# Your Sophomore Advising Checklist

## SOPHOMORE PRIORITIES

- Declare your MAJOR
- Evaluate your STUDY ABROAD options
- Assess your possibilities for SUMMER INTERNSHIPS, RESEARCH or EMPLOYMENT
- Explore possibilities for CIVIC involvement: ENGAGE THE WORLD!

## EACH SEMESTER

- Discuss your broader INTERESTS and GOALS with faculty, friends, family and advisors
  - How do your intellectual interests mesh with your professional and civic concerns?
  - What resources (people, programs, initiatives, facilities) on campus will be most useful to you?
  - What has your Dickinson experience meant to you so far? What have you discovered about yourself? What’s next?
- Run a DEGREE EVALUATION from Banner Self Service
- Meet with your ACADEMIC ADVISOR
  - Arrange an appointment at least TWO WEEKS BEFORE the Course Request period
  - In the Fall, the course request period starts OCT 31 (remember that you will need to get your alternate PIN from your advisor)
    - In the Spring, it starts MARCH 27
- Select COURSES for next term
- Register for courses on time!
  - If you don’t you’ll have fewer choices
  - And in the Spring you’ll be blocked from the housing lottery.

## MAJOR DECLARATION

- Take at least one course in each prospective department
- Discuss your thoughts with your ACADEMIC ADVISOR and a CAREER COUNSELOR
| MAJOR DECLARATION (CONT’D) | Arrange appointments with FACULTY in prospective departments  
| | Talk with CURRENT STUDENTS in the major  
| | Contact ALUMNI about their majors  
| | Utilize ADVISING MONTH to gather information  
| | - OCTOBER in the Fall  
| | - MARCH in the Spring  
| | - Attend the ACADEMIC OPEN HOUSE  
| | Use the Career Center’s FOCUS II and MBTI evaluations to help you match your interests and personality.  
| | Submit your MAJOR DECLARATION FORM with all the required signatures in hard copy to the Registrar’s office  
| | - You must declare a major to STUDY ABROAD  
| | - Most students declare by the middle of the SPRING semester  
| | - If you don’t declare a major as a sophomore, you won’t be able to register as a JUNIOR!  
| STUDY ABROAD | □ Discuss intellectual interests and program possibilities with your ACADEMIC ADVISOR  
| | □ Investigate options with the GLOBAL EDUCATION STAFF  
| | □ Explore connections between STUDY ABROAD, POSSIBLE MAJORS, and CAREER INTERESTS  
| | □ Ask current seniors about their THESES or RESEARCH PROJECTS  
| | □ Attend research SHOWCASES and SYMPOSIA  
| | □ Focus on “WHAT” as much as “WHERE”  
| | - Most programs have deadlines in early September or early February!  
| INTERNSHIPS & RESEARCH | □ Think STRATEGICALLY about your intellectual interests and career possibilities  
| | □ Build relationships with appropriate FACULTY |
| INTERNSHIPS & RESEARCH (CONT’D) | □ **Discuss** successful research projects with current STUDENTS, MENTORS, PROFESSORS and ALUMNI  
□ **Make** an appointment with a CAREER COUNSELOR  
• It’s never too late, but EARLY is BETTER  
• Many competitive internship programs have deadlines in SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER!  
□ **Consider** participating in the TRANSCRIPT NOTATION PROGRAM. |
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| FELLOWSHIPS | □ **Outstanding students** should explore options for FELLOWSHIPS  
• Some programs such as the UDALL (environmental studies) and the GOLDWATER (research in math or science) are specifically designed for sophomores  
• Other prestigious grants (like the FULLBRIGHT or the MARSHALL) involve long-range planning  
□ **Consult** with your ACADEMIC ADVISOR or other FACULTY  
□ **Contact** the Dean of Academic Advising for guidance and information. |