First Year Orientation
Family Welcome
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Undergraduate Education and Advising
Letters & Science Dean’s Office

Beth Floyd, Advising Director College of Letters and Science
Brenna Dockter, Assistant Director of First Year Advising
Congratulations!

We are very excited to have your students here at UC Davis! They wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for you!
Goals for Today

• Introduction to the College of Letters & Science
• Discuss the First Year Transition
• Summarize our Advising Services
• Explore the Path to Your Student’s Success
• Answer Your Questions
The College Facts

1. Largest and most diverse college

2. Wide variety of academic disciplines: Humanities, Arts, & Cultural Studies; Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Social Sciences

3. More than 50 majors and 60 minors
Degrees in the College of Letters and Science

- Bachelor of Arts (A.B.)
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
- Bachelor of Arts & Science (B.A.S.)
Students Change Their Major

• Over 80% of our students change their major at least once

• We encourage exploration
  • Nearly every course offered/taken yields GE credit toward graduation

• Double majoring or double minoring is common
Your Student’s First Year Transition

• And your first year transition
• Adjustments: new stage of life, new responsibilities, new roommates, new freedoms
• Excitement and anxiety
• Unfamiliar territory (workload, expectations, etc.)
What Families Can Do

• Encourage your student to ask questions, ask for help, and make decisions
• Become familiar with UC Davis resources so that you can direct your student to them as needed
• Remind your student and yourself that transition adjustments are normal
L&S Advising Services

- Assist students in shaping a meaningful educational experience

- Advising is shared between:
  - Undergraduate Education & Advising (UEA) in the Office of the Dean- 200 Social Science & Humanities Building
  - Major Departments

Make an appointment online at https://appointments.ucdavis.edu; For assistance call (530) 752-0392

- Faculty, professional staff, and peer advisors
Student Health and Counseling Services: College Counselor

SHCS College Counselors provide individual counseling for students in specific colleges.

Adriana Torres, L.M.F.T.
atorres@shcs.ucdavis.edu

Office hours scheduled in UEA
Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs: Case Manager

OSSJA Case Managers gather information and connect students with campus and community resources.

Lesley Kelman, M.P.H.
lskelman@ucdavis.edu

Office hours scheduled in UEA
OSSJA.ucdavis.edu
Mandatory Advising

• This is a great chance for us to get to know your student, hear about their expectations and goals for college, and partner with them to support a great first year!

• **All** students in L&S are required to meet with their assigned academic advisors in **Fall 2019**.
Advisor Responsibilities

In order to promote a supportive advising partnership, it is helpful to understand what students can expect when they meet with an academic advisor. Advisors are here to:

- Listen carefully to students' questions and concerns
- Provide a safe and inclusive space
- Guide students' exploration of curriculum, graduation requirements, UC Davis policies and procedures, etc., to help them make timely degree progress
- Encourage, guide, and support them in developing goals and educational plans
Advisor Responsibilities (Continued)

- Provide accurate and timely information
- Connect students to university resources and services
- Be accessible during advising hours by phone, email, or the advising messaging system
- Maintain confidentiality in compliance with the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)
Advisee Responsibilities

Students come from different backgrounds and educational experiences. Here at UC Davis, they are encouraged to pursue their academic, professional, and personal goals. Their role is to:

• Take ownership of their education by attending class, regular advising appointments, instructor office hours; familiarize themselves with degree requirements and plan courses accordingly

• Regularly utilize online academic tools such as OASIS, My Degree, Canvas, Schedule Builder, Campus Email, and the MyUCDavis Message Center
Advisee Responsibilities (Continued)

• Prepare for advising meetings ahead of time by familiarizing themselves with academic requirements, drafting a first year academic plan, formulating questions, and answering any preparatory questions prior to an appointment

• Ask for help when they need it. Show initiative by making use of campus resources (e.g. Student Academic Success Center; Student Health & Counseling Services; Student Disability Center)

• Explore, reflect on, and identify their academic, professional, and personal goals
Course Registration

- Average of 15 units/quarter=4-year graduation
- Balance, balance, balance*
- Entry Level Writing Requirement or English Composition
- Math and/or Chemistry (appropriate class, depending on major)
- Foreign Language (A.B.)
- Introductory classes
- First-Year Seminars, fun classes

_No such thing as a perfect schedule: every class counts!_

*Carnegie Rule = 2-3 hours of studying for every unit of coursework*
Position your Student for Success

- Encourage interaction with faculty and advisors
- Encourage them to get involved
- Encourage communication, but leave room for independence
- Accept their path to self-discovery
Reminder: Privacy Regulations

- FERPA – Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

- UC Privacy and Confidentiality Laws

- You will need your student’s permission for us to release any of their information to you

- Consent to disclose information from a student record must be obtained from the student in person and in writing
Questions?
WELCOME

To UC Davis and the College of Letters and Science!