

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Academic advising is an integral part of undergraduate education at the University of Kentucky. The goal of all academic advising is to assist students in taking responsibility for developing meaningful educational plans compatible with their potential and their career and life goals. Advising is more than the imparting of specialized information; it includes helping students formulate important questions about the nature and direction of their education and helping them find answers to those questions. Advisors will confer with students about course schedules and educational experiences, but students themselves are responsible for their academic program and for making progress toward an academic degree.

As students progress through their academic programs, their advising needs change. At the University of Kentucky, academic advisors help students meet these changing needs. Faculty advisors are key to understanding the nature of the academic program and how it can address student interests and goals. Professional advisors maintain up-to-date information on university requirements, academic policies, procedures, and deadlines; they can also provide guidance for the exploring student. Support offices such as Undergraduate Studies, the Counseling Center, Student Support Services, the Career Center, and the Office of Institutional Diversity can help students refine their academic interests and goals. Students should refer to specific college, school, and departmental advising materials for details on specific advising programs.

Some students have not selected a specific major. The majority of these students enter the university in Undergraduate Studies and are advised by professional advisors housed in Undergraduate Studies until they declare a major.

Academic Advising Mission Statement

The mission of academic advisors, both faculty and professional, is to:

- assist students in taking responsibility for developing meaningful education plans compatible with their potential and their career and life goals;
- help students formulate important questions about the nature and direction of their education and assist them in finding answers to those questions;
- assist students in acquiring accurate and timely information regarding academic policies, procedures, and requirements;

- facilitate the successful transition of prospective, continuing and nontraditional students to the academic and campus environment.

Undergraduate Studies

Undergraduate Studies, 109 Miller Hall, is a comprehensive advising office of professional advisors and home to exploratory students; pre-professional students interested in pre-law, pre-med, pre-optometry, pre-dental, and other health professions; National Student Exchange; resources for students in academic transition; and advising for students interested in transferring to the University of Kentucky.

One-fourth to one-third of all freshmen and many transfer students enter the University of Kentucky as Undergraduate Studies students because there are many areas that interest them, they are considering a pre-professional field and have not selected an undergraduate major, or they wish to explore their options. Time as an Undergraduate Studies student provides an opportunity to investigate UK's majors while fulfilling the UK Core requirements. Students can remain in Undergraduate Studies until they have earned 60 credit hours.

Advisors in Undergraduate Studies work individually with students to help them clarify their professional goals, realistically assess their capabilities and limitations, explore majors of interest, and choose courses appropriate to those areas of study. Advisors also make referrals to student support services on campus for career interest testing, personal counseling, tutoring, and assistance with study skills. The aim is to support students in making informed decisions about careers and choice of major, and to facilitate the process of entering that major. Visit Undergraduate Studies online at www.uky.edu/US or call (859) 257-3383.

Students interested in transferring to the University of Kentucky can utilize the services of Undergraduate Studies, which serves as a focal point for information concerning programs, resources, and services available to aid the transfer student's entry and continued success at the University of Kentucky. Advisors are available to answer questions about the transfer process, discuss course equivalencies, and provide pre-admission advising. A dedicated transfer advisor is housed at Bluegrass Community and Technical College's Transfer Center on the Cooper Campus. Contact this advisor at (859) 246-6348 or call Undergraduate Studies at (859) 257-3383.

Students attending the University of Kentucky can also attend one of over 180 colleges and universities in the United States and its territories while paying UK tuition and fees through the National Student Exchange (NSE).

Within the advising system at the University of Kentucky, both students and advisors have responsibilities.

Students are responsible for:

- a. knowing the requirements of their particular academic program; selecting courses that meet those requirements in an appropriate time frame; and monitoring their progress toward graduation;
- b. consulting with appropriate advisors designated to handle the kind of questions or concerns they have;
- c. scheduling and keeping academic advising appointments in a timely manner throughout their academic career, so as to avoid seeking advising only during busy registration periods; and
- d. being prepared for advising sessions.

Advisors are responsible for:

- a. helping students clarify their options, goals and potential, and understand themselves better;
- b. helping students understand the nature and purpose of a college education;
- c. providing accurate information about educational options, requirements, policies and procedures; and
- d. helping students plan educational programs and monitor and evaluate their educational progress.

Students can visit for an academic year or a semester. Likewise, students attending other participating colleges and universities may visit UK. For more information about NSE, visit www.nse.org and contact Kelly Crume at (859) 257-3044 or kelly.crume@uky.edu.

Departmental Advising

Students who have declared a major are advised by either a faculty member or professional advisor in that department. These advisors, with their in-depth knowledge of a particular field, can provide guidance toward completing degree requirements as well as information regarding careers and/or long-term educational goals. It is important for the student, as soon as he/she declares a major, to contact the department office and request assignment to an advisor.

Pre-Professional Advising

Pre-Law Study

While a broad, liberal arts education is generally considered to be an excellent preparation for law school, no fixed, comprehensive pre-law curriculum is prescribed by any American law school. In general, pre-law students should develop rigorous study habits; become skilled in clear and logical communication; and select courses that enhance critical reading, writing, and analytical skills.

Law schools do not require or expect a particular undergraduate degree program. Students are advised to consider majors aligned with their interests, strengths, and potential career choices.

Students also are encouraged to explore the Web sites of law schools in which they are interested and to familiarize themselves with admissions standards at those schools. Almost all law schools require students to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Additional information is available from the Law School Admission Council, www.lsac.org. Another valuable resource is the current *Official Guide to U.S. Law Schools*, published and prepared by the Law School Admission Council and the Association of American Law Schools. This yearly publication, found at www.lsac.org, contains information on the law and lawyers, pre-law preparation, applying to law schools, the study of law, and most American law schools.

At the University of Kentucky, Undergraduate Studies provides advising regarding pre-law preparation and the application and admission process. Students considering law school can contact a pre-law advisor in Undergraduate Studies.

Undergraduate Studies
109 Miller Hall
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0035
(859) 257-3383
www.uky.edu/US/pre_law.html

Pre-Medical Study

Students are free to choose any major while pursuing their undergraduate degree and fulfilling pre-medical requirements. When selecting a major, students should consider subjects they find interesting and challenging, and those in which they perform best. Medical schools do not require a specific major to enter the professional program, but they do have minimum entrance requirements. Most students accepted to medical school earn a bachelor's degree while satisfying pre-medical requirements.

Currently the minimum requirements for medical school are:

- 2 semesters of college English or intensive writing courses
- 2 semesters of biology with labs
- 2 semesters of general chemistry with labs
- 2 semesters of organic chemistry with labs
- 2 semesters of physics with labs

Some medical schools have additional requirements beyond the minimum. Check specific medical schools for admissions requirements.

In addition, students are encouraged to take course work in areas such as anatomy, biochemistry, cell biology, calculus, genetics, histology, immunology, microbiology, physiology, psychology, and statistics.

Students interested in medical school should meet with a pre-medical advisor at least once a year while pursuing their undergraduate curriculum, attend pre-medical information sessions, visit the pre-medical Web site, and subscribe to the pre-med listserv. Undergraduate Studies provides advising for University of Kentucky students interested in medical school and the specific programs that follow.

Undergraduate Studies
109 Miller Hall
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0035
(859) 257-3383
www.uky.edu/US/professional.html

Pre-Dental Study

Students are free to choose any major while pursuing their undergraduate degree and fulfilling pre-dental requirements. When selecting a major, students should consider subjects they find interesting and challenging, and those in which they perform best. Dental schools do not require a specific major to enter the professional program, but they do have minimum entrance requirements. Most students accepted to dental school earn a bachelor's degree while satisfying pre-dental requirements.

Currently the minimum requirements for entering dental school in the state of Kentucky are:

- 2 semesters of college English or intensive writing courses
- 2 semesters of biology with labs*
- 2 semesters of general chemistry with labs
- 2 semesters of organic chemistry with labs
- 1 semester of physics with labs

**The University of Louisville Dental School has additional biology requirements.*

Other dental schools in the country may have different prerequisite courses. Check specific dental schools for admissions requirements.

In addition, students are encouraged to take course work in areas such as anatomy, biochemistry, cell biology, calculus, genetics, histology, immunology, microbiology, physiology, psychology, and statistics.

Students interested in dental school should meet with a pre-dental advisor at least once a year while pursuing their undergraduate curriculum, attend pre-dental information sessions, visit the pre-dental Web site, and subscribe to the pre-med listserv.

Pre-Optometry Study

Students are free to choose any major while pursuing their undergraduate degree and fulfilling pre-optometry requirements. When selecting a major, students should consider subjects they find interesting and challenging, and those in which they perform best. Optometry schools do not require a specific major to enter the professional program, but they do have minimum entrance requirements. Most students accepted to optometry school earn a bachelor's degree while satisfying pre-optometry requirements.

Although the Commonwealth of Kentucky does not have an optometry school, contract seats are available to legal Kentucky residents at the University of Alabama, Indiana University, and Southern College of Optometry through the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). Students accepted for the SREB contract program are exempt from the out-of-state tuition. Students are competitively selected by the optometry school to receive a contract seat. Kentucky residency and acceptance into

the Doctor of Optometry program does not guarantee a contract seat. Contract availability is subject to change as state legislatures annually review budget expenditures. For the number of contract seats available and more information, contact the specific optometry school.

Pre-optometry requirements differ but generally include:

- 2 semesters of general chemistry with labs
- 2 semesters of English
- 1 or 2 semesters of mathematics
- 1 or 2 semesters of general biology or zoology with labs
- 1 semester of microbiology with lab
- 2 semesters of general physics with labs
- 1 or 2 semesters of organic chemistry
- 2 semesters of statistics
- 1 or 2 semesters of psychology

Some schools may also require biochemistry, anatomy, and physiology. Check individual optometry schools for specific course requirements.

Students interested in optometry school should meet with a pre-optometry advisor at least once a year while pursuing their undergraduate curriculum, attend pre-optometry information sessions, visit the pre-optometry Web site, and subscribe to the pre-med listserv.

Pre-Pharmacy Study

The equivalent of two years (70 semester credit hours) of college-level liberal arts and basic sciences is the minimum requirement for admission to the professional program. The minimum course requirements for admission to UK's College of Pharmacy are:

- 2 semesters of English*
- 1 semester of animal biology (with laboratory) (BIO 152) and (BIO 153 or BIO 151)
- 1 semester of microbiology (with laboratory) (BIO 208 or BIO 308) and (BIO 209)
- 1 semester of mathematics (Calculus I) **or** the combination of 1 semester of college algebra and 1 semester of elementary calculus (MA 113) or (MA 109 and MA 123)
- 1 semester of principles of microeconomics (ECO 201)
- 2 semesters of algebra-based physics (PHY 211 and PHY 213)
- 1 semester of human anatomy (ANA 209)
- 2 semesters of general chemistry (with labs) including qualitative analysis (CHE 105, CHE 111, CHE 107, CHE 113)
- 2 semesters of organic chemistry (with labs) (CHE 230, CHE 231, CHE 232, CHE 233)
- 1 semester of statistics (STA 291)

Plus, sufficient electives to raise the total hours of credit to at least 70.

***English requirement for UK and Non-UK students interested in pharmacy:** University of Kentucky students must complete the WRD/CIS requirement beginning Fall 2011. Non-UK Students: two semesters of English writing/composition will suffice. For questions about this requirement, contact the Pre-Pharmacy Advisor at pharmacyinfo@lsv.uky.edu.

Pre-pharmacy courses should be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to the desired fall enrollment, with one semester completed in a lecture and lab in organic chemistry, physics and either anatomy or microbiology by the end of the fall semester prior to the application deadline.

Students are encouraged to take elective courses that satisfy their major requirements. Electives to consider are biochemistry, physiology, logic, health care ethics, general psychology, interpersonal communication, public speaking, medical terminology, and genetics.

Admission to the college is competitive, based on a holistic review of the application, grade-point average, PCAT scores and interview.

For more information, contact the College of Pharmacy at:

University of Kentucky
College of Pharmacy
Academic and Student Affairs
114 BioPharm Complex
Lexington, KY 40536-0596
(859) 323-6163
<http://pharmacy.mc.uky.edu>

Pre-Podiatry Study

Students are free to choose any major while pursuing their undergraduate degree and fulfilling pre-podiatry requirements. When selecting a major, students should consider subjects they find interesting and challenging, and those in which they perform best. Podiatry schools do not require a specific major to enter the professional program, but they do have minimum entrance requirements. Most students accepted to podiatry school earn a bachelor's degree while satisfying pre-podiatry requirements.

Currently the minimum requirements for podiatry school are:

- 2 semesters of college English or intensive writing courses
- 2 semesters of biology with labs
- 2 semesters of general chemistry with labs
- 2 semesters of organic chemistry with labs
- 2 semesters of physics with labs

In addition, students are encouraged to take course work in areas such as anatomy, biochemistry, cell biology, calculus, genetics, histology, immunology, microbiology, physiology, psychology, and statistics.

Students interested in podiatry school should meet with a pre-podiatry advisor at least once a year while pursuing their undergraduate curriculum, attend pre-podiatry information sessions, visit the pre-podiatry Web site, and subscribe to the pre-med listserv.