

WELCOME TO ORIENTATION!

College of Visual and Performing Arts



University Life
**NEW STUDENT AND
FAMILY PROGRAMS**
George Mason University®

Today's Agenda

- How academic advising works at George Mason University, the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA), and how to use it throughout your college experience
- Important university systems and how to access them
- Crucial academic and registration deadlines and processes
- Strategies for success at George Mason
- How the virtual orientation session will work and how to prepare for it

Academic Advising at Mason

Role of an Academic Advisor

- Academic planning
- Policy interpretation
- General support

Advising Conversations

- When to meet?
- Why to meet?
- How to meet?

Expectations during meetings

- Professionalism
- Preparation
- Communication



Academic Advising in CVPA

- Advisors by major for all departments, by alpha for the School of Art
- Advisors stay with you for your entire degree
- Best first points of contact for:
 - Understanding your **degree audit** and progression of your degree
 - **Challenges** beyond the subject matter of your courses and connection to **services**
 - Considering a **minor, double major, study abroad or an accelerated master's**
 - Understanding college and university **policy**
 - Connecting to major-related **extracurriculars**

Important Dates and Deadlines

Spring 2025 semester
classes run from
Tuesday, January 21
through Monday, May 5

First Day of Spring Classes:	Tue. Jan 21
Last Day to Submit Domicile Reclassification Application	Tue. Jan 21
Last Day to Add: All Individual Sections Forms Due	Tue. Jan 28
Last Day to Drop: With 100% Tuition Refund	Tue. Feb 4
Last Day to Drop: With 50% Tuition Refund	Thu. Feb 11
Unrestricted Withdrawal Period: 100% Tuition Liability	Wed. Feb 12 - Tue. Feb 25
Mid-term Evaluation Period: 100-200 level classes - Grades Available via PatriotWeb	Mon. Feb 17 - Fri. Mar 21
Selective Withdrawal Period - Undergraduate Students Only (100% Tuition Liability)	Wed. Feb 26 - Mon. Mar 31
Spring Recess (no classes)	Mon. Mar 10 - Sun. Mar 16



registrar.gmu.edu/calendars

Opportunities at Mason

- Academic, social, financial, well-being resources
- Attend performances, exhibitions, presentations
- **Free** and **accessible** to all Mason students
- advising.gmu.edu/resources for a full list



Virtual Advising & Registration

- Conducted remotely via Zoom
 - Main room plus breakout rooms
- Not 'drop-in' - sessions start promptly at 9AM, 1:30PM or 6PM.
- Group session plus one-on-one time with your advisor.
- Focus on choosing courses and building your spring schedule.
- Note: if you've already connected with your advisor and have registered for spring courses, attendance is optional.



Preparing for Your Virtual Advising Session

- Patriot Web
- No Math placement exam needed
- Mason Core and Core waiver
- Degree plans
- Catalog and Schedule of Courses



<https://advising.gmu.edu/newstudent/>

Your Next Steps

For Freshmen:

- ☐ Review sample 4-year plans (degree plans) for your major of choice
- ☐ Take a look at the Mason Core to learn the categories and narrow down options
- ☐ Prepare a list of any AP/IB test scores and any dual-enrollment or any other college-level credits you've earned. Make sure any test scores have been sent to the Office of Admissions
- ☐ Log into Patriot Web and poke around

For Transfers:

- ☐ Review your Transfer Credit Evaluation for any missing credits
- ☐ Ensure your **final** transcript is submitted to the Office of Admissions
- ☐ Review your degree audit to see how your transfer credits are applying to requirements

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