ACADEMICS & ADVISING

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Academic advising is one of the cornerstones to a successful student experience at the University of Idaho. Whether you are a faculty or staff member looking for guidance on how to advise your students, or you are a student looking for academic advising on everything from choosing a major to career goals, our staff in academic advising can help. At the University of Idaho, academic advising is performed at the department- or college-level. Students are assigned an advisor by the college or department for the major(s) a student has declared.

Academic Advising Center
Vandal Success Center, Idaho Commons 306; 208-885-6300; advising@uidaho.edu.

The Advising Services program serves as a clearinghouse for academic advising information and is a point of contact where new and continuing students receive help in finding their way to the appropriate college and department advisors. Advising Services is also a center for delivery of development programs on academic advising for faculty and staff advisors. Advising Services staff can assist students considering a change of major and consult with advisors and students who have questions regarding general education requirements.

Center for Disability Access and Resources
Bruce M. Pitman Center 127; 208-885-6307; cdar@uidaho.edu; www.uidaho.edu/current-students/cdar

The University of Idaho has established services for students with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended.

The Mission of Center for Disability Access and Resources (CDAR) is to provide equal and integrated access to students with permanent or temporary disabilities. Students requesting accommodations or services must provide CDAR with appropriate disability documentation to support their request. In order to receive services in a timely manner, students are advised to make requests with adequate advance notice. Services include, but are not limited to: Deaf services, alternative text, notetaking, testing accommodations, assistive technology, transition management, housing accommodations, campus accessibility information, scholarship opportunities, advocacy, and assistance with learning as it relates to disabilities.

Students are asked to contact CDAR as soon as possible to discuss specific disability-related concerns and needs. This voluntary self-identification enables CDAR to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations to ensure classes, programs, services and activities at the University of Idaho are accessible. Information regarding disabilities will be kept in strict confidence and has no effect on admission to the University. Federal law prohibits the Admissions Office from making preadmissions inquiries about disabilities.

Counseling and Testing Center
Continuing Education Building, 3rd Floor; 208-885-6716; www.ctc.uidaho.edu

Many students find that it is helpful to discuss their concerns with a professional who takes the time to listen and understand. Counselors at the Counseling & Testing Center (CTC) are available to meet with students to discuss personal, educational, or career concerns. Counseling can help students learn more about themselves and develop new skills to deal more effectively with personal problems such as depression, anxiety, stress, eating disorders, sexual abuse, relationships, academic pressures, and problems with alcohol or other substances. Counseling sessions are confidential. The CTC offers the following services: crisis intervention, individual counseling, group counseling, couples counseling, stress management, biofeedback training, educational presentations, referral, testing, and assessment of learning disabilities. For students who wish to research issues on their own or in conjunction with a counselor, the CTC has a self-help room with information to assist students with solutions to problems such as test anxiety, panic, depression, homesickness, relationship concerns, and a variety of other issues common to college students.

The CTC also offers the following career development and counseling services to help students select a major and a career direction that is right for them:

1. individual counseling for major and career decision making,
2. career interest testing and interpretation, and
3. computerized career exploration system (DISCOVER®).

The CTC offers a variety of testing and assessment services. These include placement tests such as COMPASS which is used to determine initial placement in math and English courses, and advanced placement exams such as CLEP which allow students to earn college credit by passing exams in a variety of subject areas. The CTC also administers many of the national testing programs such as the SAT, ACT, GRE, TOEFL, MELAB, MCAT and PRAXIS and provides a secure testing environment for students who need exams proctored. Assessment services include evaluations for learning disabilities and Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. In addition, psychological, diagnostic and career assessments are often used in the context of counseling and are available at the CTC. A fee is charged for most testing and assessment services. For more detailed information go to www.uidaho.edu/CTC/testing.

Counseling services are available without charge to full-time students. A fee is charged for most assessment and proctoring services. The CTC is committed to offering services that are inclusive and respectful of all students, regardless of race and/or ethnicity, sex, color, religion, spirituality, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual
orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or veteran status. For additional information on services provided by the Counseling & Testing Center, visit the web at www.ctc.uidaho.edu.

Dean of Students
TLC 232; 208-885-6757; askjoe@uidaho.edu; www.uidaho.edu/dos

The University of Idaho is comprised of a diverse student population that requires the UI to have a diverse student services program. The Dean of Students Office provides a variety of services that focus on assisting students. Programs and services include advising students in living groups, as well as those off campus, ethnic minority students, and veterans. In addition, the Dean of Students Office coordinates New Student Orientation, Women’s Center, Child Care Center, National Student Exchange Program, student leadership activities, fraternity/sorority programs, and student discipline/conduct activities.

This wide range of programs and services includes assisting families and students who may experience crisis situations that disrupt normal academic activities.

Staff members are trained to work with individuals and groups of students, or serve as a liaison between students, departments, and agencies on and off campus.

All of the services and programs are supportive of the academic mission of UI and are an integral part of the student’s total education at the university. Services offered by the Dean of Students Office are highlighted below.

Multicultural Affairs
Office of Multicultural Affairs; TLC. 230; 208-885-7716; fax: 208-885-9494; oma@uidaho.edu; www.uidaho.edu/oma

UI is committed to establishing and maintaining a campus environment that promotes cultural diversity. This is accomplished through the provision of student services that begin to address specific needs of Asian-American/Pacific Islander, Black or African-American, Chicano/Latino, and Native-American students. While offering targeted services and programs to these populations, OMA is fundamentally a campus wide resource meant to benefit the educational experience of the entire campus community by leading in the creation of an environment that supports multiculturalism and promotes inclusion.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) provides assistance to these traditionally underrepresented students in the areas of advocacy, financial aid, and accessing university student support programs. OMA is staffed by a full time director, a program coordinator and an administrative assistant. Staff members are involved in campus wide leadership and state wide organizations to promote diversity. One important resource of these efforts is a group of student mentors selected to help new multicultural students connect with resources and learn from the experiences of more experienced U of I students. This mentor group is called P.A.C.E. (Peer Advising on the College Experience). OMA continuously works with other departments across the university to resolve issues that may hinder recruitment, retention or the success of multicultural students.

Multicultural student organizations serve a vital role in retention and helping to promote and support cultural diversity on the UI campus. Some of the organizations that are currently active are the Asian American/Pacific Islander Association (AAPIA), the Native American Student Association, Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority Inc., Iota Psi Phi Sorority Inc., Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority Inc., the Interested Ladies of Lambda Theta Alpha, the University of Idaho’s Black Student Union (UI-BSU), Organizacion de Estudiantes Latino Americanos (OELA), MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanos de Aztlan), the Hispanic Business Association, Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity Inc., GSA (the Gay Straight Alliance), WOCA (Women of Color Alliance), the Men of Vision, the Hispanic Business Association (HBA), Sabor de la Raza, CAMPOS (the College Assistance Migrant Program Organization of Students), ALI (the Association of Latin-Americans and Iberians), ASA (African Students Association), the Associated Students of African Descent, and UNITY. OMA assists these and other organizations in planning and executing campus activities of special interest to their group’s members (e.g., cultural heritage months, student leadership retreat, organizational meetings, and campus educational cultural activities). Many meetings of these student groups are held in the Multicultural Student Center, which is located in Rooms 228 and 229 of the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC). For further information contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs main office in room 230 of the Teaching and Learning Center at 208-885-7716 or e-mail oma@uidaho.edu. To visit our web page visit www.uidaho.edu/oma.

National Student Exchange
National Student Exchange (NSE) gives University of Idaho students the opportunity to attend one of 175 colleges or universities throughout the United States for one or two semesters. UI students pay UI fees or the resident fees of their host campus. Students normally need to apply by February for the next academic year. Credits earned on NSE fulfill University of Idaho residence-credit requirements.

To qualify for participation in the NSE, a student should:

1. be a full-time University of Idaho student;
2. be a sophomore, junior, or senior at the time of exchange; and
3. have a UI grade-point average of 2.5 at the time the application is filed.

Information and applications may be obtained from the International Programs Office, LLC Building #3, Ground Floor (208-885-0858).

Polya Mathematics Center
Brink/Phinney Hall, 1st floor; 208/885-5717; polya@uidaho.edu; www.uidaho.edu/sci/math/polya/approach

The Polya Mathematics Center is a resource for students who take mathematics courses. Polya is located on the ground floor of Brink/Phinney Hall in two large rooms. The computer room offers students mathematical software and coursework and is staffed over 80 hours each week. The study and consultation room provides space for individual and group study with readily available assistance by instructors and teaching assistants.

The pre-calculus courses MATH 108 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=MATH%20108), MATH 143 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=MATH%20143) are taught entirely in Polya. The students in these courses attend one focus group each week where they are guided by an instructor who provides the necessary structure and direction. Lectures are delivered at computers by streaming video so that students can view them at their convenience and review them as needed. Those who prefer a live lecture can attend the lecture series offered nine times a week. Students work homework
exercises on the computer. The computer-mediated exercises offer assistance and immediate detection of errors. The flexible organization of these courses offers students the option of working at a faster pace than required in order to complete the courses in less than a semester.

The Polya Math Center staff also offers drop-in assistance for students in MATH 160 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=MATH%20160), MATH 170 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=MATH%20170), MATH 175 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=MATH%20175), and MATH 275 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=MATH%20275). The hours and location for calculus assistance varies from semester to semester and are posted on the Polya web-site.

Pre-Health Professions Advising
pre-health@uidaho.edu; 208-885-5809

The Pre-Health Professions Advising Program at the University of Idaho serves as a resource for current students and alumni, from all majors, who are interested in a health professions career.

"Pre-Health" is not a specific major or academic track: it is a personal and professional development path that students pursue alongside completion of their degree requirements. Pre-health advisors assist students with prerequisite course sequencing, advice for building necessary clinical and shadowing experience, preparing to take professional school entrance exams, and guidance with the application and interview process.

Students can connect with our program by signing up for the Pre-Health Advising Contact List (this process also adds a specific pre-health cohort code to your Degree Audit, such as "pre-med" or "pre-PT"), requesting an individual advising appointment, attending workshops, and following us on Facebook.

Raven Scholars Program
Idaho Commons Room 330, www.uidaho.edu/current-students/cdar/raven-scholars

The Raven Scholars Program supports college success for students who are on the Autism Spectrum by providing peer mentoring, coordination of campus services, and opportunities to improve academic and life skills.

Statistics Assistance Center
First Floor of the University Library behind the Reference Desk; www.uidaho.edu/sci/stat/about/sac

The Statistics Assistance Center (SAC) was developed to give assistance to students taking lower level statistics courses. Statistics graduate students in the SAC provide help for students enrolled in STAT 251 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=STAT%20251), STAT 301 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=STAT%20301), and STAT 431 (https://uidaho-preview.courseleaf.com/search/?P=STAT%20431). The staff works to provide a friendly, non-threatening environment where students will feel comfortable to work, ask questions, and learn statistics outside of class.

The SAC is generally open for statistics tutoring Monday through Friday. Statistics tutoring hours vary each semester so please check with the Department of Statistical Science Office (Brink 415A; 208-885-2929) for scheduled times or see the statistics web page www.uidaho.edu/sci/stat/about/sac. Students can visit the SAC on a drop-in basis during scheduled times for help with homework problems. There is a Student Computing Lab that has a number of computers that provide supporting software for statistics courses at the Library.

Student-Athlete Support Services

Student-Athlete Support Services is committed to the education and success of student-athletes at the University of Idaho. SASS collaborates with cross-campus resources to support student-athletes academic progress, maintain NCAA eligibility and develop well-rounded, employable graduates. This is accomplished through nurturing study and social skill sets, encouraging initiative, self-motivation, and accountability and fostering positive, meaningful relationships within the Vandal community and beyond.

Student Support Services - a TRIO program
ssstrio@uidaho.edu

Student Support Services (SSS), an academic support program, assists 232 participating students each year to

1. identify and pursue their educational goals,
2. establish, maintain, or improve their academic performance, and
3. work through the challenges of university life.

The SSS-Trio program offers participants individualized tutoring in most subject areas, educational planning and goal setting, academic advising, and focused learning and study skill development. SSS also provides personal support. This support is particularly helpful for students with specific needs (e.g., delayed entry or re-entry, nontraditional preparation, disabilities which impact learning, academic probation and reinstatement, or provisional admission).

To be eligible for services, a student must be either a U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident, must have a need for academic services, and must be either

1. low income (according to federal guidelines) OR
2. from a first generation family (neither parent/guardian has earned a baccalaureate degree) OR
3. have a documented disability which impacts learning.

SSS Merit Scholarships (between $890-$1,000) will be awarded spring semester to each active program participant with freshman or sophomore standing, who is a PELL Grant recipient with financial need, and who makes satisfactory academic progress fall semester. Students are accepted into the program on a first-come, first-served basis and are encouraged to contact the office as early in the semester as possible.

Tutoring and College Success
tcs@uidaho.edu

Tutoring and College Success (TCS) supports all undergraduate students in their educational goals through Drop-In Tutoring (tutoring for most subjects with no appointment), Supplemental Instruction (study sessions for difficult courses), and Academic Coaching (success consultations, workshops and presentations, and for-credit success strategies course).

Women's Center

The Women's Center staff is committed to providing a welcoming environment and a sense of community for all. At the Women's Center, we foster personal and professional growth through a network of support
and services including educational programming, gender equity issues, information, referrals, and outreach.

Programs and services at the Women’s Center include: brown-bag lunchtime programs (presentations and discussions covering a variety of topics); library (a circulating library of over 1,500 books and journals, primarily comprised of research, information, and literature regarding gender issues; information and referral to other agencies and services); lounge (a place to relax, read, study, get acquainted with others, and exchange ideas); newsletter (a publication announcing current programs and services, and news about women’s issues). The center also assists with nontraditional student services and programs. The Women’s Center is located in Room 109 of Memorial Gym.

**Writing Center**

*Idaho Commons 323; 208-855-6644; www.uidaho.edu/class/english/writingcenter*

Located on the third floor of the Idaho Commons, the English department’s Writing Center offers peer tutoring assistance to all UI students. Writing Center tutors assist students with analyzing writing strengths and weaknesses; developing ideas; and improving focus, organization, grammar, and punctuation. The Writing Center offers weekday, evening, and weekend hours. Students may stop by, telephone, or visit the website for further information and a current schedule.

**Veterans' Benefits for Educational Assistance**

The Office of Veteran Affairs assists veterans, dependents, reservists, and national guardsmen who are eligible for educational benefits through the Veterans Administration. Students expecting to receive veteran’s benefits must apply for benefits and should contact the Office of Veteran Affairs at least six weeks before the beginning of each semester.

To qualify for payments, all veterans must be released under honorable conditions. To receive full benefits, a veteran must be pursuing an approved course of study leading to a degree or other professional objective. To be considered full time, undergraduate students must carry 12 credits or the equivalent, and graduate students must carry 9 credits or the equivalent (see regulation O-1 (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/general-requirements-academic-procedures/o-miscellaneous)).

An advisory service is available to veterans and additional information, advice on benefits, or application forms may be obtained by writing to the veterans’ advisor in the Office of the Dean of Students, PO Box 442431, Moscow ID 83844-2431, (208-885-7979); or online at www.uidaho.edu/dos.