Academic Advising

Advising is integral to the teaching mission of BU and engages students in a collaborative process to explore academic and co-curricular opportunities as part of a plan to realize their academic, career and life goals. At Sargent, advising is a collaborative process involving academic counselors, peer mentors and faculty.

You are welcome to drop by the Academic Services Center (ASC) in room 207, send an email message sarugrad@bu.edu or call 617-353-2713 to make an appointment and meet with an academic counselor. Check out our website www.bu.edu/sargent/current-students/ The ASC team includes:

- **Katelyn Flaherty** is the Senior Staff Coordinator
- **Heather Nicholson** is the Academic Counselor for Freshmen and Sophomores. She works with students who want information about minors, study abroad, transfers within Sargent and from CGS.
- **Deborah Claar** is the Academic Counselor for Juniors and Seniors. She coordinates dual degrees, intra-university transfers and external transfers as well as the Sargent Honor Society.
- **Sharon Sankey** is the Assistant Dean for Student Services.
- **Melanie Matthies** is the Senior Associate Dean for Sargent College

Your program's director can help with specifics about your major:

- **Behavior & Health** Prof. Wendy Coster ot@bu.edu
- **Health Science** Prof. Bria Dunham hscience@bu.edu
- **Human Physiology** Prof. Judy Schotland hphys@bu.edu
- **Nutrition** Prof. Michele Debiasse debiasse@bu.edu
- **Physical Therapy** Prof. Diane Heislein pt@bu.edu
- **Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences** Prof. Ann Dix slhs@bu.edu
- **Undeclared** Prof. Melanie Matthies matthies@bu.edu

Your faculty advisor is listed on the Student Link or check with the ASC. With the academic counselors, they:

- Monitor your academic progress within the department and program towards all aspects of your graduation requirements.
- Help with course selection and registration
- Serve as a resource for career, research and/or professional issues

Key dates on the Academic Calendar for Fall, 2017:

- **September 5** Classes Begin
- **October 9** Columbus Day Holiday, No Classes
- **October 10** Substitute Monday Schedule of Classes
- **October 13-15** Parents Weekend
- **November 22-26** Thanksgiving Recess
- **December 12** Last Day of Classes
- **December 13-15** Study Period
- **December 16-21** Final Exams
GUIDELINES FOR ADVISING
You have many options for getting advice from people at Sargent and BU. Here are some suggestions:

a) Be proactive about exploring your interests and options. Talk to your peer mentor; use the BU website, the BU Bulletin and departmental manuals for information. Ask questions as soon as an issue arises; procrastination can cause a small glitch to become a major problem. Refer to www.bu.edu/sargent/current-students/academic-services-center/ to see your resources.

b) Go to established office hours or get an appointment. You are welcome to drop by the ASC (room 207) but stopping by someone’s office unexpectedly can cause frustration for everyone.

c) Acknowledge that making decisions and completing your degree is your responsibility. Let others help you with advice and support in this process by preparing for your meetings.

d) Work hard towards your goals but be brave about re-evaluating these if they don’t seem to be fitting in your aspirations for your life/career. Brainstorming with your advisors will help.

DEGREE ADVICE
Degree Advice Reports are available to students via the Student Link. The report provides a snapshot of the progress you are making towards degree completion and helps you prepare for advising appointments.

- Students should check their Degree Advice reports periodically for updates resulting from AP credits, registration, completion of BU courses, transfer credits or other program changes.
- Check www.bu.edu/academics/policies/advanced-placement-credit for information on AP, IB etc.
- Degree Advice is not a substitute for substantive discussion with the advisor nor does it certify students for graduation but it can help you assess your academic progress.

MINORS
Check for available minors: www.bu.edu/academics/degree-programs. Contact the Health Science program phminor@bu.edu for advising on the Public Health Minor and with Heather Nicholson for assistance on all other minors. Minors must be formally declared to be recognized by the BU Registrar and planning is key so begin this conversation early in your academic career.

ACADEMIC CONDUCT
Every year, a few Sargent students are accused of cheating, plagiarism, or some other form of academic dishonesty. Do not risk your professional reputation as the penalties for misconduct include receiving a failing grade in the course, probation or expulsion from Boston University. Sargent students must comply with all of the rules: www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/ or risk harsh sanctions.

KEY RESOURCES
- BU Sargent College Website is a great resource for information about academic programs, degree requirements, policies and procedures. Each department has its own section: www.bu.edu/sargent
- BU LifeBook provides rules and guidance about living life as a respectful and responsible member of the Boston University community: www.bu.edu/dos/policies/lifebook/
- Student Health Services is located at 881 Comm. Ave., West. Their phone is 617-353-3575. Please see also www.bu.edu/shs and the Behavioral Medicine Center (617) 353-3569; a Counselor is available for emergencies 24 hours per day (www.bu.edu/shs/behavioral/).
- Office of Disability Services can be reached at (617) 353-3658. See also www.bu.edu/disability
- Educational Resource Center offers free peer tutoring services and helpful seminars on study skills, time management and other helpful topics. Call 617-353-7077 or check www.bu.edu/erc
- The BU Center for Career Development www.bu.edu/careers/ has relevant information and services for freshmen through alumni.
- The University Service Center is designed to help members of the university community who have questions or problems of a unique or complex nature. They can be reached at 617-358-1818 or www.bu.edu/usc