Here are some points, resources, and questions about adapting to college life. Make an appointment to meet with your advisor in the next two or three weeks. Reading this sheet might suggest some questions to raise at the meeting.

**Academic Advising**
Don't forget that when your advisor refers you to people in other colleges, it is because they want you to add as many connections as possible to your network, especially in the college you might continue to.

**Important sources of information:**

**Student Link** [http://www.bu.edu/students/academics/link/](http://www.bu.edu/students/academics/link/)
The source of extensive and important information.

**CGS website** [http://www.bu.edu/cgs/](http://www.bu.edu/cgs/) [especially the “Students” section]
We have no printed student handbook per se, but policies, procedures and practices are in the bulletin and fact sheets and pathways on the Students page.

**Email** Check your email regularly
Email is the standard mode of communication to and from advisors and professors and CGS administration. Don’t forget that when writing professors and staff, use the style appropriate to a business communication, not a text to a friend.

**CGS e-newsletter** (mailed out directly and then archived on the CGS site.)
Check this each Friday for important announcements and deadlines, as well as interesting stories about CGS people and events.

**Undergraduate Bulletin** [http://www.bu.edu/academics/](http://www.bu.edu/academics/)
This is the most authoritative document about all the schools, programs, and courses at BU, and it serves as your contract with the University. If you don’t understand what that implies, see you advisor.

**CGS Academic Conduct Code** [http://www.bu.edu/cgs/files/2009/05/CGS-Academic-Conduct-Code-revised-2008-02-12-revised-numerals-apr-2010s.pdf](http://www.bu.edu/cgs/files/2009/05/CGS-Academic-Conduct-Code-revised-2008-02-12-revised-numerals-apr-2010s.pdf) Please review this carefully, especially the section on plagiarism, as a foolish mistake made under stress would have substantial negative consequences.

**Fact sheets and pathways**
How to continue from CGS to your major.
(available in 211 or on the web)
[http://www.bu.edu/cgs/students/fact-sheets/](http://www.bu.edu/cgs/students/fact-sheets/)

**Lifebook** [http://www.bu.edu/lifebook/](http://www.bu.edu/lifebook/) This document includes the code of behavior for BU students.

**BU website** [http://www.bu.edu/](http://www.bu.edu/)
**BU Today** [http://www.bu.edu/today/](http://www.bu.edu/today/)
A great source about life at Boston University.
Some Nuts and bolts tips and questions

- Be active and involved in your education – in the classroom and in student life
- Can I add a course? - under what conditions and costs? Deadlines?
- Can I drop a course? - implications? Deadline?
- You can take CFA for non-majors and PDP courses.
- Do you know the difference between credits and honor points?
- Do you understand the BU grading system?
- Academic Honors: Dean’s list (3.2 GPI) and Dean’s circle (3.5 GPA)
- Academic Conduct,
  - Understand the conduct code, esp. plagiarism
  - it is bad to cheat -- morally and practically (e.g. severe consequences) – and unnecessary
- Display civilized and mature conduct in classroom
- Attendance:: go to class and participate -- active education, indicator of motivation, etc.
- Do you know about midterms and finals?
- Credits to complete CGS and graduate from BU
- Requirements for continuation to schools (overview)
  - Always consult school specific fact and pathway sheets
  - Don’t count on word of mouth from other students
- Use your e-portfolio as a tool for your development
- Attend relevant advising events (pre-law, pre-med, schools & colleges, career)
- Take advantage of the Writing Center and peer academic mentors