Accessing Advising

**Faculty**
- Each first-year student is assigned a faculty academic advisor, as well as the House Professor and affiliated faculty within your House Community.
- You will meet with your faculty advisor to elect courses and discuss schedules and issues of an academic nature.
- When you declare a major, a major advisor from that academic department will help you shape your course of study within your chosen field.

**Peer Advisors**
Peer advisors include Undergraduate Advisors (UGAs), tutors, FYSEP Mentors, Pre-Health Peer Mentors, and others. As with other sources of advising, it will be important for you to evaluate your peer advisors’ advice alongside your goals, aspirations, and values, and in the context of the advising you receive from your faculty advisor, undergraduate dean, and pre-major advisor.

**Other Faculty, Administrators, and Peers**
- Students are encouraged to assume increasing responsibility for cultivating advising relationships during their time at Dartmouth.
- This includes expanding your network of advisors, proactively seeking desired resources, considering your own needs and goals, and balancing multiple sources of advising.

**How do I take full advantage of advising?**
You have a role to play in making your advising relationships successful. Academic advising works best when a student takes the initiative to seek guidance and maintains ongoing advising relationships. To make the best possible decisions for your academic career, you should be proactive, think critically about the information you receive, and invest time in meeting with your advisors regularly. Your advisors want to help you make sense of all that Dartmouth has to offer but need your full engagement in the process. This guide is designed to provide you with the information you need right now and throughout the summer. If you feel overwhelmed by the process or the choices ahead of you, come back to this guide and—in particular—the timeline to the right.

Remember: When you invest time and energy in developing meaningful advising relationships, you position yourself to make highly informed choices while at Dartmouth, and to develop valuable relationships with advisors that may enrich your life for years to come.

It’s time to begin! This guide is the first of several interactions we will have with you this summer. Watch for advising emails about exploring the curriculum, preparing for the meeting with your faculty advisor, and course election.

We can’t wait to meet you, support your exploration, and watch you grow and learn as a member of the Dartmouth community.

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**COURSE EXPLORATION AND TRANSITION TO COLLEGE TIMELINE**

**NOW**
- Explore this guide from cover to cover immediately upon receipt.
- Begin the worksheet on page 39.

**MID-SUMMER**
- Read emails from New Student Orientation and the Undergraduate Deans Office.
- Deeply explore academic department and program websites – dig around!

**LATE SUMMER**
- Participate in online advising chats (registration links will arrive by email from the Undergraduate Deans Office).
- Complete the Advising Questionnaire in DartHub when it becomes available.
- You are not expected to begin your academic journey at Dartmouth with all your courses chosen. Don’t rush the decision-making process. Take your time!

**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION**
- Engage with academic and curricular programming which will inform course election.
- You will continue to explore the interests you’ve discovered in this guide by:
  - Talking with your faculty advisor and undergraduate dean.
  - Participating in academic and curricular programming.
  - And participating in as many academic department and program Open Houses as possible.

**CLASSES BEGIN**
Monday, September 14
Remember: Part of your academic journey is leaving the path. You are not expected to have all the answers – engage with the QUESTIONS.

**YOUR TO DO LIST:**
1. Grab whatever you need to take notes and to support your exploration.
2. Find a comfortable place to sit, then take your time to read this guide.
3. Imagine, be curious, don’t limit yourself, and EXPLORE.
4. Utilize the worksheet on pages 39-40 to organize your thoughts and discoveries.