Wheeler Notes:

The Most Important Twenty Minutes of the Semester: November rushes toward us and with those halcyon days of cooler weather and Thanksgiving come hordes of students seeking advisement. Please remember that for many of these students, the advisement period is the single most important 20 minutes of the semester. This may be the only time during the semester in which a trained academic helps the student develop aspirations and find connections between those aspirations and the program of study that he or she is completing.

Because of the importance of these days, I have asked several members of our community to write short articles about advising their own area of expertise. Because for the first time we are permitting students to register for on-line courses without special permission, Dr. Perkowski’s comments are very important.

PerkowskiNotes:

In view of the fact that students can register themselves for on-line courses for spring semester, the Distance Education Committee suggests the following guidelines for advisors.

Encourage online courses for your student if your student struggles to build a schedule because of long commute, family obligations, or work obligations and your student is self-motivated and disciplined

Discourage online courses if Your student is in learning support courses Your student has a GPA below 2.00

BaskinNotes

“Unlock/Lock” Button Restored: Until this week, there was not a “button” on student summaries for faculty advisors to lock or unlock students with two or three learning support requirements. The button has been added back because of a change in learning support advising and registration policies. Please look for an email from Ed Wheeler soon that will provide full information on these new policies and the use of this “button.”

BursteinNotes:

Five things to remember as you advise students in Core Requirements:

- Georgia Legislative Requirements: Students who have taken US history outside of the university system or received credit through AP or CLEP tests must take an exam on Georgia history to satisfy the Legislative Requirement.
- Starting with the spring semester, History classes are no longer open to students with a Learning Support English requirement.
- No History class has prerequisites; each class is “stand alone.” Therefore, students can take HIST 1122 without having taken HIST 1121 or HIST 2112 without having taken HIST 1121. Conversely, a student can take 1121 or 2111 after having taken 1122 or 2112.
- PSYC 2103 no longer has a prerequisite.
- None of POLS 1101, 2301, or 2401 have prerequisites, and all satisfy Area E. The only POLS class with a prerequisite is POLS 2201, which does not satisfy Area E.

Five things to remember as you advise students thinking about a business major:

- Since most four year business programs require students to take calculus (MATH 1501) at some point, we recommend that students take MATH 1111 as their Area A math class or better yet, MATH 1113 or MATH 1301. If they take MATH 1111, then we recommend MATH 1113 and 1301 as their third Area D class and for Area B.
- Unless students have a math SAT above 500 (or equivalent ACT) we recommend that they not take Accounting before they take Math 1111 or higher; new freshmen tend to struggle in Accounting, even if they have had accounting in high school.
- We recommend Math 1111 or higher before students take either economics class.
• Students with a specific expectation regarding where they want to complete their bachelor’s degree should meet with one of the Business faculty (Calhoun, McCarron, Joshi, Smyth, Johnson, Burstein) early in their Gordon career to be sure they’re aware of specific entrance requirements to the school for which they’re aiming.

One thing to remember as you advise students thinking about a social work major:

• Students should take SOCI 1101 as part of either Area E or Area F, even though it’s not specifically required, to meet requirements of four year colleges.

MooreNotes

Seven things to know about advising in Math and Science

1. BIOL 1107K and BIOL 1108K are designed for science majors. While that does not mean a non-science major will not succeed, students with weak math and chemistry skills may have a hard time. Please encourage non-science majors to take BIOL 1111K and BIOL 1112K. We have added more sections of these courses to help students find space.

2. Science majors who are not ready for MATH 1113 (Pre-calculus) must take MATH 1111 (College Algebra). They may not take MATH 1001. If you are advising LS students who plan to be science majors, please keep this in mind.

3. All science majors are strongly encouraged to take CHEM 1211K and CHEM 1212K in their first year.

4. A non-science major can take MATH 1111 (Algebra) and have it count in Area A. However, the mathematics faculty does not encourage this unless the student’s major requires it.

5. A non-science major can take MATH 1001 (Quantitative Skills), MATH 1111 (Algebra), and MATH 1113 (Pre-Calculus) and get credit for each. MATH 1101 would fulfill an Area A requirement. MATH 1111 and MATH 1113 would count, respectively, in Areas B and D (as the elective.)

6. If your major requires Organic Chemistry (CHEM 2401), you MUST take CHEM 1211 in the Fall semester of your Freshman year, if you want to graduate in 2 years.

7. Non-science majors should be advised against taking CHEM 1211; it reduces necessary seats for science majors plus non-science majors typically struggle/suffer with the math component.

More Wheeler Notes

Georgia Conference on College and University Teaching: A call for proposals for the Georgia Conference on College and University Teaching (Kennesaw State University, February 13-14) is available in Academic Affairs. Please contact Lorell Almand, and she will send a copy of the flyer. Proposals are due by October 20, 2008.

Deadlines and Dates

Oct 9 Midterms/Last Day to Withdraw from class without penalty
Oct 13, 14 Fall Break for Faculty & Students
Oct 15 Ga History & US Constitution Exam
Oct 21 & 23 Academic Contests
Oct 21 Southern Culture Series #1 “Reflections on Life at Gordon”

Oct 22, 23 Regents’ Testing Program
Oct 27, 28 Regents’ Testing Program
Nov 3-21 Early Registration
Nov 6 Southern Culture Series #2, Matthew Hill “Upholding Slavery: The Antebellum South, Slavery and the Use of the Bible in Proslavery”

Nov 20 New Student Orientation
Nov 21 Southern Culture Series #3, Debi Hamlin – Music Presentation
Nov 25 Evening Classes meet as scheduled Residence Halls close at 4:00 PM for Thanksgiving

Nov 25 Administrative offices open 8:00AM-5:00PM
Nov 26-28 Thanksgiving Holidays for Faculty & Students
Nov 27, 28 College closed for Thanksgiving
Dec 8 Regents’ Test Results available
Dec 8 Last day of classes
Dec 9-12 Final examinations
Dec 12-Jan 4 College closed for Christmas Holidays

Feb 14, 2009 Call for Proposals—paragraph summaries due for Teaching Matters Conference