

ACADEMIC ADVISING: QUICK TIPS FOR SOPHOMORES

FACULTY ADVISORS: Big Picture

Your faculty advisor is an important resource for questions about electives within the major, research opportunities, graduate study, and 'big picture' topics. You must meet with them during each Advanced Registration period.

General Topics of Discussion between Sophomores and their Advisors

- Specific Academic Interests within Field
- Upper-level courses that Align with Interests/Concentrations
- Finding Undergraduate Research at Penn
- Summer Opportunities for Specific Field
- Career Aspirations

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICE ADVISORS: In-Major Specifics

Present in each department, the Undergraduate Coordinator is the person to talk to for Course Planning Worksheet clarification and other curricular issues that are related to your major. The Undergraduate Chair is also available by appointment.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF ADVISORS: General Knowledge

Professional Staff Advisors answer questions about requirements and electives outside of Engineering, studying abroad, dual degree programs, minors, and submatriculation. If you are having academic difficulties, a Staff Advisor can help to point you in the right direction. These advisors are located inside the Academic Programming Office(APO) in Towne.

PENN CAREER SERVICES: Professional Development

Located in the basement of McNeil (across from Huntsman), Career Services have both Engineering Advisors and Pre-professional advisors (graduate, medical, law).

PEER ADVISORS : Students' View

Peer Advisors are available throughout the year from your major's professional organization. Ask them anything to get an opinion from someone who has been through the same decisions. Peer advising options are organized through APO.

*All Advisors are available by appointment. Most are also available during weekly office hours.

*Before consulting any advisors, students should first check the Undergraduate Handbook, easily accessible on the Penn Engineering website. The Course and Requirements category should be especially helpful for course planning.

Created by the **Engineering Deans' Advisory Board (EDAB)**, who seeks to enhance the Penn Engineering undergraduate experience through project work and initiatives targeting both academic and social aspects of the school.

QUESTIONS FOR SOPHOMORES TO ASK THEIR ADVISORS

QUESTIONS FOR FACULTY ADVISORS:

- 1) When are your office hours this semester?
- 2) I am currently interested in this field. What upper level courses should I be considering?
- 3) What kind of summer experiences should I be looking for? What resources are here at Penn that can help me explore my interests?
- 4) Do you think submatriculation is a suitable next step given my career goals?
- 5) What are some cutting-edge topics in the field that I can explore?
- 6) How do I get involved with undergraduate research?

QUESTIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATORS:

- 1) I am planning on going abroad; does my schedule planning meet the requirements?
- 2) I am pre-professional; does my schedule planning meet the requirements?
- 3) Will this course meet the major requirement/elective?
- 4) What semesters will this in-major class be available?
- 5) How does submatriculation work?
- 6) How do I switch faculty advisors?

QUESTIONS FOR APO

- 1) What are reasons for studying abroad? What are the steps to planning my schedule for study abroad?
- 2) I want to pursue a minor in _____; can you point me towards some typical courses?
- 3) I am considering switching majors. What should I do?
- 4) I am considering dual degree/dual major. What should I do?
- 5) What are some general Engineering electives I can take to fulfill the technical requirements?
- 6) I need to take overlapping courses/petition for a requirement allowance/get into a class, what should I do?
- 7) What semesters will this non-major class be available?