

MAXIMIZING YOUR DORNSIFE ADVISING EXPERIENCE

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER ASKING DURING AN ADVISEMENT APPOINTMENT:

1. How many units do I need to complete my degree?
2. In what order or semester should classes be completed, or is it up to me?
3. If I wish to add a new major or minor, who should I contact?
4. Which classes are eligible for the Pass/No Pass grading option, and is that option recommended for specific classes?
5. Are there tips for how to best register for classes and get the ones that I want?
6. Is it possible to join a class that says it is full?
7. If I am interested in a specific career, what resources or people should I consult?
8. How do I schedule an appointment with Dornsife Career Pathways or the Career Center?
9. If I am interested in helping a professor with research, what is the best way to pursue that opportunity?
10. How do I find out about the different clubs to join at USC?

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES AND ADVICE:

1. Your advisor is there to help support you. Take the time to discuss how you are doing and if there are any concerns or issues going on as you adjust to life as a college student. Be sure to communicate your needs and expectations to your advisor. The better your advisor knows you, the better they are able to assist you.
2. There are no dumb questions. If you are having trouble finding or discovering a resource or where to sign up for one you have heard of, do not feel too embarrassed to ask. Advisors are happy to help you better understand where to find events and information and learn the layout of different USC resources.
3. Always check your email! So many opportunities available to students at USC are sent to you via email, so make sure you stay up to date and check your email every day.
4. Respect advisors and their time. The advising relationship is a two-way street. Arriving to your appointment on time and prepared with questions is an important part of the advising relationship.
5. When corresponding with your advisor via email, please remain patient. Advisors respond to emails as quickly as they can and in the order in which they are received.
6. Lastly, don't settle! Having an academic advisor is an amazing resource, and they do their best to help you plan a schedule of classes each semester to make your experience at USC as great as possible. If a major or class is not working out, make sure you speak with them and see if you can find a solution. No advisor will get offended by you switching majors.

If you have any additional questions feel free to email us at advising@dornsife.usc.edu or visit our website at <https://dornsife.usc.edu/advising>.