
Office of Multidisciplinary Degrees in A&S

Your Guide to Academic Advising

Academic Advisor
Carlynn Trout
General Studies &
Interdisciplinary Studies
<http://omd.missouri.edu/>
107 Lowry Hall
troutc@missouri.edu

Academic Advising is

meaningful educational planning. You will work with your advisor to explore and define your academic interests and goals. Together you will create a clear educational plan that will lead to the successful completion of a university degree that matches your interests, strengths, values and career goals.

Goals & Objectives

Academic advising facilitates student development and is an integral part of the educational process at MU. The ultimate **goal** is to help you gain the most from your experience at MU. Advising **objectives** include helping you:

- Acquire and demonstrate awareness of campus resources.
- Become an independent and active navigator of your own undergraduate experience.
- Explore, understand, and meet degree requirements.

CONNECT with your advisor

The name of your assigned advisor is listed in myZou and MU Connect. If you are a General Studies or Interdisciplinary Studies major or are considering declaring or switching to either of these two individualized majors, you may interact with your advisor, Carlynn Trout, in these ways:

ZOOM or In-Person Appointments: Use MU Connect to Schedule

Carlynn Trout is available to meet with you for creating a graduation plan and semester planner, switching majors, transferring divisions, completing SAP appeals, and discussing issues affecting academic success. You are required to **read about individualized majors on the website <http://omd.missouri.edu/> prior to your first appointment with Ms. Trout.** During appointments, expect to reflect upon and discuss your academic progress, challenges, goals, and degree plan. Schedule your appointment using MU Connect. *If you cannot keep your scheduled appointment, please cancel it as soon as possible. If you are more than 10 minutes late for an appointment, you may be asked to reschedule it.*

Email: troutc@missouri.edu

Emails to advisors are professional communications and should include your first name, last name, student ID, and major—BGS or IDS. Communicate your questions and/or concerns clearly and concisely. Ms. Trout will reply within three business days. If you have an immediate concern, call the A&S Advisement Center at 573-882-6411 or email umcasadvising@missouri.edu

Individualized Majors at MU: General Studies (BGS) and Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS BA)

General Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies are build-your-own majors. The responsibility of knowing your components, picking classes, and meeting University requirements rests primarily on you with guidance from your advisor. You will use your grad plan and semester planner to enroll in classes each term.

Advising Referrals

Students sometimes need to see advisors or staff members in other offices on campus. Your advisor will try to refer you to the correct office if you clearly explain your needs or situation in an email or during an appointment.

PREPARE

Advising appointments are a great opportunity to talk about your concerns, celebrate your accomplishments, and answer your questions. Appointments are most beneficial when you:

- Note your appointment date and time.
- Review any advising paperwork from previous meetings.
- Prepare a list of questions to ask your advisor.
- Review requirements and internship procedures for BGS or IDS majors on <http://omd.missouri.edu/>

EXPECT

You can expect an advisor to:

- Assist you in finding a degree program that matches your interests and abilities.
- Understand and effectively communicate the curriculum and requirements for the university and your chosen major.
- Help you build your grad plan and semester planner.
- Provide recommendations for class selection, research opportunities, and/or extracurricular activities that broaden experiences.
- Act as a resource guide for academic, personal, or professional support services.
- Listen to your concerns and respect your values and choices.

Your advisor expects you to:

- Check and read your MU email regularly. Check academic records and progress through myZou and MU Connect.
- Come prepared with your grad plan and semester planner to advising appointments. Actively participate in the meeting.
- Take an active role in your degree planning, course selections, and career exploration.
- Accept responsibility for your academic decisions and performance.
- Be open and willing to consider advice from faculty, advisors, and other mentors.
- Become knowledgeable of and follow campus policies and procedures.

RESOURCES

OMD website: <http://omd.missouri.edu/>

MU Connect: <http://mizzou.starfishsolutions.com>

A&S Advising In-box: muasadvising@missouri.edu

MU Registrar: <http://registrar.missouri.edu/>

MU Career Center: <http://career.missouri.edu>

Campus Writing Program: <http://cwp.missouri.edu/wi>

EXPLORE

Fall Semester

- Get to know your instructors and advisor.
- Explore interests, values, and skills related to academic and career goals.
- Evaluate how social decisions impact your academic performance.
- Connect with tutoring and other campus resources.
- Get involved in campus organizations, particularly those that fit your career interests.
- In **October**, meet with or email your advisor, and then register for spring courses.

Spring Semester

- Review academic goals and consider techniques and resources to make you an even better student.
- Arrange for experiences that will help you clarify your goals and interests – internships, part-time work, job shadowing, informational interviews, etc.
- In **March**, meet with or email your advisor, and then register for summer and fall courses.
- Research possible minors to accompany your major.
- Research multiple career options to find the best fit.
- Identify education and/or additional skills or experiences you will need in order to actualize your career goals.

Updated 10-6-21