ACADEMIC ADVISING: Navigating the MSU Curriculum

What is an academic advisor?
Academic Advisors are professionals who play an important role in a student’s success. They work within MSU policies and procedures to guide students through their academic journey.

Who is my/my student’s academic advisor?
• College/Major advisors: automatically assigned by selecting a major
• NSSC Advisors: for Exploratory majors and students who need guidance around major changes
• Honors Advisors: for student admitted into the Honors College
*Special Program Advisors may be assigned to students for additional academic or non-academic support

When will advising happen during NSO?
• Advising appointments & enrollment will take place during June and July.
• Students will be contacted by their college or major advisors regarding their advising appointments.

Tip: encourage your student to write down the name and contact information of the advisor they meet with.

Academic Advisor Expectations of Students @ NSO:
• Ask questions and take notes. (Have questions written down– it’s easy to forget!)
• Be prepared and open to discussing their interests, strengths, priorities and goals.
• Have completed all steps required by NSO and specific colleges or programs ahead of advising meeting.
• Be in a place where they can have a private conversation free of distractions. (Advising appointments are designed for students, so please give them the privacy to have this meeting independently).

Course Enrollment
• Students will receive an Academic Progress Plan (APP) at the end of their advising appointment.
• Following their advising meeting, students need to enroll for Fall 2022 semester using MSU’s Student Information System (SIS) at student.msu.edu (Spring 2023 enrollment will occur in the Fall).
• Information on using the Course Enrollment system can be found here

Colleges & Majors @ MSU
MSU is home to 14 colleges that grant undergraduate degrees. Undergraduate students may choose from more than 200 majors within these colleges. Specific degree information is available in the MSU Academic Programs Catalog

Post NSO Reminders:
☑ Students should send final transcripts to MSU, if they have not done so already.
☑ Students should double check that AP/CLEP/IB scores were sent to MSU.
☑ Enrollment will open for all students at their NSO advising appointment. It is recommended that after the initial advising and enrollment, students should discuss any significant changes with an advisor (minor changes like swapping sections of the same class are generally fine).
☑ Students need to check their MSU email account regularly. This is the official method of communication for the university and students will miss important information if they are not checking their account on a regular basis (daily).
☑ Students should meet regularly (at least once per year) with their advisor and reach out if they are feeling overwhelmed, confused or need help.

For more information, contact Jonelle K. Golding (goldingj@msu.edu), Interim Director of University Advising Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education