



A Guide to the Undeclared/ Exploratory Program

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEAN'S OFFICE

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Advising is a Partnership

Your Dean's Office advisors are a very important part of your network. Forming a partnership with an advisor by having regular advising appointments can help you achieve your goals in college - whether they are academic, personal, or professional.

Advisors are here to:

As an undeclared/ exploratory major, your Dean's Office advisors are your "major" advisors.

- We can help you identify a major that is in alignment with your educational goals and progress thus far. We listen attentively to learn about your areas of interest and favorite subjects.
- Navigating academic requirements may seem complicated. We can help clarify university policies.

Your role is to:

Because we have a partnership, we want you to get the most out of your advising during your time at UC Davis. Here are some great ways to make that happen!

- Share your goals with us. It's ok if they change or you are unsure what they are.
- Consider your advisor's recommendations, referrals, and options shared with you. Our support and recommendations are to help empower you to make decisions and take ownership of your education.
- Ask questions if you are unclear on anything your advisor is recommending - we are here to help!

Student Learning Outcomes

We will help you to...

- Create an integrated course of study in alignment with your academic, professional and personal goals.
- Cultivate relationships with faculty, staff advisors, and peers that enhance your educational experience
- Analyze your skills and abilities necessary to achieve your goals.

YOUR FIRST YEAR CHECK LIST

Fall Quarter

- Reach out to your professors for support. They should be the first person you contact if you have any difficulty with a course.
- Get to know your peers in your courses.
- In early November, make an advising appointment with the CA&ES Dean's Office to prepare for Pass 1 registration for Winter Quarter (November 9-20th). An advisor will email you by October 28th to schedule this appointment.
- Use the [My UC Davis Toolkit](#) to reflect on your fall quarter. What subjects did you take that you want to explore more of?
- Plan to register for [Career Discovery Groups](#) for winter quarter, if you are enrolled in CDG in Fall Quarter.
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Winter Quarter

- Continue to reach out to your professors for support.
- Continue to get to know your peers in your courses. Have you formed any study groups?
- Make an advising appointment with a Dean's Office advisor before Pass 1 for spring quarter (Feb. 1- Feb. 11th) to help with course scheduling questions.
- Add a GE course that will allow you the opportunity to explore a major you're interested in. Plan to register for [Career Discovery Groups](#) in Spring Quarter.
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Spring Quarter

- Continue to explore your major options. Use one or more of the **Tips and Tools** listed below.
- Continue to reach out to your professors for support. Connect with them in Canvas and attend office hours.
- Get to know your peers in your courses.
- Make an advising appointment with your Dean's Office advisor before the end of the quarter. This is a great time to discuss your summer plans and a [SMARTIE](#) goal for the upcoming year! Use the [My UC Davis Toolkit](#) to help you!
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Tips & Tools

- Discover what majors exist, and which majors you want to explore with the [Majors Card Sort](#).
- Other online resources for [major exploration](#).

Congratulations on completing your first year at UC Davis! Way to go!

ARE YOU READY TO DECLARE A MAJOR? *Follow these steps!*

1. If there is a major you are ready to declare, make an [advising appointment](#) with your intended major advisor.
2. Create a 3 quarter study plan with your intended major advisor during the advising appointment. Make sure the advisor approves your academic plan during the advising appointment.
3. Submit a Change of Major petition found in OASIS under “Forms and Petitions”.