

TIPS FOR ADVISING UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Harlan Smith, Director

International Student and Scholar Support

Sherry Warren, Academic Director

International Accelerator Program



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACADEMIC ADVISING ESSENTIALS

- Key policies impacting advising
- Communication related tips
- Cultural and educational experience related tips



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE

What Academic Advisors Need to Know



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ACADEMIC REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- 12 credit hours each Fall and Spring Semester are **mandatory!**
- A reduced course load (“RCL”) may be allowable in some cases.
- A reduced course load must be authorized **in advance**; it cannot be provided retroactively.
- A reduced course load may be authorized for the following reasons:
 - Difficulty with the English language or American teaching methods (first semester only!!)
 - Illness (either physical or mental); diagnosed depression or anxiety **are valid reasons** for a medical RCL.
 - Last semester of the academic program; must be evidenced by official permission to graduate from an academic authority and graduation application submission.



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION

- Pre-completion:
 - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
 - Must be academically relevant and directly relevant to the academic endeavor.
 - Must appear on the USC transcript.
 - Must be academically authorized by a USC authority.
 - Must not disrupt or delay program completion.
 - If there is no internship or experiential learning requirement embedded in the program, then the Carolina Internship Program may be an option for the student.
 - Students may not “volunteer”!!
- Post-completion:
 - Optional Practical Training (OPT)
 - May be authorized only after graduation (“program completion”) has been confirmed and graduation has been applied for.
 - Training must be directly related to the academic endeavor.
 - Does not require academic approval.
 - OPT may be authorized for 12 months and an must as 36 months (for STEM students).



STAY INFORMED ON UNIQUE POLICIES

- IAP students may have taken **LING 102, 103 and 104**; all are eligible for elective credit
- **Course grade forgiveness** is not allowed for non-degree semester work
- When advising **sponsored students**, consult the financial guarantee for restrictions (online, W grades, majors); letters are sometimes requested and IAP/ISSS can help
- Help students gain **GFL credit** for their first language

Term: Summer 2020

College: Global Carolina
Major: Non-Degree Seeking
Student Type: Nondegree
Academic Standing: Good Standing

Subject	Course	Campus	Level	Title	Grade	Credit Hours	Quality Points	Start and End Dates	R	CEU Contact Hours	
ENFS	093	USC Columbia	UG	Tech for Acad Purposes	NG	0.000	0.00				
LING	102	USC Columbia	UG	Linguistic Skills for NNS 1	A	3.000	12.00				
LING	103	USC Columbia	UG	Linguistic Skills for NNS 2	A	3.000	12.00				
MATH	122	USC Columbia	UG	Calculus for BA & Soc Sciences	B	3.000	9.00				
UNIV	150	USC Columbia	UG	International Stud in Univ I	A	2.000	8.00				
Term Totals (Undergraduate)											
						Attempt Hours	Passed Hours	Earned Hours	GPA Hours	Quality Points	GPA
Current Term:						11.000	11.000	11.000	11.000	41.00	3.727
Cumulative:						17.000	17.000	17.000	17.000	65.00	3.824



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ENHANCE COMMUNICATION

Advisor: "The midterm is just around the corner."

International student: <smile, nod> (total confusion)

- **Be direct** yet respectful for effective communication
- **Avoid** idiomatic expressions and clarify cultural references, humor and sarcasm
- Encourage students to **summarize** to ensure understanding
- For new students, **follow up in writing with** key takeaways after meetings

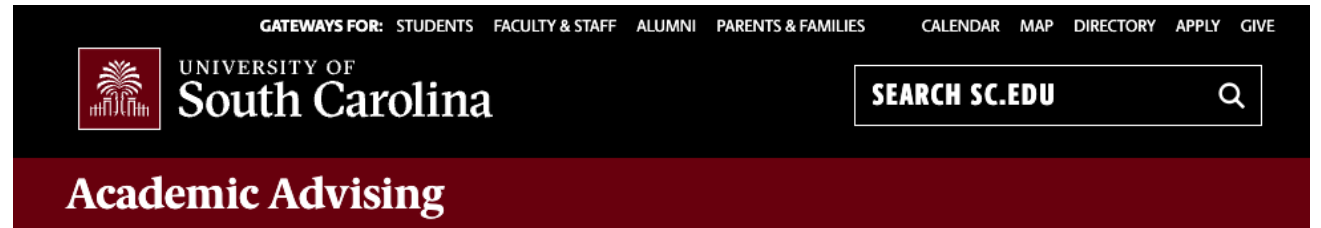


Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HELP WITH THE BASICS

- Explain your role; students often have multiple advisors with different responsibilities
- Ensure students understand **academic requirements** and **outcomes** such as **drop/add** and **withdrawal dates**
- Recommend **success consultations** to thoroughly familiarize students with syllabi and support options
- **Be patient** with potential cultural misunderstandings



Academic Advising

Student Advising Resources

Advising Help Videos & Resources

Orientation Advising for New Students

Pre-Advisement Checklist

Registration Status

Registration Resources

My USC Experience Student Resources

USC Online Programs Advisement

Academic Advising Student Council

College Advising

Add/Drop FAQs

For the fall 2024 semester

Add/Drop Deadline (for full term courses): Monday, August 26th, 2024

- Prior to the add/drop deadline students can freely add or drop courses from their schedules.
- Prior to the add/drop deadline students will receive a 100% tuition refund for dropped courses and no grade will be assigned on the academic transcript.

Course Withdrawal: Courses dropped after the add/drop deadline will impact a student's academic transcript and tuition liability. Please see the [Registrar's webpage on Withdrawal](#) for more detailed information.

- First day "W" grade assigned: August 27, 2024
- Last day "W" grade assigned: November 6, 2024
- First day "WF" grade assigned: November 7, 2024
- Tuition refund deadlines are listed on the [Part of Term Dates and Deadlines page](#)

Expand all

How do I drop a class?



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

KNOW STUDY PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

- Recommend heavy writing/participation courses for **later in the study plan** rather than the first year if possible
- **Adjust study plans** for planned summer study, early graduation or specialized tracks
- Ask if students intend to apply to **DMSB**; many do, and this impacts course recommendations



INTERNATIONAL ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

Suggested Wait Semester Curriculum for
Business School Intenders

Sport and Entertainment Management Major OR
Hospitality/Retail Management Major and Business Administration Minor

Requirements:

- ENGL 101**
- ENGL 102**

DMSB requirements:

- ECON 221**
- ECON 222**
- ACCT 225**
- ACCT 226*
- MGSC 290**
- MGMT 250*
- MATH 122**

HRSM course equivalents:

- ECON 224 (counts for either ECON 221 or 222)
- ECON 224 (counts for either ECON 221 or 222)
- RETL 261
- RETL 262
- SPTE 274
- ENGL 463 or RETL 242
- MATH 122 (other ARP also accepted)

DMSB core that can be taken with this major/ minor:

- MGMT 371*
- MKTG 350* (difficult course)

Other DMSB major requirements:

- 18 credit hours of directed coursework or minor (discuss options with a Major Change advisor in the Advising Center)

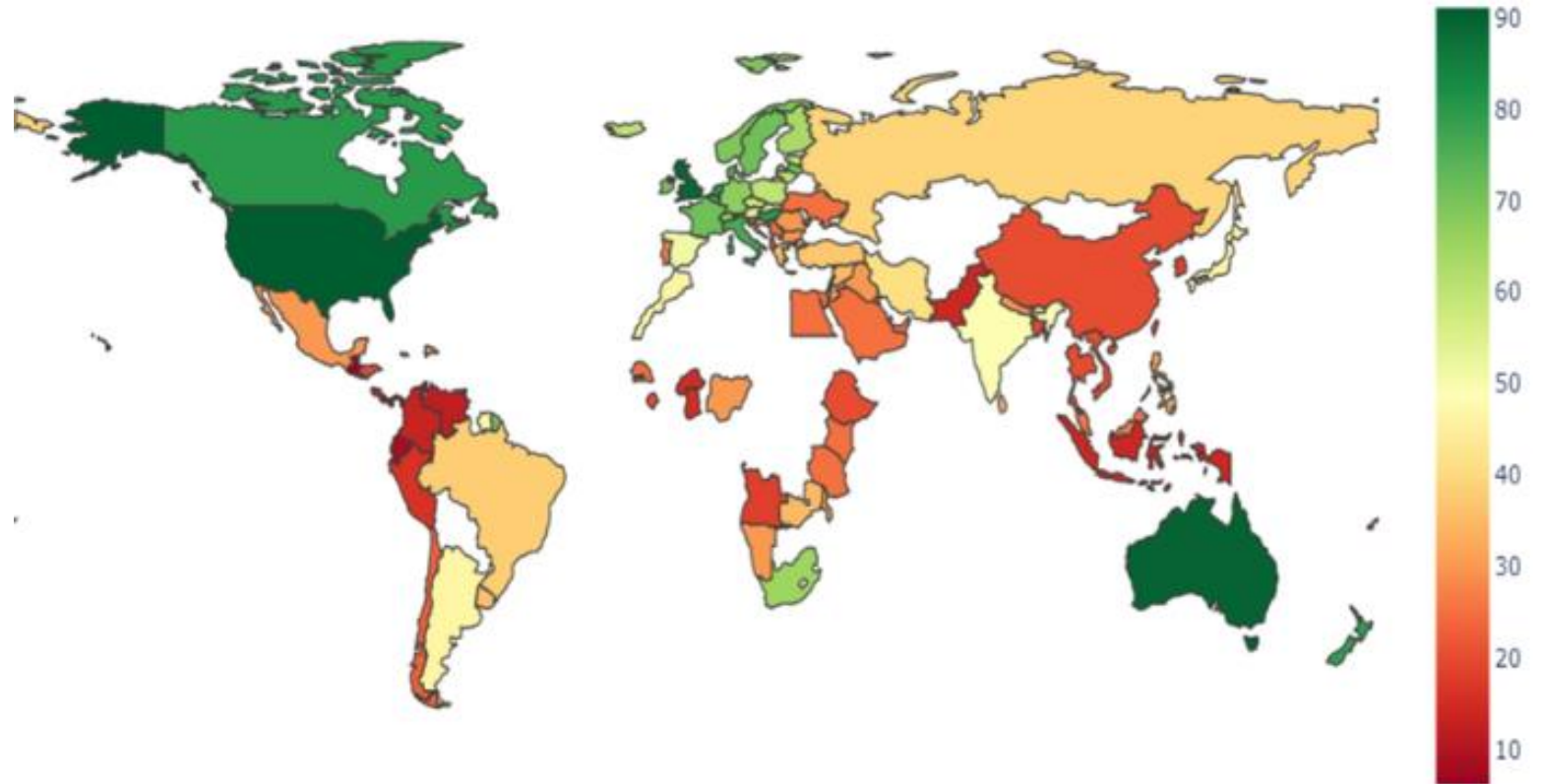


Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ADDRESS PEER PRESSURE

- Discuss the pros and cons of **following peers' choices**
- Highlight **individual academic goals** versus group trends
- Encourage informed decision-making based on **personal needs**



Collectivism versus individualism world map. Note: The figure shows the extent of individualistic culture for 101 countries. The colored tape in the right part of the figure indicates the value of the individualism index. The data are taken from Hofstede et al. (2010) and <https://www.hofstede-insights.com/>
Image source: [Social Indicators Research](#)



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CLASSROOM CULTURE DIFFERENCES

- **Prepare** students for participatory and discussion-based learning
- Emphasize that **class attendance** is required and essential for success
- Introduce the **syllabus as contract**; requirements and deadlines are not negotiable, and this may be unexpected
- Students must email professors before drop/add to request **flexibility** for exams on **cultural or religious holidays**

GATEWAYS FOR: STUDENTS FACULTY & STAFF ALUMNI PARENTS & FAMILIES CALENDAR MAP DIRECTORY APPLY GIVE

UNIVERSITY OF South Carolina

SEARCH SC.EDU

Student Affairs and Academic Support

Student Affairs and Academic Support

- Our Experts
- ↓ Our Offices
- ↓ Student Life
- ↓ Student Media
- **Interfaith Calendar**
- Our Initiatives
- Our Facilities
- Our News
- Toolbox

[Leave us a message](#)

Interfaith Calendar

Through partnership with the [Interfaith Partners of South Carolina](#), this calendar showcases religious and spiritual traditions' holidays and observances and recommended accommodations for students, staff, and faculty. If we have not included a religious or spiritual tradition/holiday of significance to you, please notify the Department of Student Life so that it might be included in future editions of this calendar.

To learn about which days the University is formally closed or class is not in session, please visit the [University's holiday schedule](#) as well as the [2023-2024 Academic Calendar](#).

Religious & Spiritual Holidays & Observances

Below showcases holidays and observances for various traditions within the 2023-2024

Link to the [Interfaith Calendar](#)



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

QUESTIONS?

Harlan Smith

HarlanIs@mailbox.sc.edu

Sherry Warren

Sherry.warren@sc.edu



Global Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA