

Welcome to Orientation!

Connecting with Your College

College of Humanities and Social Sciences



Welcome to Our CHSS Community!

Our community includes:

- 5500+ current undergraduate students
- 600+ instructional faculty
- 150+ staff
- 70,000 alumni

CHSS Undergraduate Academic Affairs Orientation Team

- **Tasneem Amrou**; Student Outreach Coordinator
- **Erin McSherry**; Assistant Dean for Student Success
- **Eleana Velasco**; Coordinator of Student Success Initiatives



chssadv@gmu.edu

Horizon Hall Suite 6300

Today's Agenda

- The importance of academic advising and how it works in CHSS
- Accessing important university systems
- Key academic and registration deadlines
- Getting to know your resources
- Preparing for virtual orientation advising



Academic Advising at George Mason

Role of an Academic Advisor

- Academic planning
- Policy interpretation
- General support

Expectations – both directions!

- Professionalism
- Preparation
- Communication

Using Advising Effectively

- When to meet?
- Why to meet?
- Academic deadlines



Importance of Academic Advising

Advisors are assigned by major and minor

Connect with your advisor early and often

- Find advising info on your major's website

Advisors support and empower students to:

- Prioritize degree planning
- Find meaningful involvement
- Discover opportunities to make meaning
- Create connections

to.gmu.edu/CHSSAdvising



Key Advising Tools – first semester and beyond

Patriot Web

- Review your transcript for transfer credits, grades, and academic standing
- Utilize your Degree Evaluation regularly

Patriot Connect

- Scheduling appointments with your advisor or the career services office
- Read notes from previous appointments



Personal Information **Student Services** **Financial Aid** **Faculty**

Search

Student Records

View Holds

View your Unofficial Transcript

View Student Information

Use the Student Profile to access Degree Works

Final Grades

Midterm Evaluations

Order Enrollment Verification

Order Official Transcript

You must check for holds before submitting your request.

Order Replacement Diploma

Apply to Graduate

Use Student Profile to access Apply to Graduate

Key College Sites

CHSS Undergraduate Academic Affairs

academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu

- Academic policies and requests (think: credit overlo course elsewhere, withdrawal, GPA resources)
- Advising tips and advisor locator

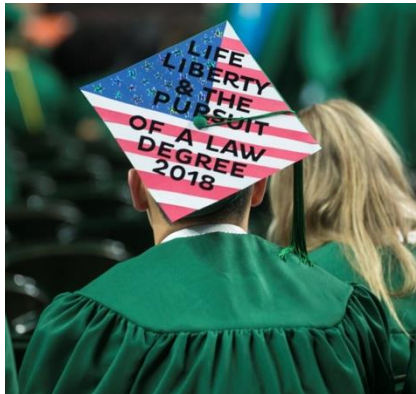
Your Major Website

[\(major\).gmu.edu](https://(major).gmu.edu) – psychology.gmu.edu

- Advising info and scheduling instructions
- Faculty bios and course descriptions
- Upcoming events



More on Advising



Pre-Law Advising:

scharprelaw.gmu.edu/

Contact:

Professor Phillip Mink, J.D.,
at pmink@gmu.edu



Pre-Health Advising:

prehealth.gmu.edu/

Contact:

Pre-health team at
prehlth@gmu.edu



Pre-Teaching:

education.gmu.edu/#teacher

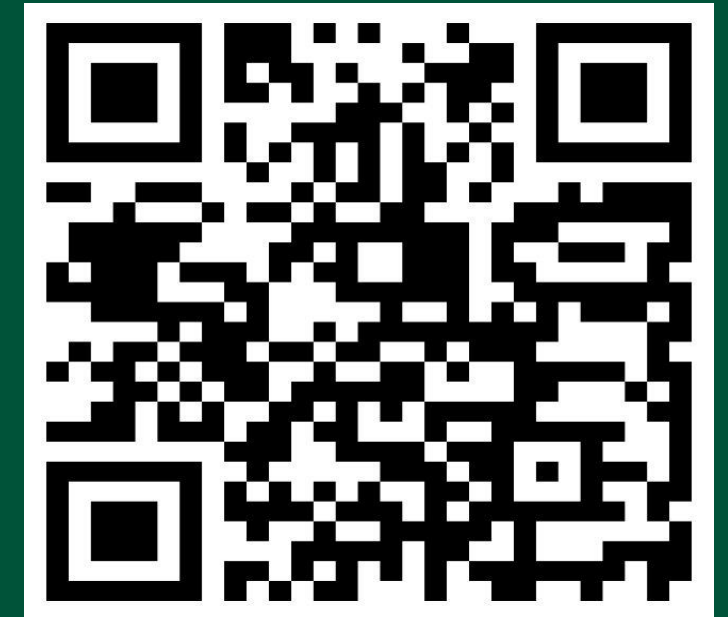
Contact:

preteach@gmu.edu

Mark Your Calendar: Important Academic Dates

First Day of Fall Classes	Mon. Aug 25
Last Day to Add	Tue. Sept 2
Last Day to Drop With 100% Tuition Refund	Mon. Sept 8
Last Day to Drop With 50% Tuition Refund	Tue. Sept 16
Unrestricted Withdrawal Period (100% Tuition Liability)	Wed. Sept 17 - Tue. Sept 30
Last Day of Class	Mon. Dec 8

registrar.gmu.edu/calendars



Resources at Mason

- Learning Services – learningservices.gmu.edu
 - Help with time management, workshops for skill building
 - Academic coaching from peers and professionals
- Office of Disability Services – ods.gmu.edu
 - Establish your accommodations or find out what is available to you
- Counseling + Psychological Services – caps.gmu.edu
 - 24/7 support
 - Mind Spa (massage chair, aromatherapy...)

advising.gmu.edu/resources



More Resources

- Career Services and Handshake
 - Log on to Handshake the first week of classes!
 - Save the dates for the **Part Time Job Fair on Aug 27, 2025**, and **Fall Career Fair on Sept 29-Oct 1, 2025**
- Connect with your faculty!
 - When you need clarification, help, mentoring, etc.
 - Do you know where your major department/program “lives”?

We can't wait to see how your Mason and CHSS experience unfolds!

Virtual Advising & Registration

- Conducted remotely via Zoom
- Punctuality and preparation are essential – treat it like class
- Meet your advisors and the Academic Affairs student success team
- Focus on Fall courses
- Review the status of pending credits
- Got Questions? Reach out to us at CHSSADV@gmu.edu



Preparing for your Virtual Advising Session



- Patriot Web
- GMU Email
- Schedule of classes
- Four-year graduation plans
- University Catalog
- Mason Core
- Math placement for Economics
- Foreign language

Your Next Steps

For Freshmen:

- ☐ Review sample 4-year plans for your major of choice
- ☐ Prepare a list of AP/IB, dual-enrollment, or any other college-level credits earned, if applicable, and make sure any test scores have been sent to the Office of Admissions
- ☐ Use Patriot Web to complete a rough draft of your schedule
- ☐ Identify at least three questions to ask during virtual advising

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
- ☐ Identify at least three questions to ask during virtual advising



Key Terms to Know

When we say...	We mean...
Mason Core	The general education courses required for your degree.
Academic Advisor	Your primary contact for all questions related to your degree! ★
Success Coach	Your contact for support during your transition and identifying resources; coaches do not do academic advising
Mason Degree Audit	An advising tool in Patriot Web that tracks what you have left to complete for your degree; used by you and your advisor!
Office Hours	Time your professors have set aside to meet (in person or virtually) with you!
Add / Drop / Withdraw Deadlines	Key dates for when you can make changes to your schedule during a semester
"Contact Financial Aid"	Not everyone can see your student account or advise on your funding options (loans and scholarships); Financial Aid counselors are your best contact!
Federal Work Study	A financial aid option that includes gaining work experience on campus

Knowledge Check

Random - but important - Mason and CHSS facts

Kahoot!



#IAMCHSS

 @georgemasonchss

 @masonchss

 @georgemasonchss

academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu

**Please complete this quick feedback
survey for this presentation!**

