

# Welcome to Orientation!

**Connecting with Your Major**



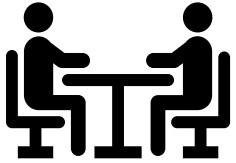
**Schar School  
of Policy and Government**

# Today's Agenda



- How academic advising works at George Mason University and in the Schar School, plus 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 virtual orientation advising works and how to prepare for it

# Academic Advising at Mason



## Role of an Academic Advisor

- Academic planning
- Policy interpretation
- General support

## Expectations – both directions!

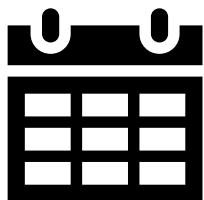
- Professionalism
- Preparation
- Communication

## Using Advising Effectively

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



# Academic Deadlines



[registrar.gmu.edu/calendars](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars)

Description	Full Semester	7.5 Week: Session I	7.5 Week: Session II	8 Week: Session I	8 Week: Session II
Schedule of Classes Available in PatriotWeb	Tue. Mar 11	Tue. Mar 11	Tue. Mar 11	Tue. Mar 11	Tue. Mar 11
Priority Dates Begin	Tue. Apr 15	Tue. Apr 15	Tue. Apr 15	Tue. Apr 15	Tue. Apr 15
Consortium Registration Deadline	TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
First Day of Fall Classes:	Mon. Aug 25	Mon. Aug 25	Mon. Oct 20	Mon. Aug 25	Wed. Oct 22
Last Day to Submit Domicile Reclassification Application	Mon. Aug 25	Mon. Aug 25	Mon. Aug 25	Mon. Aug 25	Mon. Aug 25
<b>Last Day to Add: All Individual Sections Forms Due</b>	Tue. Sept 2	Wed. Aug 27	Wed. Oct 22	Thur. Aug 28	Sat. Oct 25
Labor Day : University Closed	Mon. Sept 1	Mon. Sept 1	N/A	Mon. Sept 1	N/A
<b>Last Day to Drop: With 100% Tuition Refund</b>	Mon. Sept 8	Fri. Aug 29 (Final Drop)	Fri. Oct 24 (Final Drop)	Tue. Sept 2 (Final Drop)	Wed. Oct 29 (Final Drop)
<b>Last Day to Drop: With 50% Tuition Refund</b>	Tue. Sept 16	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Unrestricted Withdrawal Period: 100% Tuition Liability</b>	Wed. Sept 17 - Tue. Sept 30	Sat. Aug 30 - Fri. Sept 12	Sat. Oct 25 - Fri. Nov 7	Wed. Sept 3 - Sun. Sept 21	Thur. Oct 30 - Tue. Nov 18
Fall Break (Classes Do Not Meet)	Mon. Oct 13	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mid-term Evaluation Period: 100-200 level classes - Grades Available via PatriotWeb	Mon. Sept 22 - Fri. Oct 17	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Selective Withdrawal Period - Undergraduate Students Only (100% Tuition Liability)</b>	Wed. Oct 1 - Mon. Oct 27	Sat. Sept 13 - Fri. Sept 19	Sat. Nov 8 - Fri. Nov 14	N/A	N/A

# Accessing Advising



[advising.gmu.edu](https://advising.gmu.edu)



Advisor Locator



Academic Planning &  
Registration



Majors and Minors:  
Explore, Change, Add



Change of Major



First-Year Student  
Advising



Exploratory Academic  
Advising



Transfer Student  
Advising



Non-Degree Student  
Advising

# Academic Advising in Schar



## Your advising team:

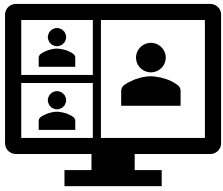
- Dr. Ann Ludwick
- Dr. Matt Green
- Jana Biever
- Victoria Cattelona
- Peer Academic Advisors



## We serve as guides for the following needs and opportunities:

- Selecting courses each semester
- Identifying goals and long-term plans
- Connecting to campus resources
- Making the most of your Schar School experience!

# How to Connect with Us



- Appointments can be made on Patriot Connect
  - On-campus and Zoom meetings
  - Drop-in Advising is available in the advising suite
- Weekly Hours
  - 9 am – 5 pm, Monday-Friday
- On-campus location:
  - Aquia Building, Fairfax Campus
  - Room 337



# Success in College



## Less class time, more studying

- Deceptive "free" time

## Less structure and symmetry

- Every day is different
- Hard to set consistent weekly routine

## Less external accountability

- Nobody is "making sure" you do anything
- Set your own systems of accountability

## Infinite distractions

- Always something you could do instead

## Intelligence + Effort + Support + Resilience

- Intelligence is not enough. Effort is not enough.  
***Seek support.***

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
8 AM	CLASS 1	STUDY	CLASS 1	STUDY	CLASS 1
9 AM	STUDY	STUDY	STUDY	STUDY	STUDY
10 AM	STUDY	CLASS 3	STUDY	CLASS 3	STUDY
11 AM	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 2
12 PM	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1 PM	STUDY	STUDY	STUDY	STUDY	LAB
2 PM	STUDY	CLASS 4	STUDY	CLASS 4	LAB
3 PM	LAB	CLASS 4	CLASS 5	CLASS 4	STUDY
4 PM	LAB	STUDY	CLASS 5	STUDY	STUDY
5 PM	LAB	STUDY	CLASS 5	STUDY	STUDY
6 PM	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER
7 M	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
8 PM	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE

# Resources at Mason

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- Academic, Social, Financial, Well-being
- Free and accessible to all Mason students



[advising.gmu.edu/resources](https://advising.gmu.edu/resources)



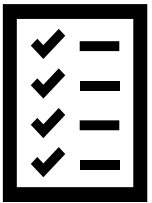
# Virtual Advising & Registration



- Conducted remotely via Zoom
- Punctuality and preparation are essential – treat it like class
- Meet college/program advisors and leaders
- Focus on Fall courses



# Preparing for Your Virtual Advising Session



- Patriot Web
- Schedule of Courses
- Four-year Plans
- Catalog
- Mason Core
- Math Placement / Foreign Language



[advising.gmu.edu/newstudent](https://advising.gmu.edu/newstudent)



# Your Next Steps



## For Freshmen

- ☐ Review sample four-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
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## 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

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

