

# FIRST-YEAR ADVISING SYLLABUS

## COLLEGE/MAJOR SPECIFIC ADVISOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Office location: \_\_\_\_\_

URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACADEMIC ADVISING: SETTING YOU UP FOR SUCCESS FROM DAY ONE

Your academic advisor is both an interpreter of the university environment and a facilitator to your experiences here that relate to your undergraduate degree. Above all, your advisor is invested in you having a rewarding learning experience. Be open and honest with your advisor and trust that they can help guide your decision making.

Oregon State has designated learning through advising as a signature area in your overall First-Year Experience. Your academic advisor plays a particularly important role in your first year simply because you will encounter so much about Oregon State that is new to you. That's why you need to meet with them at least once a term during your first year. After that, the frequency for meeting with an advisor is determined by your major.



**Oregon State**  
University

WELCOME TO  
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

# LET'S GET STARTED.

You're starting an experience that you get to shape. One that will impact your future.

College is much more than just earning a degree. It's about preparing you to succeed in your life and make a positive difference — at work, at home, in your community and beyond.





## THE BACCALAUREATE CORE

The Baccalaureate Core is Oregon State's general education requirement that all undergraduates, regardless of major, complete as part of their degree program. It offers a wide variety of subjects and choices to help develop critical thinking, communication and problem-solving skills — all of which will complement the subject expertise you'll gain in your major classes. The first-year skills requirement includes three Bacc Core categories you must complete by the time you've earned 45 credits at Oregon State, and they will help you develop skills you will need for year two and beyond.

- Writing I: Composition I (WR 121Z)
- Speech\*: Public Speaking (COMM 111Z), Argument and Critical Discourse (COMM 114), Communicating Online (COMM 211) or Interpersonal Communication (COMM 218Z)
- Mathematics\*: Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics (MTH 105Z) or higher

\*Some majors will specify which class you should take to meet the requirements of this category.

## KNOW THE TOOLS — AND THE RULES

### Online resources

- Oregon State email: your primary university communication resource.
- Beaver Hub: a gateway into Oregon State online resources, your Success Team, Tasks, and other online information that relates to your undergraduate experience.

- [Canvas](#): the virtual extension of your classroom where your instructor may post information relevant to that class.
- [MyDegrees](#): track your degree progress, plan for your coursework in subsequent terms and explore degree requirements for the university's various academic options.
- [Scheduler Tool](#): search for information about classes and organize your term schedule. Connects to Oregon State's registration system.
- The [OSU Catalog and Schedule of Classes](#): the official catalog houses information about colleges, schools and departments, as well as a schedule of classes for current and upcoming terms.
- The [Learning Corner](#): provides tips and strategies to help you maximize your learning and success.
- [Handshake](#): a platform connecting you to a wide variety of resources — experiential learning opportunities and full- and part-time internships or employment.

Campus Resources (partial list) include the [Academic Success Center](#), [Basic Needs Center](#), the [Career Development Center](#), [Counseling & Psychological Services](#), the [Cultural Resource Centers \(CRCs\)](#), [Disability Access Services](#), [Educational Opportunities Program](#), the [Mole Hole](#), [TRiO](#), the [Undergrad Research and Writing Studio](#), and the [Valley Library](#).

[Academic regulations](#) include rules that govern how you earn a degree at Oregon State, along with the rules governing academic integrity and community standards. These are available online and in the registration information handbook.

# Expanding your mind beyond the classroom

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Oregon State offers a broad range of opportunities, including:

- Research: work in a lab, collaborate with faculty on a project or experiment, or pursue a research project of your own.
- Study Abroad: live in another country and take classes that count toward your Oregon State degree.
- Internships: gain real-world work experience in a field that relates to your academic or career interests.
- Involvement: explore student clubs and organizations.
- Leadership: seek out leadership opportunities in student government, the residence halls, student clubs, Fraternity and Sorority Life or other organizations.
- Community Service: volunteer for a community or nonprofit organization.

## DARE TO EXPLORE

Remember to keep yourself open to different experiences and opportunities. Even if you are certain that you've chosen the right major, make sure you take the time in this first year to consider the various academic options Oregon State has to offer. And take the time to reflect on what your academic experiences inside and outside of the classroom mean to you. The first step to effective exploration is to know yourself. Consider how your interests, values and skills fit with the opportunities you have at Oregon State.

While exploring new experiences at Oregon State University, consider your future career plans. The **Career Development Center** provides tools to help you through the career-planning process.

