ACADEMIC ADVISING

Academic Advising

Central Office: Sweet Hall, First Floor
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Appointments: Visit http://advising.stanford.edu or call (650) 723-2426

Academic Advising (formerly Undergraduate Advising and Research, UAR) upholds the mission, standards, and requirements of the University, introduces students to the full intellectual richness of undergraduate study at Stanford, supports students in their academic and intellectual pursuits, and instills within them a sense of identity within and belonging to our community of scholars at Stanford. Academic Advising is responsible for facilitating new students’ transition to Stanford, academic advising, and academic policy and progress.

Transitioning New Students

Academic Advising is responsible for the Approaching Stanford program, which guides new students through the process of coming to Stanford, from their admission to the University until the first day of class. This process culminates with New Student Orientation, which is required for all new first-year and transfer students. See the Approaching Stanford (https://approaching.stanford.edu) web site for additional information.

First-Year and Transfer Student Policies

Stanford values the transition process as the foundation for thriving both academically and personally in our community. The following policies support this principle and apply to first-year and new transfer students:

- All first-year and new transfer students are required to attend New Student Orientation and must be in residence by 5:00 p.m. on the first day of NSO, Wednesday, September 18, 2019.
- First-year and new transfer students are required to live on campus in University housing for three consecutive quarters in their first year. Should behavior warrant a first-year student’s removal from the residences, that student cannot enroll in classes until they have returned to the residential community.
- When circumstances arise which make it advisable for a first-year to take a leave absence at any time during the first year, they are required to wait until Autumn Quarter of the following year to return to Stanford.
- First-year and new transfer students cannot enroll in the Summer Quarter prior to their first year unless they are participating in a VPUE-sponsored program. Exceptions are very rarely granted.

Advising

Academic Advising pairs each first-year student with two advisers: a Stanford Newcomer Guide (a volunteer faculty or staff member) and an Academic Advising Director (AAD), a residentially-based adviser assigned to all students living in undergraduate residences. First-years are matched with their Stanford Newcomer Guides according to shared interests. Stanford Newcomer Guides are well suited to help students understand the University and are the first of many mentors students find at Stanford. Academic Advising Directors complement the role of the assigned Stanford Newcomer Guide with a comprehensive understanding of the curriculum. They advise students broadly on their courses of study and long-term goals and can answer questions about academic policy. The academic advising staff also includes professional advisers in the areas of pre-professional advising, returning student and transfer student advising, or coterminal advising, as well as advisers in the Athletic Academic Resource Center (https://aarc.stanford.edu) (AARC) who are general and specialized academic advisers assigned to all varsity student-athletes based on their sport.

Together with advisers at the Overseas Resource Center and the Haas Center for Public Service (http://haas.stanford.edu), academic advisers help prepare students to compete for nationally competitive fellowships. Academic Advising also administers the campus nomination process for several U.S.-based fellowships. See the Fellowships (https://undergrad.stanford.edu/opportunities-research/fellowships) website for more information on fellowship opportunities.

Academic Advising also offers workshops and individual consultations on planning for graduate or professional studies (e.g., business, education, law, and medicine) and on general application procedures, including how to write personal statements, how to solicit letters of recommendation, and how to prepare for interviews. See the Planning for Graduate and Professional School (https://undergrad.stanford.edu/advising/graduate-and-professional-school-general-considerations) web site for more information.

See the Advising web site (http://advising.stanford.edu) for more information about academic advising, programming, and support for undergraduates.

Academic Policy

Academic Advising oversees the implementation of University academic policies pertaining to undergraduates, including requests for exceptions to academic policy (i.e., petitions) and monitoring academic progress. All Academic Advisors support students with an academic status (e.g., probation, provisional registration, or suspension). For more information about academic policies that Academic Advisors help students navigate, see the Academic Policies (https://undergrad.stanford.edu/planning/academic-policies) web site.

Leland Scholars Program

Offices: Sweet Hall, Garden Level
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Email: lelandscholars@stanford.edu
Web Site: http://lelandscholars.stanford.edu

In recognizing the need to prepare first year students for the academic, intellectual, social, and personal challenges they will face at Stanford, the Leland Scholars Program (LSP) facilitates the transition to college for incoming frosh who may be the first in their family to attend college or attended under-resourced schools or communities. Scholars will participate in a four-week residential program in the summer prior to arrival on campus. This fully-funded program has a carefully crafted schedule of activities, coursework, discussions, and trips designed to support the transition to Stanford. During the academic year, Leland Scholars will have access to additional advising and frosh seminars that sustain the community and reinforce the skills and strategies acquired during the program.