RESOURCES: ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH

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Academic Advising Program

Lee Y. May, Ph.D., Associate Dean
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Charlotte Waterhouse, M.Ed., Graduation Coordinator

Advisors


The Academic Advising Program (http://advising.unc.edu) serves all undergraduate students in the General College and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The charge of the Academic Advising Program is to assist students with all aspects of their academic planning while providing a foundation for appropriate academic decisions. Students are assigned a primary advisor but may see any advisor for their concerns. Advisors provide students with assistance and advice about options for course selection, maintaining required scholastic standards, and planning a complete educational program. Advisors help ensure that students are making satisfactory progress towards their degree. Advisors discuss choices about majors with advisees and help them identify appropriate courses to satisfy General Education and major/minor requirements. In addition, advisors explain academic policies, procedures, and regulations and provide referrals to appropriate campus resources as needed. Advisors’ office locations, office hours, and contact information (http://advising.unc.edu) are posted online.

All first-year students and sophomores are enrolled in the General College and are assisted by advisors in the Academic Advising Program. During their junior and senior years, students pursue academic majors/minors either in the College of Arts and Sciences or in one of the professional schools. To continue in the College of Arts and Sciences, students must meet the academic eligibility requirements. To enter a professional school, students must be accepted into the program and should consult admission information for that school.

As juniors and seniors, students may receive academic advice regarding major studies, course registration, graduate school, internships, and career opportunities from faculty advisors in their major department or curriculum offices, or from the professional school to which they have been admitted. Some departments and schools require students to meet with a departmental advisor each term before they can register for the next term. Students in majors/minors that are part of the College of Arts and Sciences should also consult with an advisor in the Academic Advising Program at least once each year to ensure that they are making acceptable progress toward meeting degree requirements, including General Education requirements. Consulting Tar Heel Tracker can help students keep track of requirements, anticipate “what-if” scenarios, and prepare for meetings with advisors.

Each student is ultimately responsible for selecting appropriate courses and complying fully with all published regulations and requirements.

To avoid problems with registration and to ensure graduation by the expected date, students are strongly encouraged to declare a major during their sophomore year or early in their junior year. Students who have not declared a major before registration opens for their sixth semester will not be permitted to register for their sixth semester until they have consulted with an advisor in the Academic Advising Program.

Academic Success Program for Students with LD and ADHD

The Academic Success Program for Students with LD and ADHD (http://learningcenter.unc.edu), formerly called Learning Disabilities Services, is the University's designated service provider to students with documented learning disabilities (LD) and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorders (ADHD). The Academic Success Program also meets the needs of
students with Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) in conjunction with Accessibility Resources & Services, the campus office that works with students with disabilities other than LD and ADHD. Telephone: (919) 962-7227.

Center for Student Success and Academic Counseling
Marcus L. Collins, Ed.D., Interim Associate Dean and Director, Summer Bridge
Kim Abels, Ph.D., Director, Writing Center and Learning Center
Chris Faison, M.A., Coordinator, Minority Male Mentoring and Engagement
Erica Wallace, M. Ed., Coordinator, Peer Mentoring and Engagement
2203 SASB North; (919) 966-2143, (919) 962-7710.

Mission Statement
CSSAC (http://cssac.unc.edu) is dedicated to promoting academic excellence and assisting students to achieve their academic goals while enrolled at Carolina. Its constituent programs—the Office for Student Academic Counseling, Summer Bridge, Minority Male Mentoring and Engagement, and the Writing and Learning Center—provide support for students in developing the skills and strategies needed to achieve academic success. This commitment to student learning supports the University’s mission to “teach a diverse community of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students to become the next generation of leaders.”

CSSAC’s unit for Student Academic Counseling offers academic and personal support to all UNC–Chapel Hill students. Its primary objective is to sponsor programs and activities that promote academic excellence, increase retention, and improve the campus climate for diversity among American Indian and African American undergraduates. Support provided by Student Academic Counseling includes the Minority Advisory Program, individual academic counseling appointments, guidance for student led initiatives and projects, and the annual Hayden B. Renwick Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony. Historically, this office has worked cooperatively with members of several student organizations, including Black Women United, the Black Student Movement, the Carolina Hispanic Student Association, the National Panhellenic Council, the Asian Student Association, Unique Heels, and the Carolina Indian Circle. CSSAC’s full-time and part-time professionals work with graduate assistants and undergraduate student assistants to meet the needs of any UNC–Chapel Hill student requesting assistance.

The Minority Advisory Program and Carolina Covenant Peer Mentoring Program
The Minority Advisory Program (MAP) consists of students with cumulative grade point averages of 2.5 or higher who volunteer to serve as peer mentors mostly to minority first-year undergraduates. These peer mentors provide academic counseling, bridge communication between CSSAC and first-year students, and assist them with their transition from high school to university life. CSSAC also oversees the peer mentoring program for Carolina Covenant Scholars and community college students participating in the Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program (C-STEP). As with MAP, Carolina Covenant Scholars and C-STEP volunteers serve as peer mentors to first-year Carolina Covenant Scholars and C-STEP participants to assist them with their academic and social transition to Carolina.

Hayden B. Renwick Academic Achievement (3.0) Recognition Ceremony
These ceremonies acknowledge primarily minority students who have excelled academically while attending UNC–Chapel Hill. Students achieving a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better are recognized each spring semester and awarded a certificate of achievement. Parents and friends are encouraged to attend this annual event.

General Chemistry Resource Center
Todd Austell, Ph.D., Coordinator
The Chemistry Resource Center supplements class instruction for any student enrolled in CHEM 101 and CHEM 102 as well as CHEM 241 and CHEM 241H, CHEM 251, CHEM 261 and CHEM 261H, and CHEM 262 and CHEM 262H. When the University is in session, tutors are on duty in Dobbins Chemistry Resource Center, C143 Kenan Labs, Monday through Thursday from 2:00 to 7:00 pm. Students may drop in to ask questions, discuss course material, and work through problems.

Learning Center
Kim Abels, Ph.D., Director
0118 and 2109 SASB North, (919) 962-3782.

The Learning Center (http://learningcenter.unc.edu) helps students optimize their learning strategies to achieve their academic potential at Carolina. To make an appointment with an academic coach or check out this year’s event calendar, visit the Learning Center’s Web site (http://learningcenter.unc.edu). The Learning Center regularly offers an array of programs and services popular with many undergraduate students. The Center’s programs include

- One-on-one appointments with an academic coach. Coaching appointments provide opportunities for students to set personal academic goals and get support and accountability in the process.
- Peer tutoring for many introductory courses: Drop-in support is available on Tuesday and Wednesday nights in Dey Hall.
- Reading and study skills mini-courses. These popular four-week courses address speed-reading techniques and other approaches to tackle assignments strategically and efficiently.
- Study groups and boot camps providing opportunities to gather with other students to maximize study time and strategies.
- Test prep courses for GRE, GMAT, MCAT, and LSAT in partnership with The Princeton Review, often at discounts of 30 to 50 percent.
- ADHD/LD services. Both individual appointments and coaching groups are available.

Library System
The UNC–Chapel Hill Library system is one of the premier libraries in the South. Everyone is welcome to use all campus libraries, including the House Undergraduate Library, Davis Library, the Wilson Special Collections Library, the Health Sciences Library, and numerous libraries with various subject specialties. The libraries’ Web page (http://library.unc.edu) provides access to an extensive array of scholarly research materials including e-journals, e-books, citation guides, and online research assistance through e-mail, chat, and text messaging services.

The Robert B. House Undergraduate Library serves as an intellectual crossroads for students, faculty, and the community. The library features
quiet individual and collaborative group study space, state-of-the-art design and media labs, a large ITS computer lab, and the ITS Response Center (ITRC). The library is open 24 hours a day Sunday through Thursday. Hours vary according to department on weekends, holidays, and intersessions.

Math Help Center
Miranda Thomas, Ph.D., Director
The Math Help Center (http://math.unc.edu/for-undergrads/help-center), located in 365 Phillips Hall, provides additional instructional support for students enrolled in MATH 110 through MATH 233. The center is staffed by both graduate and undergraduate tutors who work with students in small groups or individually. The center’s main purposes are to provide assistance and to increase the success rate for students in specific math courses.

Pre-Graduate School Advising
William Taylor, Ph.D., Coordinator
This resource is offered to students in the College of Arts and Sciences interested in pursuing graduate studies through the Pre-Graduate Education Advising Program (http://pregrad.unc.edu) in Hanes Hall (second floor). The program advises undergraduate students considering a graduate degree in various disciplines (sciences, arts and humanities, social sciences, and professional arenas). These advisors can help clarify the differences between a doctorate and a master’s degree and the opportunities a terminal degree may offer. The program is primarily responsible for helping students considering graduate school understand what their next steps are in researching and applying to graduate programs, so that they can move forward independently and effectively. Students interested in graduate study also should speak with departmental or curricular advisors, the director of undergraduate studies for their major, and other faculty members. The advisors are also happy to help you identify the individuals you should contact.

Prehealth Advising
Resa Anderson, M.P.A., Health Professions Advising Coordinator
UNC–Chapel Hill has no formal prehealth curriculum or major. Instead, students should choose one of the four-year B.A. or B.S. degree programs and incorporate appropriate prerequisite courses in their planning. Health profession schools/programs encourage students to major in what they are interested in studying; no specific majors are recommended. Students are strongly encouraged to visit the Health Professions Advising Office (second floor, Hanes Hall) soon after entering the University to learn the latest course requirements and other preparations necessary to become an outstanding candidate for the health career of choice. The office gives advice about many professions, including allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, podiatric medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant, veterinary medicine, optometry, chiropractic, and other allied health professions. Advising information, advising hours, and information about joining the prehealth information listserv may be found on the office’s Web site (https://careers.unc.edu/students/pre-professional-pre-graduate-advising/prehealth).

Prelaw Advising
William Taylor, Ph.D., Advisor
Prelaw students should emphasize academics. The campus Learning Center offers programs designed to help enhance reading skills. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Students also are encouraged to call University Career Services to schedule an appointment with Dr. Taylor in Hanes Hall (second floor). They also may wish to visit the prelaw Web site (http://prelaw.unc.edu), where they can gain helpful information and join the prelaw listserv to receive important announcements.

Research Institutes and Centers
The intellectual life of the University and the research activities of undergraduates, graduate students and faculty alike receive valuable encouragement and support from a variety of institutes and centers. These institutes do not operate as instructional agencies within the University; rather, they serve to obtain financial and organizational assistance for the scholars who constitute their membership.

Most research centers and institutes can be found on the UNC Research Web site (http://research.unc.edu/units/a-z).

Scholarly Journals
The University has published scholarly journals since 1884, when the Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society first appeared.

The following list contains some of the publications currently produced by the University’s graduate and professional programs.


Annali d’Italianistica (http://www.ibiblio.org/annali). The mission of this publication is to promote the study of Italian literature in its cultural context, to foster scholarly excellence, and to select topics of interest to a large number of Italianists.

Carolina Papers in International Health and Development (http://cgi.unc.edu/about/history). A series of UNC–Chapel Hill graduate student working papers designed to promote scholarship in the fields of health and development and to raise awareness of such issues among international studies specialists.

Endeavors (http://endeavors.unc.edu). Features outstanding research and creative work undertaken by faculty and students at the University. Distributed free, the magazine reaches 8,600 on- and off-campus readers in an effort to engage others in Carolina research.

North Carolina Law Review (http://www.nclawreview.org). Published by the School of Law to stimulate research and publication by faculty and students.
Studies in the Romance Languages and Literatures (http://romlpub.unc.edu/ncsrll). For 60 years, this publication has supported and disseminated scholarship in the romance literatures.


In addition, the University of North Carolina Press (http:// uncpress.unc.edu/bm-journals.html) publishes the following journals

Social Forces, one of the best known journals in sociology and related fields.

The High School Journal, for educational practitioners and theorists nationwide.

Studies in Philology, publishing articles on British literature before 1900 and articles on relations between British literature and works in the classical, Romance, and Germanic languages.

Southeastern Geographer, publishing the academic work of geographers and other social and physical scientists since 1961.

Southern Literary Journal, premier publication devoted to the fiction, poetry, and drama of the American South.

Southern Cultures, dedicated to the exploration of what makes the South the South.

Early American Literature, journal of the Division on American Literature to 1800 of the Modern Language Association.

Appalachian Heritage, a leading literary magazine of the southern Appalachian region.

The University of North Carolina Press

The University of North Carolina Press (http:// uncpress.unc.edu) is the primary publishing arm of the University in the scholarly field. In addition to its publication of the journals of research, it carries on a book publishing program of about 80 new titles a year. Electronic publications also are available. Although these books are the work of scholars from all parts of the world, the presence in the University of a professionally staffed book publishing organization, with facilities for the international distribution of works of scholarship, is a stimulus to research and writing by members of the University community. The Press' program is an important contribution to the development of that aspect of the University's service which has to do with the advancement of learning.

Writing Center

Kim Abels, Ph.D., Director

0127 SASB North; (919) 962-7710.

The Writing Center (http://writingcenter.unc.edu) is a free service available to students, faculty members, and staff at UNC-Chapel Hill. Our main office is in SASB North, and we have a satellite location in Greenlaw Hall. Our tutors are friendly graduate and undergraduate students from a variety of academic disciplines who are specially trained in teaching writing. We offer both 45-minute face-to-face sessions and an online tutoring system that allows undergraduate students to submit writing and receive feedback via the Web. An array of popular handouts and videos are available anytime via our Web site. Our face-to-face sessions take place by appointment. Additional services for international students and scholars and other English language learners are available through our ESL services. Detailed information about the programs and support are available on the Writing Center’s Web site (http://writingcenter.unc.edu).

What Happens During a Session?

The Writing Center is not a proofreading or editing service, although we are happy to help you learn these skills. Our tutors work collaboratively with you to address your concerns as a writer. After reading through your assignment and paper together, we'll discuss your concerns. We will spend a lot of our time talking, but most likely you also will do some writing. We may direct you to further resources at the end of a session. Our goal is to support your long-term development as a writer, giving you new skills to use in future writing projects.

What Kinds of Things Do Writers Usually Work on?

People visit us at all stages of the writing process. Writers often want to work on understanding an assignment or project, brainstorming some good ideas, or making an outline. They may choose to focus on thesis development, organization, or argument, or they may be interested in learning how to proofread or edit their papers. People come to the Writing Center seeking feedback from an experienced, interested reader, someone who can say, “I understood this part, but not this one,” or “I'm not sure how this relates to your thesis,” or “I was wondering why you put this sentence here; can you tell me more?” The questions our tutors ask will show you how your writing is coming across to one audience; the skills they teach you will help you communicate your ideas more clearly and effectively.