Overview

Today we’ll discuss:

- Your Student’s First Steps
- Today’s Schedule
- Transfer Policies
- Your Student’s First Semester
- Your Student’s Liberal Arts Education
- LSA Degree Requirements
- Academic and Advising Resources
- Next Steps
Today’s Schedule

• 1:00-2:00 Group Meeting
• Individual Meetings with Your Advisor
  – 2:00, 2:30, 3:00
• 2:00-3:30 Backpacking
• 3:30 Registration with Advisor
## Transfer Policies

### WHAT CAN TRANSFER?

- **Up to 60 credits** (62 credits with an Associates Degree)
- Courses with grades C or higher accepted
- Only credits transfer, not grades

### WHAT CAN IT COUNT FOR?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution and/or Skills Requirements</th>
<th>General LSA Advisor, Academic Standards Board, or Sweetland Center for Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Majors and Minors</td>
<td>Departmental Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective Credit</td>
<td>No additional approval needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WHO CAN APPROVE IT?

Exception: Grades do transfer from UM Dearborn and Flint.
Your Student’s First Semester

- Most courses are 3-5 credits
- 12-18 credits is full-time; most students take 14-16 credits, normally 4 classes
- Choosing classes: Start with classes in your perspective majors. For the remaining classes: explore, try out subjects that intrigue you, take some risks.
- Your chance to explore and challenge yourself is built in.
  - Drop/Add Deadline is September 22
  - Late Drop Deadline is November 7
A Liberal Arts Education

PREPARATION FOR LIFE

• *All LSA degrees provide broadly applicable skills, useful for a variety of careers and life.*

• Students learn from multiple perspectives by being exposed to different disciplines and various ways of research and understanding.

• Experiences outside the classroom form an integral part of a liberal arts education.
Today’s Job Landscape
A FEW ECONOMIC REALITIES

- 50% of workers have been with their company fewer than 5 years.
- Today’s students may have between 10-14 jobs by the time they are 38.
- Every year, more than 30 million Americans are working in jobs that did not exist in the previous quarter.
- Every year, more than 1/3 of the U.S. labor force changes jobs.

Source: The Economic Value of Liberal Education, AACU and Center on Education and the Workforce, 2013
What Matters to Employers

**RATING CANDIDATE SKILLS AND JOB QUALITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill/Quality</th>
<th>Rating*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to verbally <strong>communicate</strong></td>
<td>4.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to work in a <strong>team</strong> structure</td>
<td>4.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to make decisions and <strong>solve problems</strong></td>
<td>4.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to <strong>plan, organize</strong>, and prioritize work</td>
<td>4.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to obtain and <strong>process information</strong></td>
<td>4.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to <strong>analyze</strong> quantitative data</td>
<td>4.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technical knowledge</strong> related to the job</td>
<td>3.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proficiency with <strong>computer software</strong> programs</td>
<td>3.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to create and/or edit <strong>written reports</strong></td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to sell or <strong>influence</strong> others</td>
<td>3.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Weighted average rating based on a 5-POINT SCALE: | 5 = extremely important | 4 = very important | 3 = somewhat important | 2 = not very important | 1 = not at all important

Source: *Job Outlook 2013*, National Association of Colleges and Employers
Unexpected Career Paths

IMPACT OF MAJOR ON CAREER PATH

LSA GRADUATES 1990-2013
LSA Degree Requirements

• Four Degrees Offered:
  ➤ Bachelor of Arts
  ➤ Bachelor of Science
  ➤ Bachelor in General Studies

• Minimum of 120 credits

• Average of at least “C” (GPA≥2.0) in your major and overall.
120 credits

BGS
Bachelor in
General Studies

interdisciplinary course work

skills
FYWR
ULWR
RE
QR

60 credits at the 300 level or above in at least three departments
120 credits
BA/BS

- electives
- major
- distribution
  - NS
  - HU
  - SS
  - MSA, CE, ID
- skills
  - FYWR
  - ULWR
  - RE
  - QR
  - LANG
World-Class Resources

**ACADEMIC & CAREER**
- Career Center
- Newnan LSA Academic Advising Center

**COLLABORATIVE LEARNING**
- Language Resource Center
- Math Lab
- Physics Help Room
- Science Learning Center
- Sweetland Center for Writing

**HEALTH**
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- University Health Services

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
- Office of Services for Students with Disabilities
- Test Accommodation Center
major

The major provides students the opportunity to acquire in-depth knowledge in one academic discipline while developing skills that are transferrable to a wide array of endeavors.

things to know

- Majors typically require about 30 credits plus some prerequisites.
- Students are encouraged to declare a major by the end of their sophomore year.
- There are 75 majors offered in LSA.
The skills requirements focus on strengthening the necessary “real life” skills of written communication, quantitative reasoning, and intercultural competence.

**skills requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FYWR</th>
<th>first-year writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ULWR</td>
<td>upper-level writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RE</td>
<td>race &amp; ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QR</td>
<td>quantitative reasoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LANG</td>
<td>second language</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
distribution

The *distribution requirement* adds breadth to your coursework and provides the opportunity to think and learn in different ways.

distribution areas

- **HU**: humanities
- **NS**: natural science
- **SS**: social science
- **CE**: creative expression (optional)
- **MSA**: math & symbolic analysis (optional)
- **ID**: interdisciplinary (optional)

Courses used toward the distribution requirement may not overlap with your major.
electives

*Elective credits* are any credits not being used to satisfy a specific degree requirement.

things to know

- These additional credits allow for endless ways to maximize your degree - whether that's exploring interests, building specific skills, adding a second major or a minor, or taking classes in other UM schools.
- There is no “minimum” number of required elective credits.
- AP credit falls under elective credits.