty advisors meet with their advisees for the first time in their office. While this is conventional, it is not required. You can also meet in a public place or through virtual conferencing (software available through Coulter Faculty Commons). Some advisors even like to meet their advisees over a meal or coffee.
- The cornerstone of the advising relationship is listening. Listen closely to what the student is saying. Below are some suggested responses that indicate active listening.

1. Restate (e.g. “what I hear you saying is....”)
2. Summarize (e.g. “let me see if I am understanding...”)
3. Reflect (e.g. “that issue seems to be bothering you a great deal...”)
4. Label (e.g. “so it sounds like you are finding this issue frustrating...”)
5. Probe (e.g. “Can you say more about that?”)
6. Validate (e.g. “I know that this is difficult for you to discuss...”)
7. Redirect (e.g. “I’m not sure we’re getting anywhere on this issue, what about...?”)
8. Give feedback (e.g. “I think there may be some things we can do to address this...”)
9. Show consequences (e.g. “What happened the last time you tried that...”)
10. Stay silent

Below are some common topics for a first meeting, per the different advising models:

Advising as Bookkeeping:

- Go over the requirements and eight-semester plan for the major.
- Be sure they understand how to use the MyWCU Degree Audit function in relation to major requirements. Degree audit information can be found in the appendix. You can access student degree audits from the “advisor” tab in MyWCU.
- See appendix for degree audit tutorial.

Advising as Counseling:

- Ask your advisee questions so you can get to know them better. What are their living arrangements like? Why did they choose WCU? The more you understand your advisees, the more effective you can be at matching them with potential opportunities in the future.
- Talk to them about what they expect from the college experience. What are their hopes, fears, aspirations, challenges, etc. for their college years? What do they like to do outside of class?

Advising as Teaching:

- Be sure they understand what is expected of them, and of you, in the advising relationship. Faculty advisors can also create advising contracts or syllabi for their advisees.
- Talk to them about potential career options. It’s not too early, depending on the advisee, to have them start looking more deeply into these options.

Be sure to ALWAYS take notes about what you have discussed and add those notes to the student’s record. Navigate is our system for tracking this information. A Navigate note is not visible to the student unless you specifically choose to make it so (*Refer to [Navigate User Guide for note permissions](#)*).

Step 3: Advising Meeting/Advising Day

Every fall/spring semester, the University plans and schedules Advising Day. You can find out when Advising Day is by consulting the official university calendar accessible on the Registrar’s Office webpage. Advising Day is always scheduled to fall when the schedule of classes for the upcoming semester is available, usually October in the Fall and February in the Spring. Please note the Spring Advising Day will also cover summer registration.

On the scheduled Advising Day, students should expect to be advised and you should expect to be available to advise them. If for some reason, you are not available on Advising Day, you should make alternative arrangements with your students as soon as possible and inform your department head.

Prior to Advising Day, professional advisors reach out to all Department Heads to inquire how Advising Day will be administered. This information is then posted on the [Advising Center's website](#). It is also recommended you communicate with your advisees and let them know how you will handle scheduling appointments for the day. The professional advisors use Navigate to schedule appointments electronically (*see the [Navigate User Guide](#) for more information*). Navigate includes an electronic appointment scheduling system that enables students to view and set up appointments with you, which makes it easier to track your student meetings and keep your notes.

Because you are meeting with as many as 25 students in one day, these appointments will likely be shorter than other meetings with your advisees. These will be focused on advising students on the courses they will register for in the upcoming semester and providing students with the ALT PIN they will need to complete their registration.

Here are some Advising Day tips from experienced advisors:

- You can ask students to create a draft schedule in advance. This saves time and helps teach them about how scheduling works.
- Ask good questions that get the information you need efficiently. For example, “tell me two things that worked for you last semester and two things that didn’t...”
- You can offer group sessions if you have topics that cross over multiple advisees. You can also provide an information sheet, or FAQs if there are things you find yourself repeating quite often.
- If you have time, confirm your Advising Day appointments with your advisees the day before. This helps cut down on missed appointments. If you use Navigate for appointment scheduling, students can choose to receive a text reminder two hours prior to their meeting with you.
- If you have trouble putting together names and faces, you can look up photos of your advisees in MyWCU on your Advisee List.
- Creating a Finish in Four plan (using a blank eight-semester plan) with the student can be very helpful in determining course selection for subsequent semesters. In Navigate, you can upload a document onto a student’s record for your (and the student’s) future reference.

Step 4: Ongoing Communication

It helps to set communication expectations early in the advising relationship, either as part of an advising contract or through other written communication.

- What are the appropriate means your advisees can use to contact you (phone, text, email, social media, etc.)?
- What can your advisees expect in terms of your communication? How quickly will you respond to their requests? How often can they expect to hear from you?

- Are there any limitations on their communication with you (e.g. no calls after 10pm)?
- Do you have expectations as far as the professional level of their communication with you?
- Similarly, it is helpful to set expectations regarding advising meetings.
- Do you require the students to make appointments or can they just drop in, or drop in during certain times?
- If you require students to make appointments, how do you prefer them to schedule those with you?
- How often can they meet with you? Daily? Weekly? Monthly?
- What should they expect to bring with them to the meeting? Is there anything they need to do prior to the meeting? If you send an Appointment Campaign to all your students through Navigate, you can include this information in the email invitation they receive.

Some communication tips from experienced advisors:

- Set limits. Many students come from a different generation in terms of communication, and they often expect 24/7 response unless you tell them otherwise.
- Send/forward regular communications to your advisee list regarding upcoming opportunities, etc. Even if they don't take advantage of these opportunities, they often appreciate hearing from you.
- Give your advisees electronic access to general resources, commonly asked questions, etc., so that they can get information when you are not available. Some faculty advisors do this through web pages or blogs, others through Blackboard.
- Have open office hours, either in person or virtually, for your advisees a few times per semester.
- The advising relationship is based on mutual trust. Your interactions with your advisees are considered confidential.
- Student records, including grades, attendance, academic progress, etc., are covered under FERPA regulations, and you may not release this information to anyone, including the student's family members, without the consent of the student or the Release of Information Code
- Student health information, including mental health, is covered under HIPPA regulations and should not be disclosed to anyone.



Athletic Academic Best Practices for Faculty and Faculty Advisors

This document serves as a reference guide for faculty and faculty advisors to utilize for any academic area related to student-athletes. Though this isn't an exhaustive list, the practices below will help student-athletes maintain academic integrity and accountability for their own actions and protect faculty from any unintended NCAA-related violations.

Have a student-athlete advisee?

- All undergraduate student-athletes must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours in the Fall and Spring semesters. All graduate student-athletes must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 hours in the Fall and Spring semesters. The only exception to these thresholds is during the last semester prior to graduation. To meet this exception, they must be enrolled in everything needed to graduate at the end of the term.
- All coursework must be degree applicable. Unless there's room in elective categories, prerequisites for professional schools or post-baccalaureate programs outside of degree requirements are not considered degree applicable.
- Inquire with the teacher of record before approving any independent study course outside of normal, required coursework for all student-athletes to ensure the course fulfills a legitimate academic goal.
- Never approve a course substitution outside of normal advising procedures for all student-athletes.
- Never allow a student-athlete to log into an academic platform (myWCU, Canvas, Navigate, etc.) on your school-issued or personal computer/device. Student-athletes need to access WCU platforms via their personal computer or in a campus computer lab.
- If a student-athlete expresses any influence by a coach (ex. "Well my coach said I can't do this major..."), please notify their assigned Athletic Advisor immediately.
- If you or a student-athlete have a question about NCAA eligibility requirements, please contact the Associate AD for Student Success.

Have a student-athlete in your class?

- Do not offer student-athletes make-up or alternative assignments without proof of an excused absence.
- Never accept or reply to communication (phone, e-mail, in-person) from a coaching staff member requesting information about a student-athlete in your class. Any instance should be reported to the Vice Chancellor for Student Success and Associate AD for Student Success.
- Never complete or arrange to have someone complete a student-athlete's assignments.
- If you suspect any instance of academic misconduct, report it through the appropriate channels. No athletes are exempt from WCU policies.
- Report 5th and 8th-week grades for all student-athletes. These reports are vital in maintaining the necessary academic support level required for student-athletes to be successful.
- If a student-athlete is consistently missing class or assignments, please issue an alert via Navigate or contact the Associate AD for Student Success.



Other items:

- Student-athletes are assigned a primary athletic advisor for major and registration assistance. Identical to non-student-athletes, student-athletes are assigned a faculty advisor once the student has completed 45 credit hours. Athletic advisors will continue to be assigned to student-athletes as secondary advisors to assist with the tracking of NCAA eligibility and support students who have issue alerts raised via Navigate.
- Athletic Advisors are trained in effective advising practices alongside other professional advisors on campus. Athletic advisors are aware of campus processes, support offices, and institutional policies and regulations.
- The Athletic Advisors will not enroll students in courses once they have attended WCU's New Student Orientation.
- Athletic advisors will not provide registration PINs to declared students with more than 45 completed hours.
- There is not an NCAA threshold for the maximum number of student-athletes in a class. Multiple athletes in a class can typically be explained by practice times, the number of sections offered, or the number of athletes in a particular major. WCU monitors athletic clustering in courses and reports those findings to the UNC System Office.
- Coaches or support staff check class periodically. If a coach or support staff ever disrupts a course, please notify Associate AD for Student Success.
- Never communicate with coaches directly about their student-athletes – even if it's positive. If a report needs to be made, do so through the student's assigned Athletic Advisor. The Athletic Advisor will communicate with the appropriate offices.
- The Registrar monitors all students' registration and academic account activity. WCU's Banner system tracks and records all activity on student records. Inappropriate activity on a student's record will result in communication from the Registrar to the person and supervisor who manipulated the record.

Please contact Travis Bulluck (Director of Academic Advising), Ashleigh Simmons (Associate AD for Student Success), or Haley Mitchell (Senior Athletic Academic Advisor) with any additional questions.

Credits, Grades, and Quality Points

The basic unit of credit is the semester hour. A semester hour represents one lecture-recitation hour or a minimum of one, two, or three laboratory hours a week for a semester. In experiential courses, a minimum of three hours is required per hour of credit.

Course Load for Undergraduates:

The minimum full-time course load during a fall or spring semester is twelve hours. A normal load is fifteen to sixteen hours; however, a student may take up to eighteen hours. Any schedule that exceeds eighteen hours constitutes an overload and must be approved by the student's advisor and the appropriate administrators as indicated on the request and approval form. Twelve hours is the maximum which may be earned in experiential courses during a semester. Course load regulations for the mini or summer session are published on the Registrar's website at www.registrar.wcu.edu

Classification

Regular degree-seeking undergraduates are classified based on cumulative hours earned:

Freshman: 0-29 Hours	Junior: 60-89 Hours
Sophomore: 30-59 Hours	Senior: 90 or more hours

Grading

The grades of A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- and F indicate gradations in quality from Excellent to Failure. Please note that a C- grade is less than satisfactory and may not meet specific program and/or course requirements.

The grading scale for classes with GPA hours (classes used to calculate GPA) is as follows:

GRADE	INTERPRETATION	POINTS
A+	Excellent	4.0
A	Excellent	4.0
A-		3.67
B+		3.33
B	Good	3.0
B-		2.67
C+		2.33
C	Satisfactory	2.0
C-		1.67
D+		1.33
D	Poor	1.0
D-		0.67
F	Failure	0

Potential course grades that do not affect GPA are as follows:

GRADE	INTERPRETATION	POINTS
I	Incomplete	-
IP	In Progress	-
S	Satisfactory	-
U	Unsatisfactory	-
W	Withdrawal	-
AU	Audit	-
NC	No Credit	-

To calculate a student's GPA:

Make a list using the worksheet example below. List the classes, the grade received, and the number of credit hours for each class. Refer to the Quality Point System table to obtain the points for each grade. Multiply the points by the hours of credit.

Divide the total points by the total hours to arrive at the GPA.

COURSE	GRADE	POINTS	X	HOURS	=	QUALITY POINTS
ENGL 101	B+	3.33		3		9.99
PSY 160	C	2.0		3		6.0
HIST 141	D+	1.33		3		3.99
LEAD 142	A-	3.67		2		7.34
FYS 190	B-	2.67		3		8.01
			TOTAL HOURS	14	TOTAL QUALITY POINTS	35.33

In this example, 35.33 divided by 14 equals 2.524.

Academic Progress Reporting

Faculty are required to submit 5th-week progress reports for 100 and 200 level courses for all students and are encouraged to report progress in upper division courses as appropriate. Academic progress reports offer students important feedback on how they are doing early enough in the semester to allow for time to improve their standing. Additionally, progress reports at the 8th and 11th week are required for certain student populations: student-athletes, students in the Academic Success Program (ASP), and students enrolled under the conditions of a Learning Contract.

Academic Progress Reporting Main Grid
ENGL202-01 80903 Writing and Critical Inquiry

[Choose another class](#) [FAQ/Help](#)

Attendance		Progress				
Student ID	Name	Mass Updt 1st-wk	Mass Updt 2nd-wk	Mass Updt 5th-wk	Mass Updt 8th-wk	Mass Updt 11th-wk
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN *	DNA *	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A
ENGL202-01	...	ATTN	ATTN	Required	N/A	N/A

Issue Alert

The Issue Alert System is designed to assist students who are experiencing academic and other difficulties during their time at WCU by providing University employees with a convenient means to make referrals directly to a student's assigned advisor.

Any time faculty and staff are concerned about a student, whether the student is a freshman or a last semester senior, they are encouraged to make a referral. By seeking to address the students' needs as they arise or become noticed, appropriate interventions can help empower students to make choices that have a positive impact on their academic success. Alerts should be submitted within Navigate. You can report on a student from your homepage and from the student's homepage.

In many cases of student distress, faculty and staff can provide adequate help through empathic listening, facilitating open discussion of problems, instilling hope, conveying acceptance, giving reassurance and offering basic advice. If you have a student who you believe to be in distress, you might consider referring them to professional help.

If you have a student who you believe is endangering themselves or others, you should get help immediately. Call the University Police at 828-227-8911. Let them know:

- You are calling to report an emergency at Western Carolina University
- The address
- The injury or situation
- The telephone number you are calling from
- Your name and follow-up phone number
- Upon completion of the report, be sure to follow-up with your supervisor and the Office of Student Affairs at 828.227.7234, in accordance with university protocols.

(See [Helpful Links](#) for additional information on alerts)

Academic Standing Policy

Student Academic Standing is defined as either: Good Standing, Academic Notice, Academic Warning, Academic Suspension, or Academic Dismissal. Academic standing considers both the GPA and the percent completion rate of credit hours.

To maintain Good Academic Standing and Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP):

- All students are expected to earn and maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 each semester and successfully complete (earn) at least 67% of their attempted hours. Successful completion of a course means a student must earn credit for the course with a grade other than F, U, NC, W or Incomplete. (See Case Study 3)
- Students in Good Standing will receive a notification if their semester completion rate falls below 67%.

Learning Contract Program

First-semester first-year students and new transfers will be placed on academic warning if their GPA falls within the range of 1.0 to 1.999 at the end of their first semester.

Students placed on academic warning with a cumulative GPA in this range at the end of their first semester must participate in the Learning Contract program during their second semester.

Students who break enrollment on academic warning must reapply to come back through an SAI (Statement of Academic Intent). Upon [readmittance](#), these students are placed on an Academic Action Plan which may/may not include LC 101 depending on that student's circumstances.

The Learning Contract Program specifies that these students work closely with their LC 101 instructor through individual meetings at strategic points in the semester. The student and instructor will discuss academic performance issues, set realistic goals, and make the necessary plans to reach said goals. Students will be linked with the campus resources which can help them succeed.

Grade Replacement Policy

Students may repeat a maximum of 16 credit hours for a grade replacement. When a student repeats a course, only the most recent grade will be used in the calculation of the student's grade point average and counted in the hours toward graduation. However, all grades shall remain on the student's transcript. (See Case Study 2)

- Course repeats in which previous grades were passing require a permit for enrollment.
- You may send students to the Advising Center (on a walk-in basis) for course repeat permits.
- A Grade Replacement form needs to be submitted during the semester a student is repeating the course to ensure that the previous grade is replaced. (See [Helpful Links for the Registrar's Office important forms](#))

Exceptions:

1. The First-Year Seminar may be repeated if it is a required major course as part of a student's program. Otherwise, the student should take another [liberal studies](#) course instead, and a course substitution request needs to be sent to the Liberal Studies Coordinator through the MyWCU workflow in order for the Degree Audit to reflect the additional LS course for FYS credit. A Grade Replacement is not needed in this case.
2. Courses available for re-enrollment for additional credit are not counted as repeats unless the student declares a repeat or exceeds the number of times for which credit can be earned in the course.
3. Some academic programs may have policies further regulating the number of repeats. Students should check with their faculty advisor about additional regulations.

The 16-credit hour limit of the repeat/grade replacement policy may be appealed by the student in writing to the student's faculty advisor, department head or program director, and Dean.

Two-Year Rule

An undergraduate with a GPA below 2.0 who has not attended the university for two or more calendar years and who is eligible for readmission is given the option of having the two-year rule applied or not applied.

If the two-year rule is applied, all courses completed before the interruption are treated as if they were transferred from another institution. No hours of credit will be allowed for courses in which C- or less grades were earned, although, at the discretion of the student's major department, they may be used to waive appropriate course requirements. The student's cumulative GPA will be based only on courses attempted after readmission. The earned hours will include all credits (1) transferred from other institutions, (2) completed

with a grade of C (2.0) or higher before the two-year rule was applied, and (3) earned after the last two-year rule was applied.

If the two-year rule is not applied, the student will return with a cumulative GPA, credit hours, and grades as if the interruption had not occurred.

A student, having elected to have the two-year rule applied or not applied, may not reverse the option later. Applications for the two-year rule may be obtained from the Advising Center and submitted to the Registrar's office prior to the initial term of re-enrollment.

The two-year rule does have an impact on a student's completion rate.

Course Withdrawals

Students can withdraw from individual courses through their MyWCU. Even though students can withdraw from a course on their own accord, they are encouraged to speak with the instructor or the faculty advisor prior to withdrawing. Courses a student has withdrawn from do not count toward the twelve hours required for full-time enrollment, and no refund is given. Students are not permitted to withdraw from individual courses after the course withdrawal deadline.

Students may withdraw from a maximum of 16 hours of courses during their career at Western Carolina University. Any withdrawal beyond the limit will result in a Withdrawn-Failing (WF) which will affect the semester and cumulative GPA as if it were an F. (See Case Study 4)

Medical Withdrawal from A Course

A student typically cannot withdraw from individual courses for medical reasons. This includes courses in which penalty grades were assigned due to academic misconduct. A request to withdraw from a course or to reduce your academic load is not a University medical withdrawal.

Students who wish to withdraw from one or more (but not all) of their current classes for medical reasons may appeal to the dean of the department in which the course is being offered. In these cases, the student must provide documentation to the dean regarding the medical problem treated at Western Carolina University Student Health Services or Counseling and Psychological Services. If treatment has not occurred at the Western Carolina University Student Health Center, documentation from the outside provider will be required.

University Withdrawals

During the Fall and Spring semesters, a student may withdraw from the University (all courses) through the last withdrawal date, as indicated by the Registrar's Office. During summer sessions, a University Withdrawal occurs only if the student withdraws from all Summer sessions. University withdrawals will affect satisfactory academic progress and course completion rates but will not count towards the student's 16-hour course withdrawal limit.

To begin the University Withdrawal process, students may contact the Office of Student Retention by phone, email, or in person. University Withdrawals cannot be completed online by the student. In the event of a University Withdrawal, the student will receive a grade of "W" ("Withdrawn") for all courses in which they were enrolled. The "Fees, Expenses and Financial Aid" section of the catalog provides information regarding the effects of University Withdrawal on tuition and fee payments and financial aid.

A student may not use this policy for courses in which penalty grades were assigned due to academic misconduct. In all cases, the withdrawal date is noted on the student's permanent record.

After the Withdrawal Deadline

There are three exceptions to the University Withdrawal policy that will allow a student to withdraw from all courses. The exceptions are medical withdrawals, withdrawals for deployment or other military contingency, and withdrawals for extenuating circumstances.

Withdrawal for Medical Reasons:

A designated physician or her/his designee at Western Carolina University Student Health Services reviews all medical withdrawals and evaluates the medical documentation.

Western Carolina University is under no obligation to grant a medical withdrawal if final examinations have been taken. Such situations must be handled with grade replacements.

A notation of "W" is entered on the permanent record of the student for all withdrawals from the university for medical reasons and will affect the student's course completion rate. However, a medical withdrawal will not affect a student's 16-hour limit for withdrawals.

Regular medical withdrawal (withdrawal for current semester):

- Requires medical documentation from a private physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or therapist. If the student has not been seen at Western Carolina University Student Health Services or Western Carolina University Counseling and Psychological Services, appropriate medical records from an outside provider are required.

- Requires documentation from outside providers to a designated Western Carolina University physician or counselor. Documentation may be by mail, by fax, or hand-delivered, but it must be in writing. This documentation must specifically recommend withdrawal and must give a specific date of withdrawal.
- Will not be granted if any final examinations for the current semester have been taken. Retroactive medical withdrawal (withdrawal for a previous semester):
 - Requires medical documentation from a private physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or therapist, or a Western Carolina University Student Health Services or Western Carolina University Counseling and Psychological Services physician, psychologist, or counselor who treated the student during the semester requested.
 - Requires documentation from providers to the designated physician. Documentation may be by mail, by fax, or hand-delivered, but it must be in writing. This documentation must specifically recommend withdrawal, and it must give a specific date.
 - Students who attempted the final exam in a class will not be allowed to withdraw medically.
 - Retroactive withdrawals must be completed by the end of the next regular semester (fall or spring).

Withdrawal for Deployment or Other Military Contingency:

When a student is called to active military service during an academic term, he or she may choose one of the following two options:

- The student may request retroactive withdrawal to the beginning of the semester, with a full refund of tuition and fees.
- If at least 75 percent of the term has been completed, the student may request the faculty member assign a grade for the course based on the work completed. The final decision about grading is left to the faculty member.

If a student decides to enlist in the military, he/she will be subject to the regular withdrawal process. For more information, contact the Military Student Services.

Withdrawals from the University for Extenuating Circumstances:

Students can petition the Office of the Provost to withdraw from the University for extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances may include: death or serious illness within the immediate family, major life event in the family (e.g. loss of home, incarceration), financial hardship, pregnancy, and others as deemed appropriate by a member of the Office of the Provost. Withdrawal for extenuating circumstances will affect satisfactory academic progress and course completion rates but will not count towards the student's 16-hour withdrawal limit.

FERPA RELEASE OF INFORMATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their educational records. Those rights include access to and control of their records, including the right to deny access to those records without the student's consent.

Faculty will often encounter this when a parent calls asking about their student's grades, attendance, or class schedule. While it is generally better for the parent to speak directly with their student, there are legitimate circumstances where a parent may need to speak with their student's advisor. There may also be times when a student will call asking for information about their records. In order to facilitate this communication, when appropriate, students are asked to create a release of information code that serves as express consent. They can do this in MyWCU by creating two six-digit codes, one for themselves and one for anyone else to whom they choose to grant access.

To confirm a security pin before releasing FERPA protected information (this is how you can identify a phone caller), access the SPAAPIN Banner screen for the student and enter six zeros "000000" in the "From Term" box. Then enter the student's 920#. The Student's Pin will be labeled as will their Other Pin (used for Parents/Guardians, etc.).

Surcharge Policy (140 Hour Rule)

The Tuition Surcharge Policy is NO LONGER in effect as of 2019. This policy was adopted by the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina pursuant to actions of the North Carolina General Assembly. A fifty percent tuition surcharge was applied to students who took more than 140 semester hours and more than eight regular semesters (i.e., Fall and Spring) to complete a baccalaureate degree. The semester hours used to calculate the total of 140 hours include repeated, failed, and transferred credit courses.

Identifying New Students

- There are several categories of students at Western Carolina University. We are primarily concerned with those who are degree-seeking as either Residential or Distance.
- Freshmen students are those with 0-29 hours of college credit from dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, CLEP, or transfer from a college or university.
- Some Early College students will have earned an associate degree in Arts or Science from an accredited community college. These students are still considered to be freshmen as they have not yet had a true college experience, while at the same time, they are considered transfer students due to having completed an associate degree.
- Transfer students are those with 15 or more hours of credit from an accredited Community College, University, or military institution.
- Distance Learning students may be any combination of both Early College and/or Transfer. Students accepted as distance learners will be assisted by a professional advisor in Educational Outreach.

Admissions

- All students will complete the Application for Undergraduate Admissions and will self-identify as Freshman, Early College, Transfer, or Distance Learner.
- Students keep track of their status through their MyWCU Account.
- The ***Gateway Checklist*** helps student keep track of important deadlines and when to complete certain tasks within the admittance process:
 - Submission of final transcripts
 - Payment of Tuition and Housing Deposits
 - Submission of Housing Contract
 - Submission of Immunization Record
 - Completion of MyWCU Pre-Registration
 - Registration for New Student Orientation

Acceptance to Admittance

Once the application has been approved, a code is assigned. Codes move the student application to the next step in the process.

- A1, A2 means the application has been accepted with limited access to MyWCU
- S1, S2, S3 means the application is complete and the student has full access to MyWCU
- P1, P2, P3 means the distance learner's application is pending approval by the program coordinator

Registration

- All new residential students are assigned a professional advisor based upon their choice of major or interest area. Advisors are assigned in Pre-Registration which will feed into Banner.
- Professional advisors monitor their assigned students for completion of the Admissions processes before class registration may begin.
- Students choose a major or interest in Pre-Registration, which aids in pairing the student with the appropriate advisor. However, declaration of a major is not required until the completion of 45 credit hours. This is known as the 45-Hour-Rule and will result in a registration hold until a major is chosen.
- During New Student Orientation students are provided their ALT PIN. They can change their major and/or adjust their schedule accordingly with the assistance of a professional advisor.

Initial Advisor Meetings

Professional advisors will begin meeting with their new students during the second week of the new semester. The individualized sessions provide the students a chance to share their college experience and address questions or concerns early on. This is an opportunity for the advisor to set up the Advisor-Advisee Relationship.

Fifth Week Grade Meetings

Professional advisors require an individual meeting with their advisees who earn unsatisfactory grades in two or more of their courses or concerning comments from an instructor. Unsatisfactory grades are a combination of C-, D+, D, D-, F, and U. Notes on these meetings are entered into Navigate, and can later be viewed by the faculty advisor for a better-informed conversation with the student.

Returning Student Process

Students may return to WCU after graduation, suspension, military deployment, or time off. These [returning students](#) will be identified as either a Readmit in Good Standing or a Reinstated student following academic appeal or suspension. Below is the process to register for classes:

- Completion of the Application for Undergraduate Admissions
- Completion of the Statement of Academic Intent (SAI) for those requesting reinstatement
- Payment of application fees and required tuition/housing deposits
- Accepted students will contact the Advising Center for completion of their application process (receive an S1, S2, or S3 code)
- If declared, students will contact the Advising Center for registration assistance and be referred to faculty when appropriate.
- If undeclared, students will contact the Advising Center for registration advice and ALT PIN
- If declaring or changing their major, students will contact the Advising Center for registration advice and ALT PIN



Case Studies

Case Study 1: Double Majoring

Cassie Caldwell is a second-semester freshman. She has just declared a major in Biology and wants to choose a second major. She has come to you for advice on whether your discipline would be a good choice for her.

What would you do when Cassie sits down in your office?

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- Look at the requirements and eight-semester plan for the Biology major (found in the Undergraduate Catalog at or online at the Biology department's web page)
- Let Cassie know how well the Biology requirements fit with the requirements for a major in your field. Based on her record, consider whether she would reasonably be able to complete both majors in four years.
- Consider prerequisites or other determinants for both Biology and your major. Does Cassie's record show that she will be able to complete these in a reasonable amount of time?

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

Ask Cassie questions.

- ✓ Why did you choose a major in Biology?
- ✓ What drew you to consider [your major]?
- ✓ What kind of career path or paths are you considering?
- ✓ What do you think are your greatest strengths as a student?
- ✓ What do you think are your biggest challenges as a student?

Listen to Cassie's answers.

- ✓ How well do her strengths and weaknesses fit with your major and her intended career path?
- ✓ What information does she need in order to fully understand the career she is considering? Has she visited the Center for Career and Professional Development?
- ✓ Are there other options for either careers or majors that she may not have considered yet?
- ✓ Are there steps she can take to begin addressing her challenges?

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- Look at the order in which Cassie intends to take her classes. Talk to her about all of her classes, even those not related to her major(s).
- Ask Cassie to compare and contrast how different disciplinary areas think or process information (in other words, not the content or the teaching). Include both science and your major.
- Have Cassie work through a learning styles inventory (or two) to find out more about her learning processes.
- Have Cassie relate each of her classes, no matter how disparate, to your major and let her see the connections.
- Work with Cassie to create a plan for her to master a set of transferable skills needed in her intended career field. These plans can include curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities.

What notation would you put in Cassie's record after the appointment?

Case Study 2: Unsure About Major or Career

Freddie Fernandez has finished his freshmen year with mixed results.

Fall

- BIOL 140 C+
- PSY 150 B-
- FYS 190 U
- HIST 141 C
- MATH 101 W

Spring

- LAW 230 B
- MATH 101 W
- CHEM 101 F
- SOC 103 B-
- ENGL 101 C

Cumulative GPA: 2.106

Freddie comes to you in May because he has not yet registered for classes for Fall.

He has declared your major but really isn't sure if that's what he wants to do or not. What do you tell Freddie when he sits down in front of you?

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- The catalog says students who receive a U must make the hours up by taking another Liberal Studies class but it does not explicitly bar them from retaking the First-Year Seminar. Freddie can retake FYS 190 if it required for his major program. If it is not, he will need to take another [liberal studies](#) class to compensate for the hours. This course substitution request will also need to be sent to the Liberal Studies Coordinator through the MyWCU workflow in order for the Degree Audit to reflect the additional LS course for FYS credit.
- Freddie should choose which class to retake carefully. Students at WCU are only eligible to repeat 16 credit hours, so they should repeat only those courses that will have maximum impact on their GPA. The most likely candidate, in this case, is the CHEM 101 course.
- Freddie should only choose to retake a class if he is certain that he will be successful the second time. When a student repeats a course, only the most recent grade is used in the calculation of the student's grade point average, even if the most recent grade is lower. Ask Freddie why he wasn't successful in his Chemistry course and see if you can ascertain whether those circumstances would be different if he took the course again.

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

- Freddie seems to be struggling with Math and Science courses. Talk to him about why he finds these to be especially challenging. See if he is aware of the resources at the Math Tutoring Center or for science tutoring at the WaLC.
- Freddie is carrying a relatively light load, especially considering his two withdraws. Ask him about the challenges he is facing in addition to his courses. Does Freddie have a job? What are his living arrangements? What extracurricular activities is he involved in?
- Freddie seems to be relatively uninspired. Talk to him about where he might see himself in five years. Have him visit the Center for Career and Professional Development for career counseling.
- Talk to Freddie about his options for the summer and how they might influence his choices for the Fall. Should he take summer school classes? Could he (should he?) participate in study abroad, service learning, or other related activities?

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- Ask Freddie to talk about the biggest differences between high school and college. Specifically, ask him to compare how and what he learned in, say, history at each level.
- Ask Freddie to consider why he withdrew from his Math class but stuck with his science classes despite struggling with the material in both.
- Have Freddie connect what he has learned in each of his classes to your major. Do the connections make sense?
- Is there an independent project Freddie could pursue over the summer that might help him to meet his challenges or find an inspired direction? For example, could he interview or shadow someone in the field he is considering? Could he conduct independent research on a topic of special interest? Could he reach out to others, perhaps through social media, who share his interests and passions?

What notation would you put in Freddie's record after the appointment?

Case Study 3: Personal Issues

In December, you look at your advisee list to see how each of your advisees fared that semester. Most of them seem to have made it through okay, but Penny Perkins finished her first semester as freshmen with the following record:

- ENG 101 F
- CHEM 140 D
- USI 130 C
- MATH 101 C-
- BIOL 140 D

Overall GPA: 1.001

This comes as a bit of a surprise because, at five weeks, Penny seemed to be doing well with satisfactory marks in all of her courses. You call Penny into your office. Before you even get a chance to talk to her, she bursts out in tears and says that she had roommate troubles in the dorm, she lost her grandmother around Thanksgiving and is generally very homesick. What are you going to talk to her about?

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- Penny will be placed on academic warning, which occurs any time a student has a GPA that falls below 2.0. If her GPA had fallen below 1.0, Penny would have been suspended for one semester.
- Since she is a first semester freshman, she will also have to be placed on a Learning Contract for the Spring semester. This means she will enroll in the Learning Contract course, LC 101. If she chose to not participate in the Learning Contract course, Penny would be suspended for one semester, no matter her GPA.
- She will also need to make at least a 2.30 GPA in the spring semester in order to be able to continue.

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

- Talk to Penny about getting involved in campus organizations and other extracurricular activities. Getting engaged with the campus has been shown to be one of the most effective ways to combat homesickness.

- Consider referring Penny to the campus Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) to deal with her grief.
- The Division of Student Affairs works with students going through major life crises, such as the death of a family member. While it may be too late for this semester, Penny should know that she can go to their office in Brown and that they will send information to her advisor, professors, residential assistant, etc. to let them know what's going on in the event that she must be absent from campus.
- Residential Living has options for students struggling with roommates or other residence hall-related stressors. Penny can contact her Building Director for help and advice. If she is not sure who her Building Director is, she can contact the main office for Residential Living at (828)-227-7303.

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- This may be an opportunity for Penny to learn something about adult life. You may be able to help her work through some of those lessons and see what her experiences have taught her.
- Work with Penny to connect her experiences, even the negative or stressful ones, to progress in her major and/or chosen career field.

What notation would you put in Penny's record about her visit?

Case Study 4: Withdrawing from a Course

Will Wilson is a second-semester freshman who has come to you to schedule his courses for next fall. He also asks you if he can withdraw from BIOL 140 this semester. He says that he's really struggling with it and does not believe that he can successfully complete the course.

At five weeks, he did receive a report of satisfactory progress in the course (and in all other courses).

Fall

- ENGL 101 B
- HEAL 123 B+
- CHEM 132 W
- MATH 130 C+
- LEAD 150 A

Spring

- FYS 190
- BIOL 140
- COMM 201
- SOC 103

What do you say to Will?

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- If Will wants to withdraw from the course, he can follow the necessary steps on MyWCU.
- He will need to withdraw from the course before the withdrawal deadlines, usually at the 60% mark of the semester. You can check the academic calendar for specific dates.
- If Will does decide to withdraw from the class during the first half of the semester, a W will appear on his transcript. The W does not count towards his GPA. Will should know, though, that some graduate programs recalculate GPAs to include W's.
- Remind Will of the 16-credit hour maximum course withdrawal policy.
- Students must have 12 credit hours to remain a full-time student. If Will withdraws from this course, he will no longer be considered a full-time student, which could have significant repercussions.
- One potential repercussion is financial aid. Students receiving financial aid are expected to make satisfactory academic progress (SAP) towards earning a degree, including a certain number of credit hours. Students should check the

Financial Aid Office website for more information about SAP before putting themselves below full-time.

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

- Will is clearly not thriving in his science classes. You can talk to him about working with tutors at the WaLC to help him better grasp the material in his Biology class.
- Ask Will about his course load overall. His grades first semester were okay, but only with a pretty light load. You could consider referring him to the WaLC for additional practice in study skills, time management, or other related skills.

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- Evaluate Will's eight-semester plan and show him the long-term repercussions if he completes only 20 hours his first year.
- Ask Will how he views the relationship between science and math. Will's mathematical skills do not appear to be strong, which could also influence his success in science classes. Depending on his major, Will may want to enroll in additional math courses or to take other steps to strengthen his skills in this area.
- Talk to Will about why he is required to take science classes and how those classes might contribute to his future career goals.
- Talk to Will about why he chose to take these specific Biology and Chemistry courses. Discuss options for taking alternative science courses if CHEM 132 and BIOL 140 are not required to fulfill a major, minor, or post-graduate program pre-requisite.

What notation would you put in Will's record after the appointment?

Case Study 5: Socially Awkward

You meet with Violet Vanderbilt for the first time after the end of her first semester at WCU. Before the meeting, you review her record briefly. Her high school grades were good (mostly Bs), perhaps just shy of great. She completed three early college courses at the local community college, earning 2 As and a B.

In person, she comes across as very shy and lacking confidence. She apologizes constantly and seems to be very worried or nervous (hand wringing, darting eyes, etc.).

Her first semester grades show the following:

- ENGL 101 A
- HIST 141 A-
- MATH 101 B+
- PAR 102 A
- PSY 150 A-

GPA: 3.734

What should to talk about with Violet?

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- You should congratulate her—Violet made Dean’s list (3.5 GPA or higher with 12 credits or more, no Ds, Fs, or Is).
- Let her know that if she keeps it up, she may be eligible for honors at graduation. Her current grades would earn her magna cum laude.
 - To graduate summa cum laude, a student must have earned a minimum GPA of 3.90 on quality hours attempted at Western Carolina University for the degree; to graduate magna cum laude, a GPA of 3.70; and to graduate cum laude, a GPA of 3.50.
- Violet should consider joining the Honors College. While she didn’t qualify before this semester, her current record meets the requirements. Honors students receive priority registration, special advising, enhanced library privileges, access to living and meeting spaces, and the potential to graduate with honors.

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

- Academically, Violet is thriving, so talk to her about why she seems nervous. It could be something simple or unrelated. For example, first generation students are often simply nervous talking to a professor.
- Talk to Violet about getting involved in activities that may help boost her self-confidence. The Honors College and Student Government Association offer leadership opportunities. In addition, there are academic organizations and activities, such as Model United Nations or the Debate Team, which might be beneficial to her.
- It is possible Violet's behavior represents a deeper psychological issue, such as an anxiety disorder. You can talk to, or have Violet talk to, Counseling Services (CAPS) to see if such a condition exists and to look at treatment options.

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- Ask Violet how she thinks her demeanor might affect her success. For example, many employers emphasize the need for knowledgeable workers to have collaborative skills. How can she cope with/reconcile/strategize the need for those skills? (This may not be appropriate for a first meeting with Violet, since specifically calling out her nervous demeanor may alienate her even more. Take time to learn more about her first, build some trust, and then broach the subject when you feel it is the right time.)
- Start to talk to Violet about graduate school options and what opportunities there may be for people with advanced degrees in the field.

What notation would you put in Violet's record after the appointment?

Case Study 6: Course Completion and Academic Standing

Johnny Jefferson emails you during the Fall asking if he would be able to withdraw from a class he's currently taking. He is a transfer student in his second year at WCU and is taking 15 credit hours; he is looking to withdraw from a three-credit hour class. You check his grades from last year and see the following:

Summer

- CHEM 139 D+
- MATH 146 B

Fall

- GEOL 150 B-
- GEOL 155 W
- GEOL 250 W
- MUS 148 B+

Spring

- ENGL 241 W
- ENGL 242 W
- ENGL 302 W
- ENGL 303 W
- ENGL 420 W
- PSC 150 W

Overall GPA: 2.868

Cumulative Course Completion Rate: 57.3%

After talking to Johnny, you learn he completed a university withdrawal
1

Spring, and he is currently on Academic Warning status.

What do you say to Johnny?

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- If Johnny wants to withdraw from a course, he can follow the necessary steps on myWCU. Remind him that he will need to withdraw before the deadline and that a W will appear on his transcript.
- Johnny has already withdrawn from 7 credit hours last Fall. University withdrawals do not count against the 16-credit hours that students are allowed but do count against cumulative course completion rates.
- Even if Johnny completes all of his classes without withdrawing, his cumulative course completion rate will still be below 67% at the end of the semester. Since he is currently on Academic Warning, that means he will be placed on Academic Suspension (see Academic Standing spreadsheet in Appendix.)

- Johnny will need to know that he should expect to receive an email and letter notification about his suspension, and what the process is for appealing. He should register for classes like usual, and he will be notified about the decision of the Appeals Board before the Spring semester starts.
- If his appeal is denied, his courses will be dropped and he can apply for readmission after he has served one semester of suspension. If his appeal is approved, he will be required to participate in an Academic Action Plan.

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

- Ask Johnny about his medical withdrawal. Has he recovered from his medical issue? If it's applicable, consider referring Johnny to Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) or Student Health Services for support.
- Johnny will be concerned about his future suspension. Talk him through the appeal process and that while you cannot guarantee the decision of the appeals board, having proper documentation of his medical issue and maintaining a cumulative GPA over 2.0 will help his case.
- Check Johnny's major history. Last Fall, it seems he was a Geology major, but last Spring, it looks like he was an English major. Has he visited the Center for Career and Professional Development for career counseling? Having a career plan has been proven to help students achieve better academic progress, and it will also help his appeal case.
- Discuss Johnny's transition from his previous college to WCU. How is his transition affecting his academic and personal life?

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- Evaluate Johnny's graduation plan and discuss the long-term repercussions of withdrawing from class this semester and being suspended for a semester (should his appeal be denied).
- If Johnny hasn't developed a plan for graduation, run a Degree Audit Evaluation and help him develop one.

Discuss summer school options and what classes he could take to keep him on track towards graduating at a reasonable time.

What notation would you put in Johnny's record after the appointment?

Case Study 7: Returning after two years of being away from WCU

Sam Smithers

Fall 2011

1. USI 130 F
2. ENGL 101 C-
3. NRM 140 C
4. PSY 150 D
5. THEA 104 D
11. BA 133 A

Spring 2012

6. FYS 190 U
7. COMM 201 F
8. HEAL 123 D
9. ECON 231 B
10. MATH 170 D-

Overall Cumulative GPA: 1.536

The student was placed on Academic Suspension after the Spring 2012 term. Sam decided he wanted to take some time off and work full time to figure out his life. After being away for a few years, he now wants to return to finish his degree at WCU.

Stage 1: Advising as Bookkeeping

- The first thing Sam will need to do is reapply as a returning student for the Spring 2015 term and complete a Statement of Academic Intent(SAI).
- Since his Cumulative GPA is below a 2.0, he has the choice of applying the two-year rule to his record.
- If Sam completes the two-year rule form, his Cumulative GPA will be placed at a 0.0 and he will receive credit for the following courses: NRM 140, BA 133, and ECON 231.

Stage 2: Advising as Counseling

- Since Sam is returning after two years, his idea for a major or career path may have changed. Make sure that he is still interested in the major within your college or department.
- Update Sam on any new policies, procedures, and curriculum changes within your major.
- Make sure Sam understands his graduation date has changed. This would be a good opportunity to go over a degree audit and create a semester plan.
- Remind Sam of the Academic Success Centers on campus that will help him to be successful as a returning student.

Stage 3: Advising as Teaching

- Find out if Sam has been working full time or attended another community college while away and determine if he is ready for a full-time load at WCU.
- If he has been working full time and will continue doing so, then there should be a discussion about the load of taking full-time classes while working full time and potential options for taking part-time classes.

What notation would you put in Sam's record after the appointment?

Appendix



Effective Practices When Advising Students Remotely

Ask your Professional Advisor Liaisons for Assistance

(See [Helpful Links](#) for contact information)

Professional Advisor Liaisons are linked to majors at WCU and serve as your departmental liaison. You can contact the Professional Advisor linked to your major if you would like one on one assistance or schedule a group training for your department. We are happy to connect with you over any modality.

Plan your Student Meetings and use the [Zoom](#) platform

Become familiar with your advisee load. It may be beneficial to begin meeting with students as soon as the ALT PINs have been created for the following term. Start meeting with your students online before Advising Day, this will make sure all of your students had an opportunity to be advised and are prepared to register when their registration window opens. *(See [The Report Portal](#) for more information)*

Top Tips for Zoom Meetings:

1. Make Appointment Summaries for schedule appointments or Notes for sharing information.
2. Share registration information with students: attached a Finish in Four registration form, a degree audit, other documents, and provide the student with their ALT PIN. Sharing Notes with students will allow them to access this information after your meeting.
3. Remember to prepare for Advising Day

[Using Zoom](#) will assist you with meeting students virtually. You can create a personal zoom link to serve as virtual office hours or send zoom appointments individually to students. Some Zoom Appointment tips are listed below.

1. Have a waiting room
2. Enabling screen share and polling
3. Playing a sound for when individuals come-and-go
4. Muting sound and video on entry as a privacy courtesy
5. Hiding participant profile pictures as a privacy courtesy
6. Disabling participants from joining before the host
7. Disabling participants from re-joining when they have been removed
8. When applicable you can disable participant chat, private chat, file transfer, screen sharing, annotation, Whiteboard, non verbal feedback, virtual backgrounds

Use WCU's Navigate system.

(See [Navigate User Guide](#) for more information)

4. Faculty/Staff can access the Navigate platform by visiting Navigate.wcu.edu or by clicking on the “Advising/Tutoring” link on your MyWCU account.
5. Navigate is a web-based tool by the Education Advisory Board (EAB) to coordinate, target, and report on advising, tutoring, and other student success services. These functions allow WCU to have a comprehensive student success solution that brings student support systems and analytics to aid in retention and graduation rates. Navigate allows you to toggle between students enrolled in your classes or your advisees. You can also search for any student at WCU.
6. Survey your students early to determine who does not have reliable access to the internet and determine the best form of communication for these students. Text messages or phone calls can be particularly helpful and make these students feel more connected to WCU.
7. Helpful ways to Use Navigate:
 1. Sync your Navigate calendar with your Outlook calendar to reduce schedule conflicts and to track upcoming appointments.

2. Submit Issue Alerts on students who need support via an extra campus connection. An Academic Advisor will make initial contact with the student once the alert is received (*See [Helpful Links](#) for additional information on alerts*).
3. Create Notes for students with whom you interact. You can save attachments and make notes available to students. Notes are important, they allow faculty and staff to be on the same page when communicating with students.
4. Use Navigate appointment campaigns to send targeted appointments requests to students. Appointments can be face-to-face or virtual. If classes have moved to online instruction, you can override scheduling conflicts to allow for students to meet with you when they would typically be in a seated course. Provide a meeting URL or a contact number when creating your availability.
5. Use Navigate's communication functionality to send messages and texts to students. Messages posted in Navigate are routed to the student's Catamount email account and saved under the Conversation tab.

Communicate regularly with your students.

1. Encourage connections
 - a. It never hurts to seek another perspective when seeking advice on a problem or question. Students are sometimes afraid to ask because they want to appear more knowledgeable
2. Make sure students are aware of how they are performing
 - a. Give kudos and timely feedback
 - b. Many students do not know the importance of checking grades regularly.
3. Remind students of upcoming deadlines
 - a. Keep students aware of deadlines; this will prevent the feeling of drowning in online assessments
 - b. Put important academic dates on your calendar so they can be accessed quickly when students ask
4. Remind them you are here for their success and want to assist them students need to be told that they should be asking for help because college is hard, full of jargon, and unknowns. Students, especially first-generation, are sometimes reluctant to ask for help be they fear being viewed as not 'good enough' to be in college.
5. Utilize Navigate's Issue Alerts to connect students with their professional advisors or other campus support offices (*See [Helpful Links](#) for additional information on alerts*).

Make sure to understand Liberal Studies

- Information regarding Liberal Studies can found on the [WCU Liberal Studies website](#) and in the [Catalog](#).
- A [Quick Liberal Studies Reference](#) guide is also available on the Advising Center's website.
- Any questions regarding Liberal Studies credits for WCU or Liberal Studies courses which have already transferred in should be directed to liberalstudies@email.wcu.edu. (Transfer Courses that have not yet transferred in can be referenced through the Registrar's Office "Look Up Tool"- See [Helpful Links for Additional Information](#))
- Any substitutions, waivers, etc. for Liberal Studies should put through the Workflow in MyWCU by searching for "Request a Substitution".
- Each Fall, the Liberal Studies Coordinator holds a refresher training for all Faculty. Faculty will be notified through an invite sent to all Department Heads. Please contact liberalstudies@email.wcu.edu for additional information.

Connect students to fundamental resources:

Send your advisees a welcome email (Develop a template to be used by the department for consistency)

1. Introduce yourself, be personable
2. Tell them your preferred mode of communication or appointment type. Zoom is a great way to meet virtually because of the waiting room, chat, and screen sharing features.
3. Remind them of important dates
 - a. Examples include Add/Drop Deadline, Advising Day, the Withdrawal Deadline, and the last day of classes

Link students to campus support offices:

- **The Division of Student Success**
(See [Units in the Division of Student Success](#) in for Contact information)
 - Offices within the Division of Student Success and affiliated advising offices (Advising Center, MAPS, the WaLC, Math Tutoring Center, Suite 201, etc.) are all remotely assisting students by offering tutoring sessions through Zoom videoconferencing.
 - Each office utilizes Navigate to schedule, track, and document appointments with students.
 - Students will need to provide their WCU 920# and their Student Release of Information Code when contacting the Advising Center.

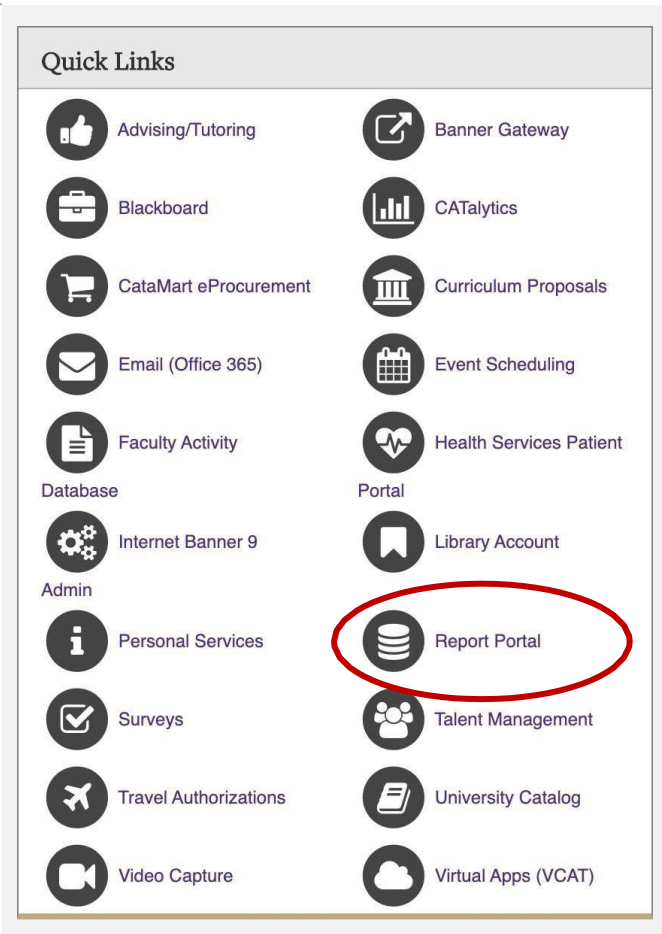
- **Technical Support**
 - Coulter Faculty Commons
 - IT Help Desk
- **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**
 - CAPS provides tele-mental health services to students. To make an appointment, please contact the main office at 828.227.7469 during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm).
- **Financial Aid**
 - Financial Aid offers remote aid counseling. Many common questions are answered on their [Frequently Asked Questions page](#). Students can contact Financial Aid at finaid@wcu.edu or 828.227.7290.
- **Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD)**
 - The CCPD offers virtual counseling appointments for the following services: Resume Writing, Internship Searching, Cover Letter Writing, Career/Major Counseling, Interview Preparation, Job Searching, and Graduate School Preparation. For additional information visit the [CCPD](#). The CCPD utilizes Navigate to schedule, track, and document appointments with students.
- **Office of Accessibility Resources (OAR)**
 - OAR is remotely supporting students with disabilities; students can seek assistance by contacting the OAR at accessibility@wcu.edu or 828.227.3886.

The Report Portal

How to pull the “Advisee Listing by Advisor” Report for ALT PINs and Registration Times

NOTE: *You might also use these directions to run Reports for the Following if they are of interest: “Advisee_Listing_by_Major”, “Full Advisee Listing by Program”, “ListOfAdvisorsByMajor” and “Progress Reporting By Student”*

1. On the right-hand Quick Links menu of your MyWCU homepage, open Report Portal



- You may need to use your MyWCU Login information again to access the Report Portal

- Click the Registrar Folder, then the General Student and Advising Folder and finally choose the “Advisee Listing by Advisor” Report

- Select the upcoming term (for which students are registering, Example “Fall 2020 [202080]”), enter your 920#, and click View Report

- Once the list loads, click the floppy disk save icon and select “Excel” to export the list to an Excel spreadsheet and save this to your computer. NOTE: If you do not do this but instead try to print directly from this screen, your list might be truncated.

ID	NAME	EMAIL	ALT PIN	REG DATE	CLASS	PROGRAM
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	995279	3/1/2020	SR	ETBS ENGR
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	996505	3/2/2020	SR	ETBS ENGR
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	146777	3/17/2020	FR	ETBS ET

Helpful Links

[Advising Center Staff](#) (Includes additional Contact Links for Honors College, Suite 201, Distance and Online Program, and the School of Health Sciences)

[How to Make a Tutoring Appointment](#) (The WaLC and Math Tutoring Center)

[How to Access Brainfuse Tutoring](#) (Online 3rd party Tutoring)

[How to Look up Transfer Equivalencies](#) (The “Look Up Tool”)

[CAA Pathway Plans for NC Community College Transfers](#)

[Important Forms of the Registrar’s Office](#) (Includes Grade Replacement Form)

[Liberal Studies Master List](#)

ALERTS:

[Outward Facing Incident Reports](#) (Student Response Team)

- [Student of Concern Report Form](#)
- [Conduct Report Form](#)
- [Bias Report Form](#)

As Campus Security Authorities, please report any incidents to the University Police Department (UPD)

- UPD completes an internal facing Title IX Incident Report
- All reports then go the Associate General Counsel/Title IX Coordinator



Division of Student Success

Navigate

Navigate is a web-based tool by the Education Advisory Board (EAB) to coordinate, target, and report on advising, tutoring, and other student success services. These functions allow WCU to have a comprehensive student success solution that brings student support systems and analytics to aid in retention and graduation rates. You can access Navigate through your myWCU homepage. In the “Quick Links” box there is an “Advising/Tutoring” website link. This link will automatically log you into Navigate. The system will be updated every night. Please call the Advising Center at 828-227-7753 if you have any questions.

Your homepage

1) Term

- a. You can change the term, so you can see the classes for which the student is registered, during that term.

2) Quick Search

- a. Using the quick search in the top middle of the screen, you can search by the student’s ID number, name or Catamount email. Navigate uses the first name as it appears in Banner (SPAIDEN). If a student goes by their middle name, you should search by their first name (the question mark icon at the top of the screen).

3) Help Center

- a. You can view training videos and articles with detailed information about how to use Navigate.

4) User Role

- a. By clicking on the down arrow, you are able to change your role between advisor and professor.

5) Upcoming Appointments tab shows you who has made appointments

- a. This tab will display date, time, name of student, and a comment if the student wrote one.

6) My Availability tab is where you create open appointments that students can schedule with you.

- a. These appointments can be set for a date range, certain days, and certain times.

7) Advisee list

- a. If a student does not show up on this list, it is because they might not be assigned correctly within Banner or they are not active students for the current term.

8) Issue Alert

- a. This button is our Issue Alert system. You can report a student from your homepage, and from the student’s homepage.
 - i. The academic reasons will be sent to the Professional Advisor. The non-academic reasons will be sent to Student Crisis Response Team within Student Affairs.

9) Appointment Campaigns function allows you to schedule appointments with multiple students at one time.

- a. You can now schedule appointments during advising day without the headache of time conflicts.

Advisor's Homepage

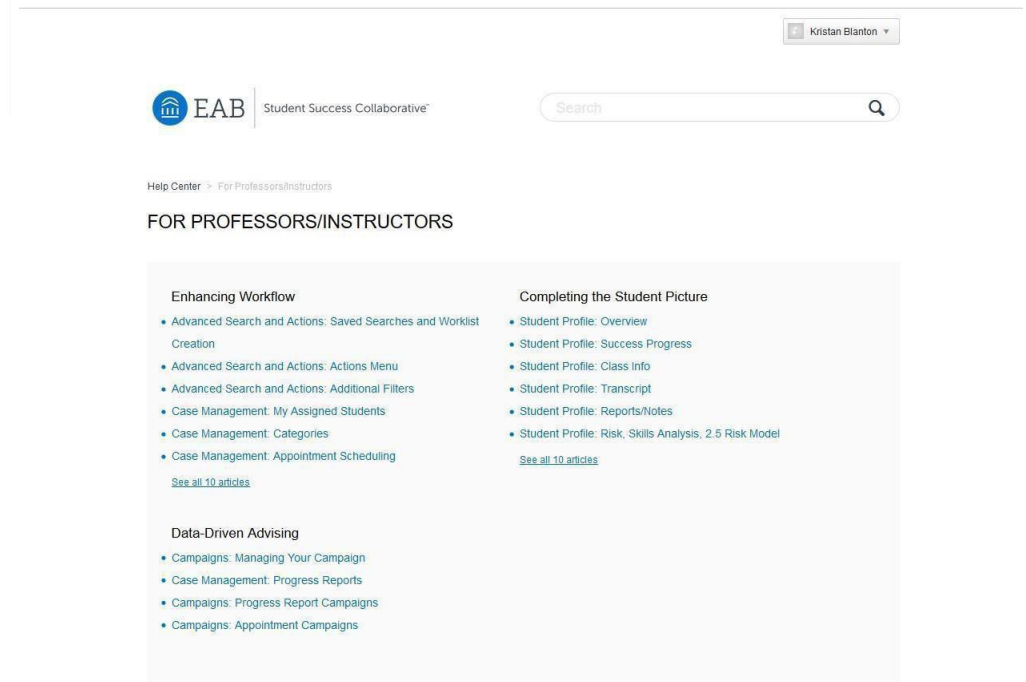
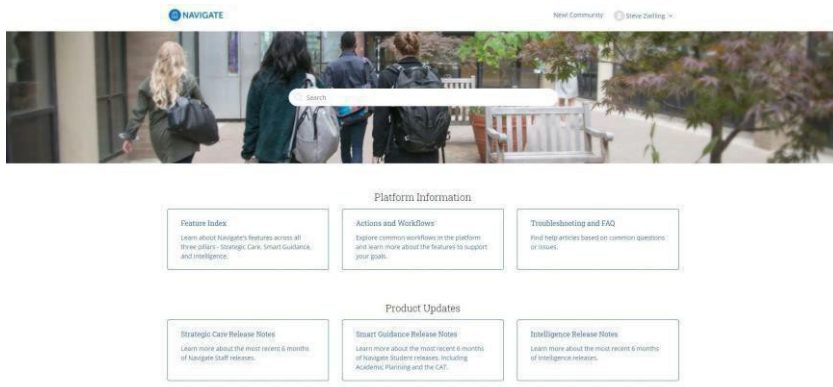
The screenshot shows the Advisor's Homepage interface. The top navigation bar includes a 'NAVIGATE' menu, a 'Quick Search' field, and a 'Terms' dropdown set to 'Summer 2021'. The main content area is titled 'ADVISOR'S NAME (staff)' and features a 'My Assigned Students For Summer 2021' section. This section contains a table with columns for 'INDEX', 'STUDENT NAME', 'CATEGORY', and 'AT RISK'. The table lists five students with their respective categories and risk statuses. A right-hand sidebar contains sections for 'Status', 'Options', 'Contact Information', and 'Personal Information'. A 'Support' button is located at the bottom right of the sidebar.

INDEX	STUDENT NAME	CATEGORY	AT RISK
1		NonDegree	No
2		Alpha Chi Omega Sorority; Continuing; Pre-Medicine; Veteran	No
3		Continuing; Liberal Studies Waived	No
4		Academic Standing; Academic Notice; Continuing; Liberal Studies Waived	No
5		Continuing; First Time FT Freshman 201890; Pre-Physical Therapy	No

*The numbers on the image above correspond to the numbers on the previous page.

Help Center

You can view training videos and articles with detailed information about how to use Navigate. Click on the “?” on the top right-hand side for the Help Center.



Student's Profile Page

1) Homepage

a. Overview tab

- i. At a glance, you will be able to see the likelihood that a student will be successful in their current major. (Poor grades, missed success markers, and Cumulative GPA). Success Markers have been put in place by WCU's Department Heads and Program Directors.

b. Success Progress tab

- i. Shows the trend of the student's progress at WCU in graph form.

c. Reports/Notes tab

- i. This will show you any past notes on the student.

d. Class Info tab

- i. This is the student's schedule based on the current term.
- ii. MID = 5th week grades and final grades are pulled from Banner.
- iii. You can view their academic transcript from WCU and transfer coursework.

e. Major Explorer tab

- i. Information about their predicted risk level in multiple majors.

f. More tab

- i. Your appointment calendar through Navigate.
- i. Study Hall- this is required for certain student athletes.
- ii. Conversation- This shows any communication with the student through Navigate.

2) Actions Box

a. Message Student

- i. This sends an email to the student's Catamount email. It will show a Navigate address as the sender, not your WCU email address.

b. Add a Note on this Student

- i. Record notes about student meetings and attach documents.

c. Add a Reminder to this Student

- i. You can set a reminder on a student and can view it under the student's Report/Notes tab.

d. Schedule an Appointment

- i. You can schedule an appointment with a student without creating availability for the student to see



1

- Overview
- Success Progress
- Reports / Notes
- Course Info
- Major Explorer
- More

Course Grade D/F 1	Repeated Courses 0	Withdrawn Courses 1	Missed Success Markers 4	Cumulative GPA 3.167
Total Credits Earned 85.00	Credit Completion % at this Institution 80%	Predicted Support Level Moderate View detail		

Pre Social Work

Undeclared (Deg Seeking)
Coll of Health & Human Science

Major History

STUDENT ID
ALTERNATE I
CLASSIFICATION
Junior
MOST RECENT ENROLLMENT
Spring 2020

Categories

1st Generation Student, Academic Standing: Academic Notice, Liberal Studies Waived, Returning

Tags

First Gen_Spring 2019, First Generation, Summer 2020 Online Coaching Invitation Sent

[Manage Tags](#)

2



Staff Alerts 0

- I want to...
- [Message Student](#)
 - [Add a Note on this Student](#)
 - [Add a Reminder to this Student](#)
 - [Report on Appointment](#)
 - [Schedule an Appointment](#)
 - [Add to Student List](#)
 - [Issue an Alert](#)

Active Appt. Campaigns 0

Student is not involved in any active campaigns

Links

- [Degree Evaluation](#)
- [Academic Progress](#)
- [Academic Transcript](#)
- [Academic Calendar](#)

Student

Student ID: 920255570



*The numbers on the image above correspond to the numbers on the previous page.

- 1) Type the student's name, ID number, or Catamount email into the Quick Search box in the top right corner.
- 2) Once you are on the student's homepage, click the "Add a Note on the Student" link on the right-hand side.
- 3) Type into the "Note" box.
- 4) Visibility?
 - a. If you check only the box with your name, then you are the only one who will be able to view the note.
 - b. If you check the box with the student's name, then the student will be able to view the note.
 - c. If you don't check either box, then any faculty/staff with access to notes on Navigate will be able to view it, but the student will not have access to the information.
- 5) Attach File
 - a. You can attach PDFs, Word documents, or emails into Navigate. Save emails in txt format.

***The numbers on the image below correspond to the numbers above.**

The screenshot shows a web form titled "ADD A NOTE TO JONATHAN". The form is divided into several sections:

- Note (Required):** A large text area for entering the note content, with a purple box labeled "3" in the center.
- Note Subject:** A section with the name "Jonathan Alexander" and the role "Student, Tutor".
- Relations:** A section with two input fields: "Note Reason" and "Note URL".
- Visibility:** A section with three checkboxes: "Jonathan Alexander?", "Printed Student Report", and "Jonathan Alexander?". A purple box labeled "4" is next to the "Jonathan Alexander?" checkbox.
- Attach File:** A section with an "Attach File" button, a "Browse..." button, and the text "No file selected.". A purple box labeled "5" is next to the "Browse..." button.
- Buttons:** At the bottom right, there are "Save Note" and "Cancel" buttons.

- 1) Click on the Calendar icon on the left-hand side.
- 2) You will be able to see your calendar with the appointments at a glance. If you want to sync to your Outlook calendar, click on the "Settings and Sync" option in the top right-hand side of the screen.
- 3) You can sync your calendar by clicking "Setup Sync". Outlook information is shown as Busy blocks.

***The numbers on the image below correspond to the numbers above.**

The screenshot displays the 'My Calendar' page in the NAVIGATE system. The interface includes a top navigation bar with the NAVIGATE logo, a search bar, and a dropdown menu for 'Summer 2019'. The main content area is titled 'My Calendar' and features a 'Settings and Sync' link in the top right corner. A purple sidebar on the left contains navigation icons, with a calendar icon highlighted by a purple box labeled '1'. The calendar grid shows the month of August 2019, with a date highlighted by a purple box labeled '2'. The 'Settings and Sync' link is highlighted by a purple box labeled '3'.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

1) You can search all students in Navigate by clicking on “Show Advance Filters.” See the different filters below.

Saved Searches ▾

Keywords (First Name, Last Name, E-mail, Student ID)?

Type?

Student Information First Name, Last Name, Student ID, Category, Tag, Student List ▾

Enrollment History Enrollment Terms ▾

Area of Study College/School, Degree, Concentration, Major ▾

Term Data Classification, Term GPA ▾

Performance Data GPA, Hours, Credits ▾

Course Data Course, Section, Status ▾

Assigned To ▾

My Students Only At-Risk Students Only Include Inactive

- 1) Click on the **My Availability** tab.
- 2) Click on the **Actions** drop down menu.
- 3) Select the **Add Time** option.
- 4) Choose the day of the week you would like to have open appointments.
 - a. You can choose to do multiple days at the same time if you want to have a recurring appointment time. (MWF 3-4pm)
- 5) The personal availability link (PAL) provides a direct link to your scheduling screen and eliminates several steps for students. The link is displayed at the bottom of the My Availability tab. The PAL is best used in an email signature, in college/departments websites, and/or on hand to send general emails to students.
- 6) Use the Scroll boxes to select the range of time for the appointments.
- 7) Click on the “Appointments” button.
- 8) Choose from the drop-down menu to select how long you would like to have these appointments open.
 - a. Forever, term only, or range of dates.
 - b. If you choose range of dates, then you will be asked the start date and the end date.
 - c. To create availability for one day only, select the same start and end date.
- 9) Click on “Location” and choose “Faculty Office.”
- 10) Select the Student Services that are listed. (Faculty Advising Appointment or Virtual Advising Appointment).
- 11) Input your contact information in the “URL/Phone Number” if you wish to do so.

ADD AVAILABILITY
✕

When are you available to meet?

Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat
Sun

From

To

All times listed are in Eastern Time (US & Canada).

How long is this availability active?

Please select a duration

Add to your personal availability link?

Add this availability to your personal availability link?

What type of availability is this?

Appointments
Drop-ins
Campaigns

Care Unit

Please select a care unit

Location

Please select a location

Services

Please select services

Cancel
Save

13) You can then view your availability under the My Availability tab.

- a. If the availability is not open for today's date, it will show in pink and have an inactive/ Edit hyperlink. Please note that students will still be able to see these appointments.

Times Available

Actions ▼						
SELECT	DAYS OF WEEK	TIMES	DATES	LOCATION	SUBJECT	
<input type="radio"/>	Wed	4:00p-5:00p	July 20, 2016 to July 20, 2016	Advising Center- 2nd Floor One Stop	Registration For Appointments	Edit
<input type="radio"/>	Thu	3:00p-5:00p	July 21, 2016 to July 21, 2016	Advising Center- 2nd Floor One Stop	Transfer Issues, Academic Standing, Change Major/Minor, General, Registration , University Withdrawal For Appointments	Inactive/Edit

Directions for Students to Make an Appointment

Use these directions below to let students know how to make an appointment with you through Navigate.

1. Log into myWCU and click on the Advising/Tutoring link in the Quick Links box.
2. Click the blue "Get Assistance" button on the right-hand side of the screen.
3. Select the type of appointment you are seeking. (Advising)
4. Select the service for the appointment from the drop-down menu. (Under the Faculty Advising Appointment Service)
5. Click the blue "Find Available Time" button.
6. Select the office Faculty Advisor's Office and the select your faculty advisor.
7. Click the preferred available appointment time at the right.
8. Review appointment details and confirm by clicking "schedule".

How to Find Tutoring Reports

Faculty have access to reports of their students' tutoring visits to the Writing and Learning Commons (WaLC). For reports of students' visits to the Math Tutoring Center (MTC), please contact the MTC Director (828-227-3830).

To generate a report for your entire class:

1. On the left-hand menu, click on **Reporting**.
2. Under **Tutor Reports**, click on Tutor Appointment Details.
3. Change the date range
4. Under **Course Data**, choose your course and section (you can only search one section at a time).
5. Click **Search**.
6. Under Actions, click on Export to Excel.
7. Click on the link to the Download Center to access your report (you can also access the Download Center from your Home page under Quick Links).
8. Please note that these reports include:
 - a. Cancelled appointments (listed in the **Reported duration** column).
 - b. No Shows (marked in the **Is no show** column).
 - c. Reported session durations (see note below under "Limitations of tutor reports in Navigate").
 - d. Tutors' notes under the Summary column.
9. For assistance with tutor reports, please call the WaLC at 828-227-2274.

Tutor Appointment Details Report

This screenshot shows the search interface for the Tutor Appointment Details Report. At the top, there are two tabs: "Standard User Type: student" and "Registered In: ENGL-202 Writing and Critical Inquiry (60)". Below the tabs is a "Search" button and a "Modify Search" link. Underneath, there is an "Actions" dropdown menu. At the bottom, there are several checkboxes for filtering the results: "TUTOR NAME", "TUTOR EXTERNAL", "STUDENT NAME", "STUDENT EXTERNAL", and "APPOINTMENT".

Tutor Appointment Details Report

This screenshot shows the search interface for the Tutor Appointment Details Report with filters applied. The "Keywords" field is empty, and the "Enrollment Status" is set to "No Preference". The "Begin Date" is 07/05/2016 and the "End Date" is 08/03/2016. The "Tutoring Team" is set to "All" and the "Tutor for Appointment" is also set to "All". The "Student Information" section includes "First Name, Last Name, Student ID, Tag, Watch List". The "Area of Study" is "College/School, Degree, Concentration, Major". The "Performance Data" is "GPA, Hours, Credits". The "Summer 2016 Data" is "Classification, Term GPA". The "Course Data" is "Course, Section, Status". The "Course" is "ENGL-202 Writing and Critical Inquiry" and the "Section" is "60". The "Status" is "Registered". The "Assigned To" section includes "Advisor, Tutor, Coach". At the bottom, there is a "Search" button and three checkboxes: "My Students Only", "Include Inactive", and "Ignore Term".

How to Look Up Tutoring Visits - Individual Students

1. In the search bar, type in the student's name or 920#, then click on their name.
2. You can also click on an individual student's name in your class roster or advisee list.
3. Click on **Reports/Notes** in the tab menu.
4. Scroll down to **Tutor Reports**.
5. Click on "Details" to the right of each visit to read tutors' summary notes.

Tutor Reports

DATE	REPORT FILED ON	COURSE	FOLLOW-UP	SUMMARY	
07/26/2016 11:30 AM	07/27/2016			Dylan came in with his fina...	Details

Limitations of Tutor Reports

1. Writing appointments do not automatically have courses assigned, so your student's writing appointments will only show up on tutor reports if the tutor assigns a specific class while writing their summary report. If you suspect that a student has gone to a writing tutor, but they are not listed in the class report, search for the student individually to see all his/her tutoring visits (see above).
2. All tutoring appointments are 30-minutes, so some students will have multiple appointments in one day. Make sure to look at the dates/times of each appointment to determine which sessions were actually one concurrent appointment.
3. Duration of appointments under the **Scheduled duration** column will always default to the appointment time (e.g. 11:00-11:30). Actual appointment durations reported by tutors (i.e. if the student left early or stayed late) will be listed under the **Reported duration** column but will not appear until the tutor has completed the report at the end of each week.

APPOINTMENT CREATED AT	BEGIN DATE TIME	END DATE TIME	SCHEDULED DURATION	LOCATION	ARRIVED AT	DEPARTED AT	REPORTED DURATION
07/22/2016 01:56 PM	07/25/2016 02:00 PM	07/25/2016 02:30 PM	30min	Writing and Learning Commons, Belk 207	07/25/2016 02:05 PM	07/25/2016 02:30 PM	25min

Appointment Campaigns

1. To begin, click **Appointment Campaigns** in the Actions of Quick Links menu.
2. You will then set the criteria for your Appointment Campaign. All fields must be filled out.
 - a) **Campaign Name:** Campaign Name is visible to the person creating the campaign and any other users who have access to view campaigns, but not visible to the student.
 - b) **Care Unit:** Select the Care Unit the Appointment Campaign will be associated with.
 - c) **Location:** Select the location of where the appointment(s) will be held.
 - d) **Service:** Select the Student Service that will be associated with the campaign.
 - e) **Course or Reason:** Add the reason or associated course for the campaign here. This will only appear if the service is tied to a course.
 - f) **Begin and End Date:** These are the dates that you want students to start and stop making appointments for the campaign.
 - g) **Appointment Limit:** This will determine how many appointments you wish for the student to schedule during the campaign.
 - h) **Appointment Length:** This is where you define exactly how long the appointment will be. Durations begin at a 5-minute length and will be determined by your configuration.
 - i) **Slots per Time:** Appointments can be individual or group. By adding more than one "slot per time", you can have a group appointment.
 - j) **Allow Scheduling over Courses:** students will be able to schedule their own classes, and the classes of the staff member they are scheduling with, within the campaign date range.
3. After entering details on the define Campaign page, click **Continue**. Your next step is adding students. If you created this campaign directly from a Saved Search, you will be asked to review your students. If not, the Advanced Search screen will open.
4. You have ways to search for and select your students.
 - a) **Invite All My Assigned Students:** Adds all students assigned to you to the campaign.
 - b) **Advanced Search:** Use Advanced Search filters to find and select students. After starting the search, you will be presented with a list of students. Select the students you wish to add and then choose **Add Selected Users and Search for More** from the action's menu. Once finished, click **Continue** to move to the next page. You will be asked to review the students in the campaign. If these are correct, click **Continue**.
5. You will need to select yourself as staff for the campaign. You may also have the option to select additional staff to make them available for appointments based on the campaign.



Define Campaign

The campaign name and dates will be visible on the Appointment Campaigns Tab and the Student Profile for users who have permission to view it.

Campaign Name:	Begin Date:	End Date:
<input type="text"/>	05/20/2020	06/03/2020
Care Unit:	Appointment Limit:	
<input type="text"/>	1	
Location:	Appointment Length:	
<input type="text"/>	5 min	
Service:	Slots Per Time:	
<input type="text"/>	1	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Allow scheduling over courses	

Cancel

Save and Exit

Continue

NOTE: Staff will need to have availability defined before they can be added to an appointment campaign. **If you do not see staff you expected to have availability, make sure their calendars and availability are up to date.**

6. Your next step is to compose the message that you will send to students. This invitation to schedule an appointment through the campaign will appear in a preview below the message and include information about how to use merge tags. **DO NOT REMOVE THE SCHEDULE LINK FROM THE EMAIL BODY.**
 - a) Fields used in the message composition are:

Email Subject: The topic will be the subject of the email going to the student.

Instructions or Notes: This will be specific to the landing page students will be taken to when they click on the link in their email to choose the date and time of their appointment.

After you have finished composing your message, it's time to send out your campaign!

7. Review your campaign details, invitees, and advisors on this page. Click **Send** when you are ready to email the invites to the selected students.



For questions: Please contact the Advising Center (located on the first floor of Killian Annex).
828.227.7753



The Division of Student Success
thanks you
for your partnership!