



NEW ADVISOR ONBOARDING SESSION #1



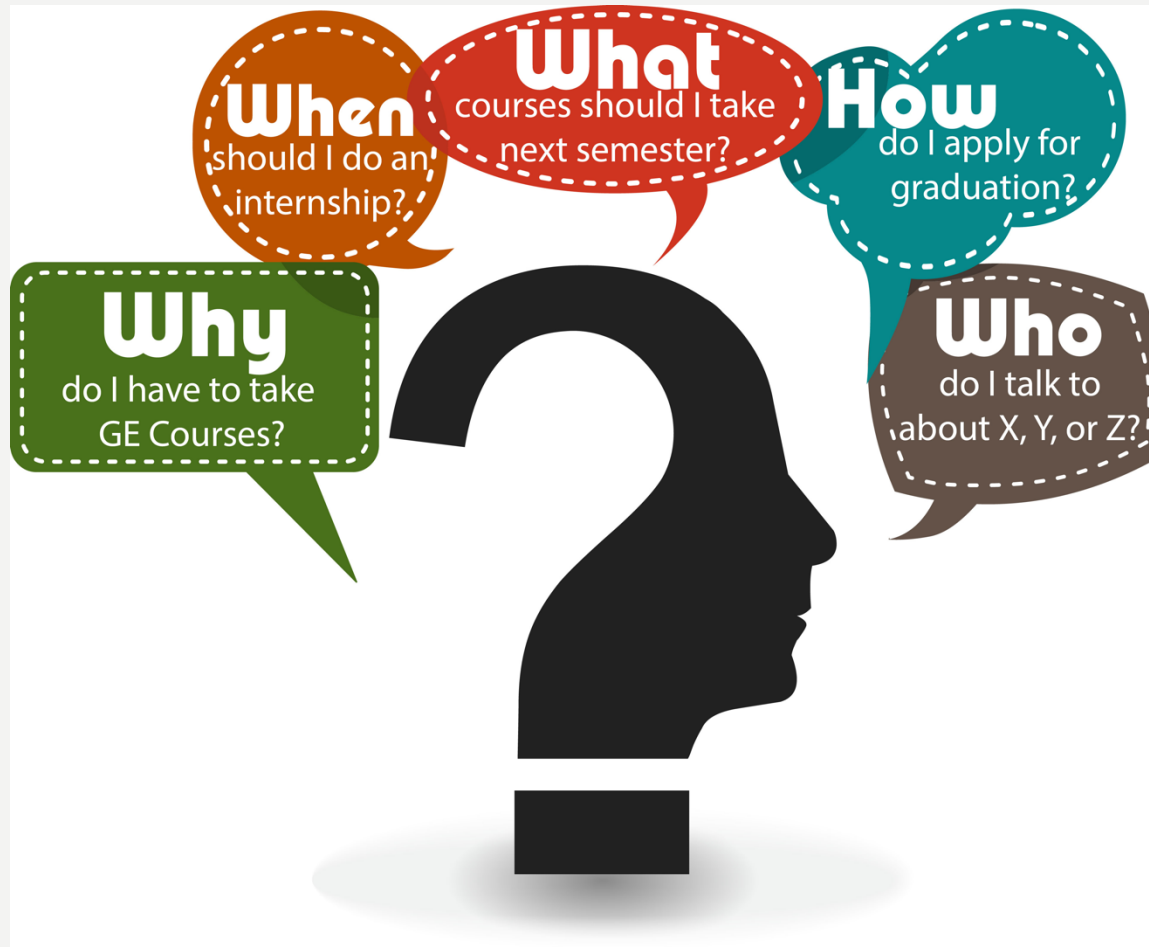
SO...YOU ARE AN ADVISOR.

NOW WHAT?

LEARNING GOALS FOR THIS SESSION

1. Articulate the role of the Academic Advisor at BSC
2. Understand the relationship between the Academic Advisor and other key support offices and individuals, including co-curricular offices (Krulak Institute, Student Development, etc.)
3. Identify characteristics and expectations for being a Successful Advisor
4. Articulate how advising is teaching
5. Gain a better understanding of the academic program at BSC, specifically *Explorations* general education and BSC's graduation requirements
6. Prepare to address advisee questions and concerns during Fall Orientation advising meetings

PART 1 – ADVISING OVERVIEW



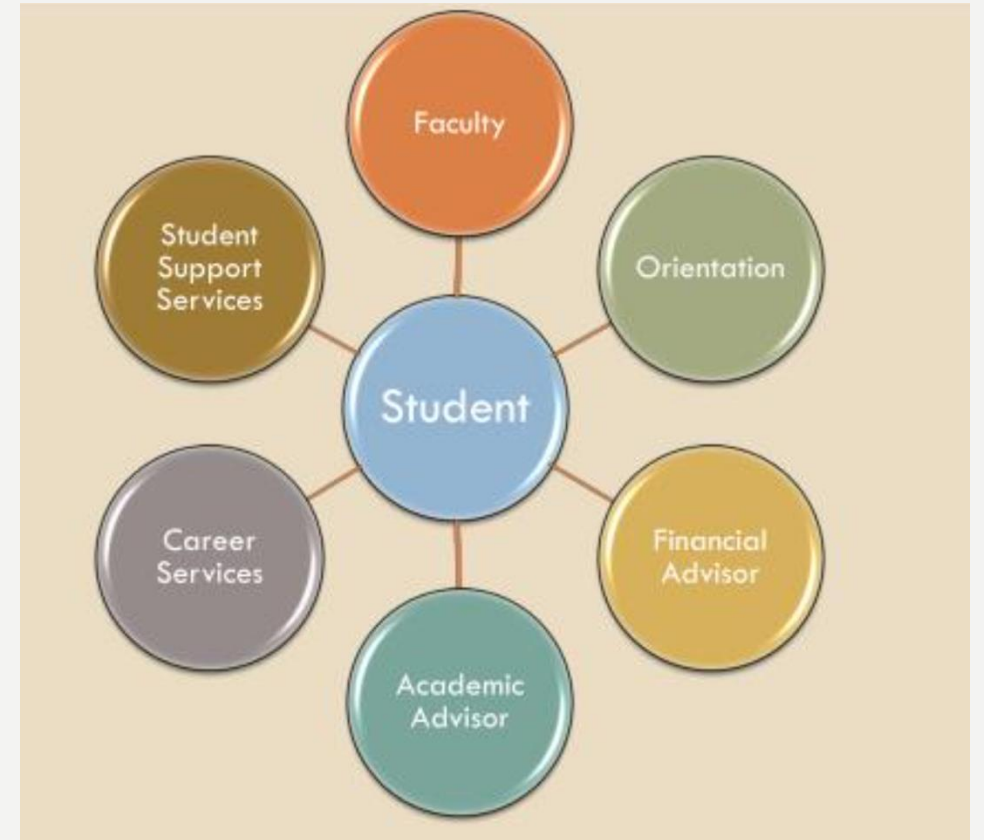
ADVISING AT BSC:

The academic advisor is a frontline, **essential** member of a team of people on our campus who help students succeed.

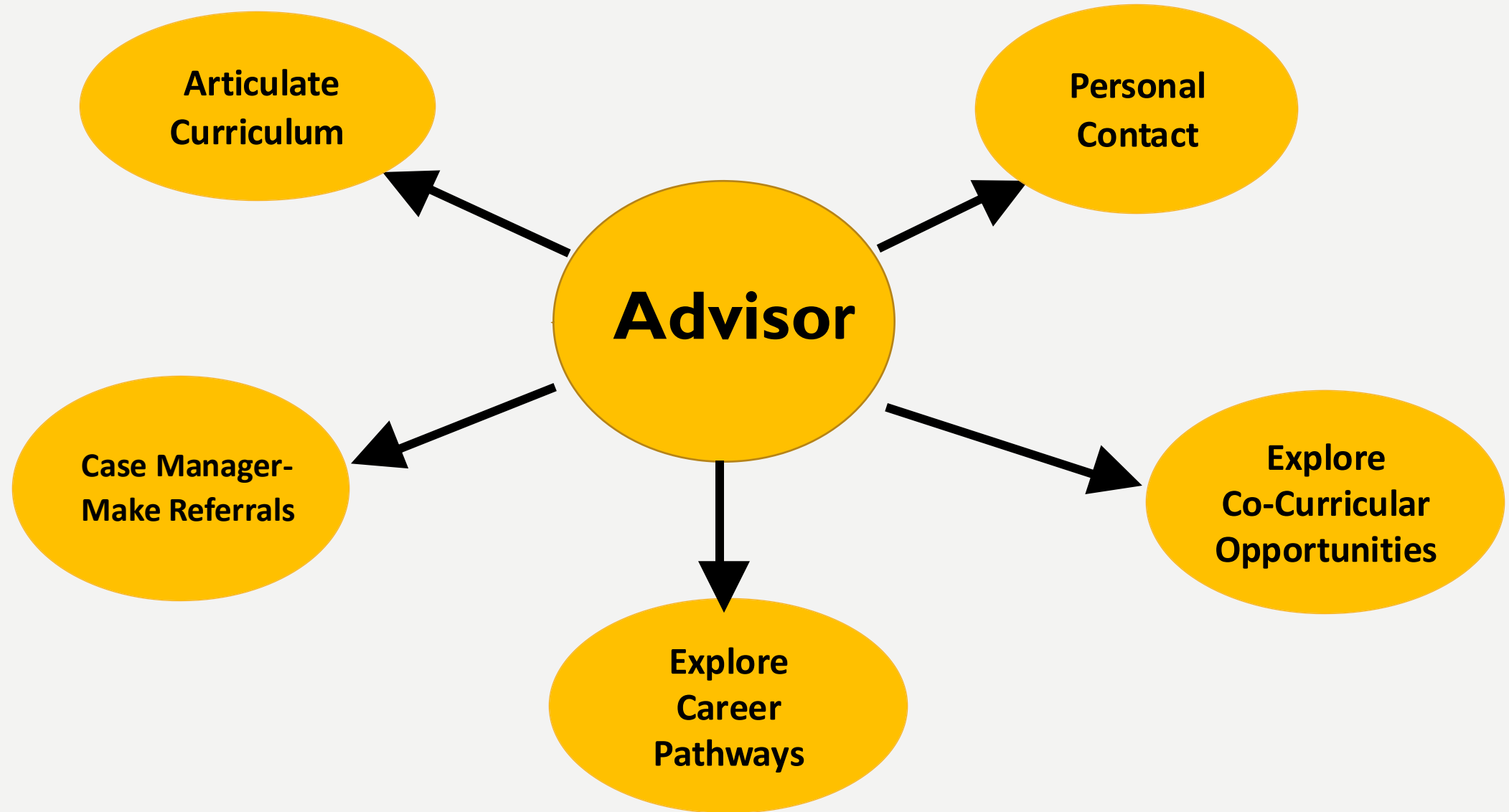


ADVISING AT BSC:

- Faculty-only model
- No professional advising office
- Pre-health is only specialized, dedicated advisor (secondary to official academic advisor)
- Academic Advising is not single-focused (“take this class,” “you need...”)
- We advise across the curriculum. Having an advisor in the major is not mandated, though often the practice once major is declared



THE BSC ADVISOR



ADVISING MISSION STATEMENT

Academic Advising supports Birmingham-Southern College's mission to prepare our students for lives of significance and to foster intellectual and personal development. Working collaboratively with faculty advisors who seek to foster an inclusive learning environment, students should be guided towards identifying and pursuing their academic interests; encouraged to be engaged in learning beyond the classroom; and challenged to embrace liberal arts education as a life-long learner who acquires a deep appreciation of different perspectives, backgrounds, and identities.

ADVISING – CATALOG STATEMENT

Comprehensive advising is an integral part of the academic program at Birmingham-Southern College and of students' broader experiences at the College. All students are assigned a faculty advisor who assists in setting academic and professional goals, weighing options, and accessing resources that are available to ensure success at the College. The student and the faculty advisor work together and have shared responsibility in the advising process.

BEGINNING AY 23-24...

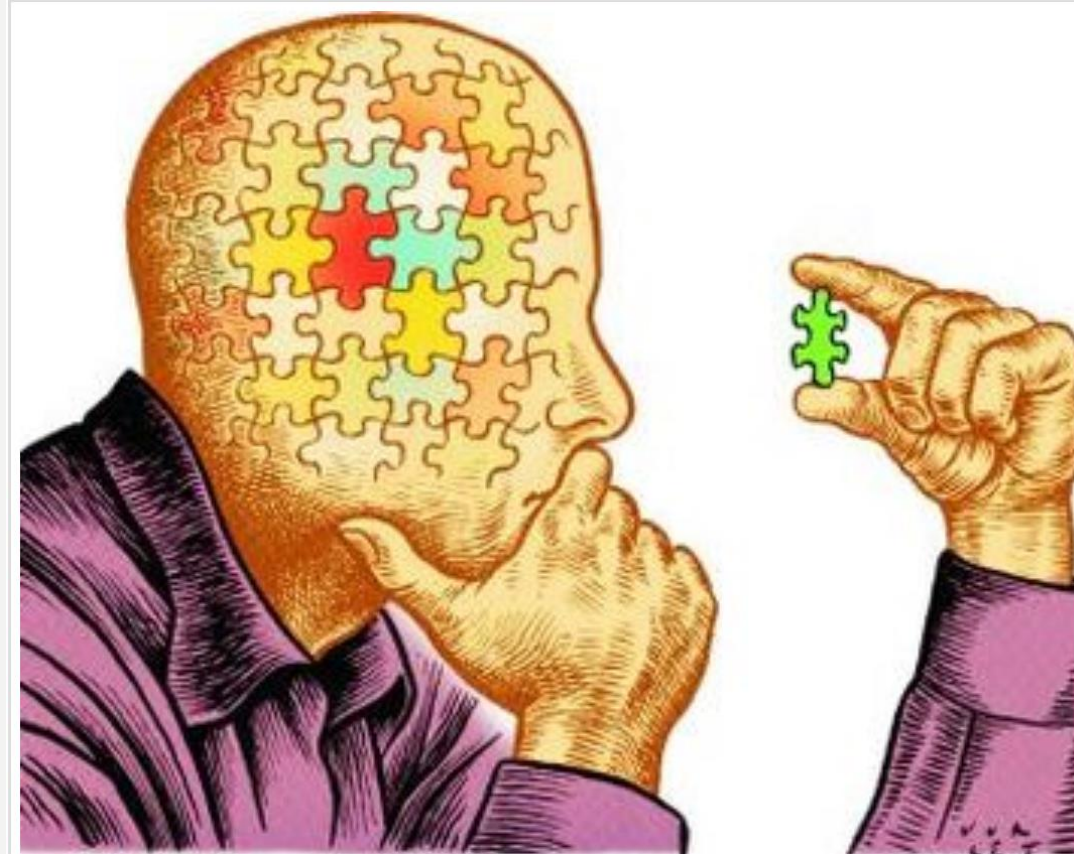
Academic Advising
will be assessed and
will be a part of
faculty review.



THE SUCCESSFUL BSC ADVISOR...

1. Available to students (check and answer e-mails, keep appointments)
2. Well-versed in key academic policies (graduation requirements, units, etc.)
3. Aware of key registration processes (registration dates, advisor approval, class schedules).
4. Understands *Explorations* and can articulate the learning outcomes
5. Gets to know the student and shows interest even if they aren't in your discipline.
6. Refers students to appropriate people and resources on campus as needed.
7. Resourceful. If you don't know the answer, investigate. Check the **catalog**, ask colleagues. Come alongside the student to seek and find the answer.
8. Understands that Advising is Teaching!

HOW IS ADVISING LIKE TEACHING?



HOW IS ADVISING LIKE TEACHING?

What are the outcomes?

What are the core concepts?

What is the content or material we work with?

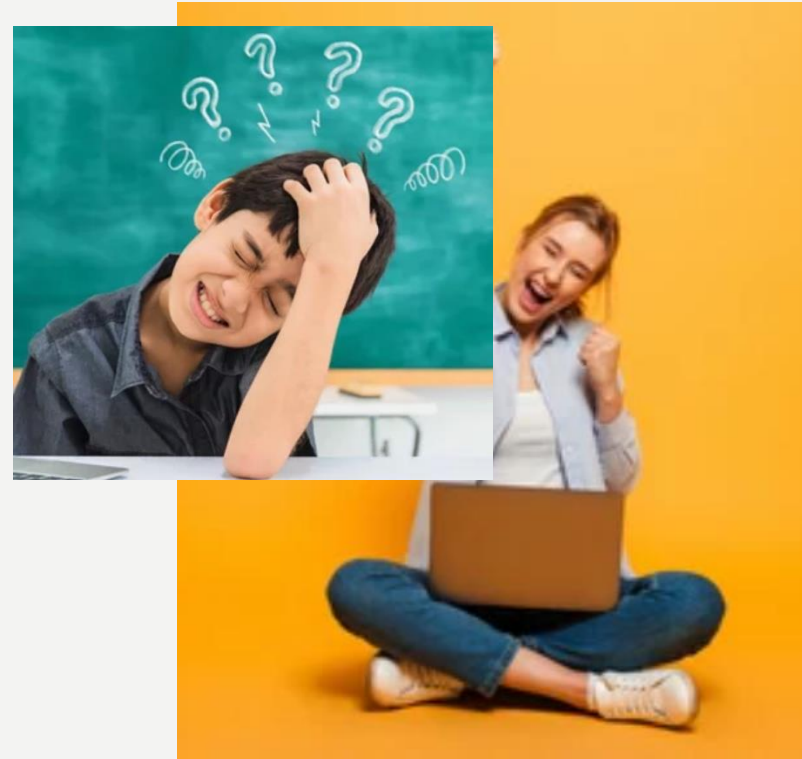
What are the main instructional strategies?

How do we know if our students are succeeding?

What is the relationship between curriculum and co-curriculum?

HOW WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH ADVISING AS AN UNDERGRADUATE?

- What did your advisors do well/badly?
- What did you do well/badly?
- How can your personal experience help frame your approach as an academic advisor at BSC?



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE **SUCCESSFUL** BSC STUDENT **ADVISEE**?



PART II – ACADEMICS OVERVIEW



New Advisor Onboarding Session I

SETTING THE GROUNDWORK

Each student's academic pathway to a degree at BSC likely will not look like other students' academic plans at most universities or traditional colleges.



ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

- Liberal Arts Institution – breadth and depth
- Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts
- *Explorations* general education: Learning Outcomes-Based
- 30 academic majors
- 29 minors
- 4 Academic Distinctions: Leadership Studies, Poverty Studies, Public Health Studies, Black Studies
- 4 Dual Degree Programs (highly specific requirements): Engineering, Nursing, Environmental Studies, Law

BSC MAJORS

CHECKLISTS AT RECORDS WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.BSC.EDU/RECORDS/PDFS/CHECKLISTS.HTML](https://www.bsc.edu/records/pdfs/checklists.html)

Majors

Accounting

Applied Computer Science

Architectural Studies

Art (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts)

Art History

Asian Studies

Biology

Business Administration

Chemistry

Economics

Education (Bachelor of Science in elementary/collaborative education K-6;
teacher certifications in secondary education 6-12 and visual art P-12)

English

Global and Comparative Studies

Health Sciences

History

Mathematical Finance

Mathematics

Media and Film Studies

- Music (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Musical Arts)

Musical Theatre

Philosophy

Philosophy, History, and Law

Physics

Political Science

Psychology

Religion

Sociology

Spanish for the Workplace

Theatre Arts

Urban Environmental Studies (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science)

**Note: BSC does not offer any
vocationally-oriented major programs.**

Coaching major??? No

Nutrition??? No

Criminal justice??? No

Counseling major??? No

Health/PE major??? No

Sports management
major??? No

Kinesiology??? No

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT BSC?

CREATING LIFELONG LEARNERS

1. **Academic Rigor.** We want BSC students to really digest and learn!
2. Students are **ACTIVE** participants and learners in classes. They will engage in learning. Small classes allow for more interaction between faculty and students. We don't want to cultivate "test takers." Being a 'casual' student won't produce academic success.
3. Course content may be very similar to other institutions, but students will **DO** more with the material. Individual and Group Projects, leading class discussions, making class presentations are all examples of **ENGAGING** with what students are learning.
4. Faculty members will expect a high level of **student preparation** before classes. Students should expect lots of reading, preparing homework ahead of time (may or may not be reviewed in class), engaging in discussion boards/forums on Moodle, etc.

****Professors won't do the work for the students.**

Students are expected to do the "academic heavy lifting."

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT BSC?

GENERAL EDUCATION IS DISTINCT

Traditional University:

- **Set group of required classes**
- **Limited choice in general education classes; it's a checklist:**

“Take 2 math courses.”

“Take 2 science courses.”

“Take 1 literature course.”

“Take 1 history course.”

“Take 2 social science courses.”

Birmingham-Southern College:

- ***Explorations* is our General Education Curriculum.**
- ***Learning Outcomes*- based**
- **Much more broad in how students fulfill requirements.**
- **Learning Outcomes (“tags”) can be fulfilled by multiple disciplines**

EXPLORATIONS:

BSC's GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Explorations courses will have the following designations:

ES = Explorations in Scholarship (1st year students only)

WR = Writing Reinforcement (in the major)

CE = Creative Expression

QA = Quantitative Analysis (may/may not be math)

SM = Scientific Methodology (usually natural science)

IA = Interpretation and Analysis (2 required; different disciplines)

GP = Global Perspectives

CI = Community Interest

MFL = Modern Foreign Languages

} 3 total; max 2 per designation

EXPLORATIONS: It's **NOT** A ROADBLOCK.



- *Explorations* General Education does not have to be completed before starting the major.
- In fact, many *Explorations*-designated courses may also come from the major.
- Students are in a process of “weaving” in *Explorations* throughout their time at BSC.

BSC GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



- ✓ Complete all *Explorations* requirements (includes Sr. Capstone)
- ✓ Complete all course requirements for your major
- ✓ Complete 24 Lecture and Arts Events
- ✓ Have a minimum 2.0 GPA in all coursework at BSC
- ✓ Have a minimum 2.0 GPA in your major
- ✓ Have a minimum 2.0 GPA in any minor(s) or distinction program(s)
- ✓ Complete a minimum of 30 regular units and 2 Exploration terms (January)

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

****GRADUATION REQUIREMENT BEGINNING AY 22-23**

An EL experience should be

- *Authentic*
- *Immersive*
- *Accountable*
- Such accountability can derive from the relationship formed in working closely with a **research mentor**, from an employer at an **internship** site, from the students in a class when working as a **teaching fellow**, or from the cultural accountability that comes with living and **studying abroad**, to name a few examples.



These characteristics combine to provide opportunities for students to exercise judgment, make decisions, and learn from mistakes as well as successes.

BSC UNITS: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

1 BSC unit = 4 semester hours

REGULAR unit: fall, spring, or summer (full term)

EXPLORATION TERM (E-term) unit: January (month-long term)

30 REGULAR units minimum (fall/spring/summer)

+

2 EXPLORATION Terms minimum (January) **may opt to take more

GRADUATION: 32 minimum units (30 + 2) = 128 semester hours equivalent

BSC UNITS: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

BSC students will be enrolled in 4.0 units in their first term at BSC.

That's 16 semester hours equivalent.

Taking 4.0 units is full-time enrollment for financial aid, scholarships, campus housing, athletic eligibility and tracking towards the degree.

The general academic tracking is 4.0 units in each term.

**** The curriculum allows for two terms enrolled with 3.0 units, providing the student has satisfactory academic progress in all work attempted in 4.0 unit terms.**

**** 3.0 units = 12 semester hours= full-time enrollment**

Course Plan for: Incoming 1st Year Student			Major: To be Determined			
BSC Degree Requirements (All Students): 30.0 regular units and 2 E-terms (128 semester hours)						
	<u>Fall XXXX</u>		<u>E-Term</u>		<u>Spring XXXX</u>	<u>Summer</u>
	IDS 142 1st Year Seminar	1.00	Required for 1st Yr		EH 102/208 or ES course	1.00
	EH 102/208 or ES course	1.00			Explorations	1.00
	Major or Explorations	1.00			Major or Explorations	1.00
	Explorations	<u>1.00</u>			(4th course if desired)	<u>*1.00</u>
	Total	4.00	1.00		3.0-4.0	
		16 hrs)	(4 hrs)		(12-16 hrs)	
	<u>Fall XXXX</u>		<u>E-Term</u>		<u>Spring XXXX</u>	<u>Summer</u>
	Explorations	1.00	Optional:		Explorations	1.00
	Explorations	1.00	On-Campus		Explorations	1.00
	Explorations	1.00	or Travel		Explorations	1.00
	Major	<u>1.00</u>			Major	<u>1.00</u>
		4.00	*1.00		4.00	
		(16 hrs)	(4 hrs)		(16 hrs)	
	<u>Fall XXXX</u>		<u>E-Term</u>		<u>Spring XXXX</u>	<u>Summer</u>
	Major	1.00	Optional/		Major	1.00
	Major	1.00	On-Campus		Major	1.00
	Explorations	1.00	or Travel		Explorations	1.00
	Explorations	<u>1.00</u>	or Intern		Explorations/Elective	<u>1.00</u>
		4.00	*1.00		4.00	
		(16 hrs)	(4 hrs)		(16 hrs)	
	<u>Fall XXXX</u>		<u>E-Term</u>		<u>Spring XXXX</u>	
	Major	1.00	If needed		Sr. Seminar-Major	1.00
	Major	1.00			Major or elective	1.00
	Explorations/Elective	1.00	1.00		Explorations/Elective	1.00
	Explorations/Elective	<u>1.00</u>	(4 hrs)		** (Add'l unit if needed)	<u>(...)</u>
		4.00	2.0 total		3.00	30.00
		(16 hrs)	minimum		(12 hrs)	minimum
Graduation reqs. met: 30 regular units & 2 E-terms						

30 regular units +
2 E-terms =
Graduation
minimum

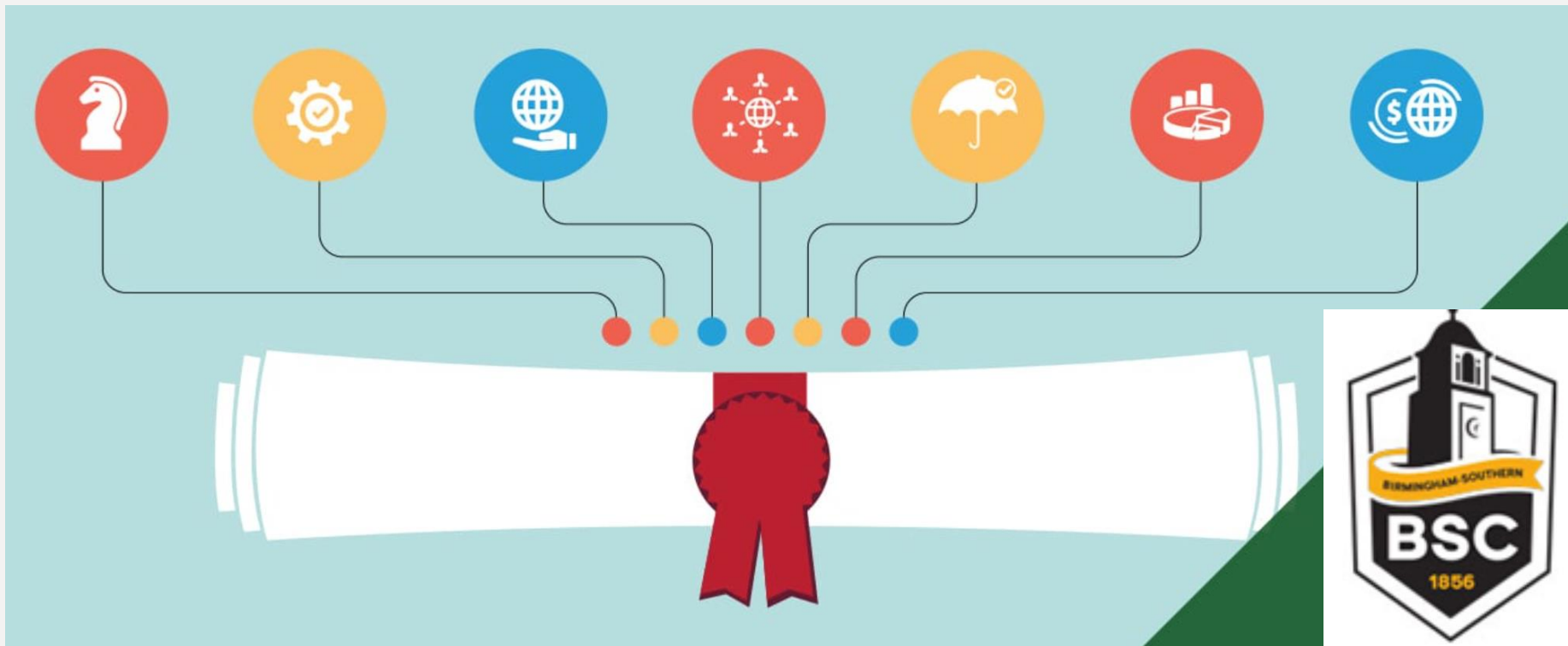
PART III – PREPARING FOR THE FIRST YEAR ADVISING MEETING: ADVISEE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS



HOW ARE ADVISORS ASSIGNED?

- Faculty members serve as academic advisors.
- **First-year advisors represent all disciplines.** They may teach a course in which the student is enrolled, be an athletic liaison to the student's sport, teach in the student's academic area of interest, or they may simply enjoy advising first-year students.
- It is not necessary that the first-year advisor is in the student's major.
- Students may stay with their original academic advisor for the entire time at BSC, or they may change advisors at any time. Having a good working relationship with your advisor is key.
- Students are required to meet with their academic advisor at least once a term. Students will not be able to register without advisor approval.
- It is recommended that students keep in regular contact with their advisor.

YOUR ADVISEE'S FIRST TERM SCHEDULE: NO TWO PATHWAYS ARE THE SAME!



THE 1ST TERM SCHEDULE PROCESS:



- A **very select group** of faculty members create each first-year student's schedule **individually**. We're experts at first-year schedules!
- We review the course preferences the student submitted, possible majors they've listed or other academic interests.
- We consider special scholarships and programs such as Fine and Performing Arts, Bonner Leaders, Harrison Honors Program.
- We review high school courses and test scores (AP, IB, ACT, SAT) for certain course placements.
- We look at other factors affecting the student's schedule such as being a commuter or student athlete.

IT'S ALL ABOUT EXPLORATIONS AND BALANCE.



Major?

Explorations in Scholarship

General Interest

*Explorations
General Education*

Minor ?

English Writing

123456

Panther, Rowdy (Rowdy)

Home: Birmingham, AL

Athlete: Cheering the Panthers

Major: Economics in the Pre-Law track

Saturday, June 19

First-Time Freshman Student

Student Cell: +1 555-555-5555

High School: Hilltop High School

COMMUTER

Career: To either go into law, or possibly politics if a door opens up.

Other: Political Science or International Relations

Favorite HS subjects: History and English; because I love learning to express myself, and reading about how others of the past expressed themselves.

Scores	ACT	SAT
Composite	*If submitted	*If submitted
English	(Helpful in course placements)	
Reading		
Math		
Science		

Current HS Courses: AP Statistics, AP Literature and Composition, AP Environmental Sciences, AP Psychology, AP Government and Politics, US History Through Film

AP: AP Biology- 2

AP Language- 3

AP US History- 4

AP Chem- Did not take exam due to Covid

Just tested for AP Statistics, AP Literature and Composition, AP Environmental Sciences, AP Psychology, and AP Government and Politics (will receive scores in July)

IB:

Dual Enrollment:

ES Courses: The Greek Gods, Oppression and Social Justice, Religious Conflict and Peace, Serpents, Siblings, Sacrifice - Book of Genesis, Theatre as Human Rights Activism, User's Guide to Liberal Arts

Fine Performing Arts: Art History, Music History

Humanities: English- Literature, Greek and Roman Studies, History, Philosophy, Religion

MFL: Spanish

Science/Math: Biology, Urban Environmental Studies, Pre-calculus

Social Science: Business, Economics, Global and Comparative Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology

Other: Asian Studies, Black Studies, Gender and Women's Studies, Leadership Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Poverty Studies, Urban Environmental Studies

<u>Fall 2022</u>	
<i>IDS 142 1st Year Seminar</i>	1.00
EH 102/208 or ES course	1.00
Major or <i>Explorations</i>	1.00
<i>Explorations</i>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	4.00
	(16 hrs)

IDS 142: LIVING A LIFE OF SIGNIFICANCE

- **BSC states as its mission to prepare students “for lives of significance.”**
- **Enhances understanding of the liberal arts**
- **The course provides an enriching, extended orientation for all students, setting them on a path to make the most of their college experience.** The course prepares incoming students for high impact experiences, including securing an internship, identifying and working with mentors, participating in research opportunities, getting involved with student organizations, taking on leadership roles, and, perhaps most important, learning the dispositions appropriate for college level work in a liberal arts context
- **Builds community and connection to BSC:** As part of the course, students will connect with peers and another faculty member invested in their success. The projects will assist students in identifying and connecting with mentors and building deeper relationships with others on campus.

ENGLISH WRITING COURSE



EH 102 Seminar in Critical Thinking and Writing or *EH 208 Intermediate Writing* fulfill BSC's Explorations general education writing requirement.

- Most all BSC students will be placed into *EH 102 Seminar in Critical Thinking and Writing*. It's the standard starting point.
- Some students will be placed in *EH 208 Intermediate Writing*. This is based on AP English score of 5, IB English score of 6, ACT English score of 32 or higher, or SAT Writing score of 710 or higher.

S

EXPLORATIONS IN SCHOLARSHIP (ES) FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR

- Topics-based; not tied to specific majors.
- Limited to 16 students in a course.
- One *Explorations in Scholarship First-Year Seminar* is required for graduation.
- Students may take their ES in the Fall term or Spring term, but must be completed in the first year.

GETTING IN THE WEEDS...

This information is not immediately urgent for beginning your advising journey. However, it will come up and here are some key resources when students ask these questions.



DUAL ENROLLMENT CREDIT

Treated just like transfer credit.

BSC converts semester hours to BSC units.

For example: PY 101 @3 semester hrs (BSC .75 unit) = PY 101 @ 1 BSC unit

- Grade earned of “C” or better in order to transfer to BSC.
- For academic courses with no BSC equivalent, we generally award elective credit as PY 000, HI 000, etc.
- BSC **does not award** transfer credit for developmental (098, 099), vocational, or physical education courses.

NOTE: **BSC must receive an official college transcript** to award credit for dual enrollment coursework.

We cannot award dual enrollment college credit from the high school transcript.

AP & IB CREDIT

**SCORE REPORTS FROM COLLEGE BOARD

- AP & IB Credit Equivalencies on pp. 24-26 in BSC Catalog
Catalog link: <https://www.bsc.edu/academics/catalog/index.html>
- AP scores of 4 for all disciplines EXCEPT English and Physics (5 only); AP/IB English credit does NOT waive the writing requirement (EH 208)
- IB Scores of 6 for all disciplines EXCEPT Theatre (5 accepted)
- AP Art Credit for Studio Art majors requires portfolio submission
- IMPORTANT: AP and IB credit may be used for Area Distributions, major or minor courses, and units towards graduation. They may NOT fulfill Explorations Learning Outcomes equivalents

AP SCORE EQUIVALENCIES

Discipline	Units Accepted	College Credit	AP Score Required	Credited Course
Art (General)	1	1	4 (submitted portfolio)	AR 111 or AR 112
Art (Drawing)	1	1	4 (submitted portfolio)	AR 150
Art History	1	1	4	ARH 215 or ARH 216
Biology	1	1	4	BI 110
Chemistry	1	1	4	CH 120
Computer Science	2	1 (prncpls) 2 (A)	4 4	CAC 170 CAC 170 and CAC 180
Comparative Politics	1	1	4	PS 238
Economics	2	1 (macro) 1 (micro)	4 4	EC 201 EC 202
English*	2	1 (gram) 1 (lit)	5 5	EH 102 EH 200
Environmental Studies	1	1	4	UES 150

History	2	1 (Euro) 1 (Amer)	4 4	HI 103 HI 151 or HI 152
Latin	2	1 (gram) 1 (lit)	4 4	LA 201 LA 245
Mathematics	2	1 2	4 (AB) 4 (BC)	MA 231 MA 231 and MA 232
Music Literature	1	1	3	MU 121
Music Theory	1	1	4	MU 150
Physics	2	1 1	5 (C-M) 5 (C-E&M)	PH 121 PH 122
Political Science	1	1	4	PS101
Psychology	1	1	4	PY101
Spanish	2	1 (gram) 1 (lit)	4 5	SN 220 SN 280
Statistics	1	1	4	MA 207

**elective credit only*

IB SCORE EQUIVALENCIES

Discipline	Units Accepted	College Credit	IB Score Required	Credited Course
Art	Credit considered on an individual basis			
Biology	1	1	6	BI 110
Chemistry	1	1	6	CH 120
Computer Science	1	1	6	CAC 170
Economics*	1	1	6	EC 201
English*	2	1 1	6 6	EH 102 EH 200
History	1	1	6	HI 151 or HI 151
Mathematics	1	1	6	MA 232
Music Literature	Credit considered on an individual basis			
Philosophy	1	1	6	PL 201
Physics	2	2	6	PH 121 and PH 122
Spanish	1 1	1 (standard) 1 (higher)	6 6	SN 220 SN 280
Theatre	1	1	5	THA 104
*elective credit only				

Advising Questions?

1. Moodle Site for Advising
2. BSC Catalog
3. Contact Kim Lewis

KIM LEWIS

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Degree Audit Specialist

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