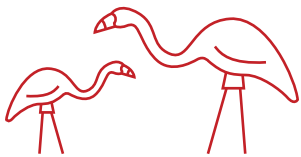




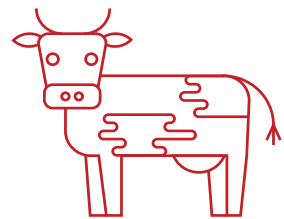
CCAS

Cross-College Advising Service

HANDBOOK



Belong • Explore • Become



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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Welcome to Cross-College Advising Service

Cross-College Advising Service (CCAS) is the leading campus resource for UW-Madison students looking to explore majors and careers. Our professional academic advisors are knowledgeable about all of the majors and programs offered on campus.

We strive to create a welcoming and inclusive community. We respect, value, and celebrate the diversity of all UW-Madison students. By committing ourselves to supporting and advocating for students of all identities, we hope to help foster a healthy campus environment where students can explore academic interests, make decisions about majors and careers, and reach their full potential.

Our goal is to discover and learn about:

- which courses and activities interest you
- what you are naturally curious about
- the ideas you have about majors and careers

We can talk about:

- degree requirements, courses, majors, and certificate programs
- campus involvement, study abroad, and research opportunities
- the connection between majors and careers
- other questions or concerns during your first year and beyond

We provide tools to help you make decisions about your major and career goals:

- one-on-one appointments with experienced academic and career advisors
- a central office in Ingraham Hall and offices in five residence halls
- major and career drop-in events offered each semester in partnership with the Career Exploration Center (CEC)
- highly trained peer advisors

We are here to listen, get to know you and your story, and help you create a plan for making academic and career decisions!

May '26



to our community.

Working with CCAS means that you belong to a large and varied community of UW-Madison students who are exploring majors and career opportunities.



your college path.

CCAS advisors help you explore your interests and work towards confidently deciding on a major.



empowered.

Our goal is to empower you to become who you want to be, now and in the future.

Begin your Strategic Exploration Here!



What is something you want to learn today and/or something you want to get answered?

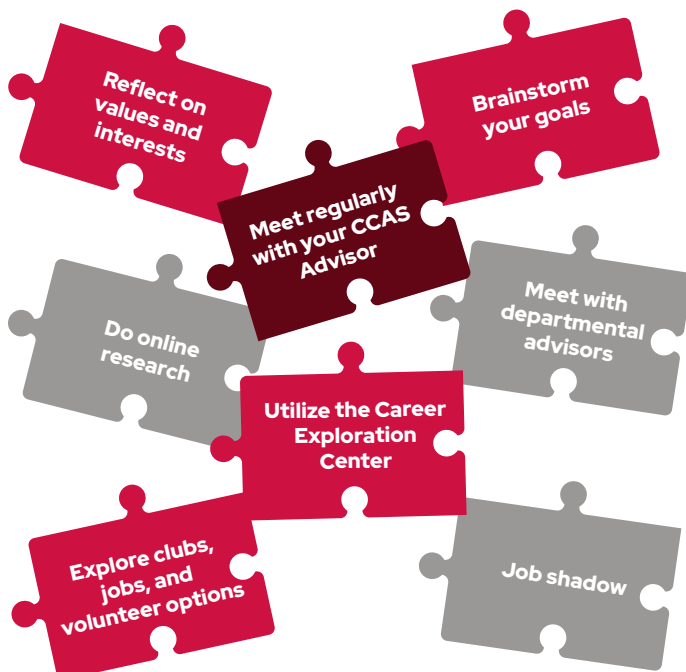
Are you considering specific majors or careers? If so, what are they?

What things do you like? What interest areas do you connect with on the following two pages (Exploring Majors by Interest)?

Course ideas for this upcoming semester:

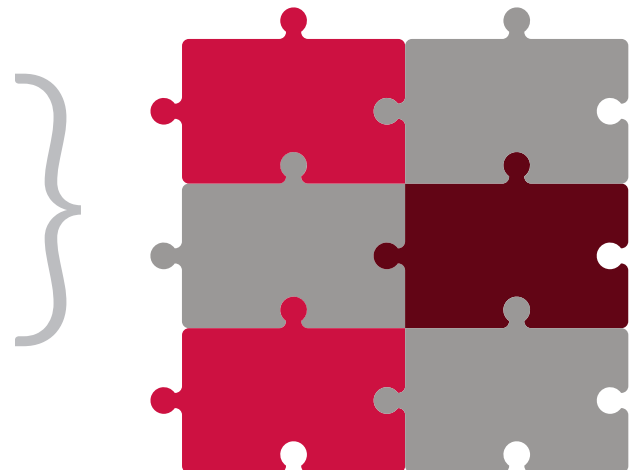
Choosing your major can feel overwhelming.

Here is how we'll help you strategically explore:



From Strategic Exploration

Declare Your Major with the pieces that make sense for YOU!



To Major Declaration

Exploring Majors by Interest

How to use this sheet:

1. Search headings for areas of interest
2. Cross off what you don't like
3. Circle what you do!
4. Keep exploring at guide.wisc.edu

Schools and Colleges Abbreviation Key

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| (CALS) College of Agricultural & Life Sciences | (SOHE) School of Human Ecology |
| (BUS) School of Business | (LS) College of Letters & Science |
| (ED) School of Education | (NUR) School of Nursing |
| (ENGR) College of Engineering | (PH) School of Pharmacy |

Working with Numbers

Accounting (BUS)
Actuarial Science (BUS)
Agricultural & Applied Economics (CALS)
Applied Math, Engineering & Physics (LS)
Astronomy-Physics (LS)
Cartography & Geographic Information Systems (LS)
Computer Sciences (LS)
Consumer Behavior & Marketplace Studies (SOHE)
Data Science (LS)
Economics (LS)
Engineering Physics (ENGR)
Finance, Investment & Banking (BUS)
Geology and Geophysics (LS)
Information Science (LS)
Information Systems (BUS)
Landscape Architecture (LS)
Mathematics (LS)
Personal Finance (SOHE)
Physics (LS)
Risk Management & Insurance (BUS)
Sociology-Concentration in Analysis & Research (LS)
Statistics (LS)
Supply Chain Management (BUS)

Helping People

Art Education (ED)
Communication Sciences and Disorders (LS)
Community & Environmental Sociology (CALS)
Community & Organizational Development (SOHE)
Consumer Behavior & Marketplace Studies (SOHE)
Education Studies (ED)
Elementary Education (ED)
Gender & Women's Studies (LS)
Genetics & Genomics (CALS)
Global Health (CALS)
Health Promotion & Health Equity (ED)
Human Development & Family Studies (SOHE)
Human Resource Management (BUS)
Information Science (LS)
Kinesiology (ED)
Landscape Architecture (LS)
Legal Studies (LS)
Human Resource Management (BUS)
Music (LS)
Nursing (NUR)
Nutritional Sciences-Dietetics (CALS)
Personal Finance (SOHE)
Physical Education (ED)
Psychology (LS)
Rehabilitation Psychology (ED)
Social Welfare (LS)
Social Work (LS)
Sociology (LS)
Special Education (ED)

International/Cultural Studies

African American Studies (LS)
African Cultural Studies (LS)
Anthropology (LS)
Asian Languages & Cultures (LS)
Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies (LS)
Chinese (LS)
Classical Humanities (LS)
Community & Environmental Sociology (CALS)
French (LS)
Gender & Women's Studies (LS)
German (LS)
Global Health (CALS)
International Studies (LS)
Italian (LS)
Japanese (LS)
Jewish Studies (LS)
Latin (LS)
Latin American, Caribbean & Iberian Studies (LS)
Philosophy (LS)
Polish (LS)
Political Science (LS)
Portuguese (LS)
Religious Studies (LS)
Russian (LS)
Scandinavian Studies (LS)
Sociology (LS)
Spanish (LS)

Using Computers

Accounting (BUS)
Biological Systems Engineering (CALS)
Biomedical Engineering (ENGR)
Cartography & Geographic Information Systems (LS)
Civil & Environmental Engineering (ENGR)
Computer Engineering (ENGR)
Computer Sciences (LS)
Data Science (LS)
Electrical Engineering (ENGR)
Engineering Mechanics (ENGR)
Engineering Physics (ENGR)
Geological Engineering (ENGR)
Industrial Engineering (ENGR)
Information Science (LS)
Information Systems (BUS)
Interior Architecture (SOHE)
Landscape Architecture (LS)
Materials Science and Engineering (ENGR)
Mechanical Engineering (ENGR)
Nuclear Engineering (ENGR)
Operations & Technology Management (BUS)
Supply Chain Management (BUS)
Textiles & Fashion Design (SOHE)

The Human Experience: Humanities

African American Studies (LS)
African Cultural Studies (LS)
Anthropology (LS)
Art (ED)
Art Education (ED)
Art History (LS)
Asian Languages & Cultures (LS)
Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies (LS)
Chinese (LS)
Classical Humanities (LS)
Classics (LS)
Communication Arts (LS)
Dance (ED)
Design, Innovation, and Society (SOHE)
Education Studies (ED)
English (LS)
French (LS)
Gender & Women's Studies (LS)
German (LS)
History (LS)
Information Sciences (LS)
Italian (LS)
Japanese (LS)
Jewish Studies (LS)
Korean (LS)
Latin (LS)
Latin American, Caribbean & Iberian Studies (LS)
Linguistics (LS)
Music (LS)
Philosophy (LS)
Physical Education (ED)
Polish (LS)
Portuguese (LS)
Religious Studies (LS)
Scandinavian Studies (LS)
Spanish (LS)
Theatre and Drama (ED)

Health Sciences

Animal & Veterinary Biosciences (CALS)
Biomedical Engineering (ENGR)
Biology (CALS/LS)
Communication Sciences & Disorders (LS)
Genetics & Genomics (CALS)
Global Health (CALS)
Health Promotion & Health Equity (ED)
Kinesiology (ED)
Microbiology (CALS)
Molecular & Cell Biology (LS)
Neurobiology (LS)
Nursing (NUR)
Nutritional Sciences -Dietetics (CALS)
Pharmacology & Toxicology (PH)
Physical Education (ED)
Psychology (LS)
Rehabilitation Psychology (ED)
Social Work (LS)

Concern for the Environment

Agroecology (CALS)
 Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (LS)
 Biological Systems Engineering (CALS)
 Biology (CALS/LS)
 Botany (LS)
 Cartography & Geographic Information Systems (LS)
 Civil Engineering (ENGR)
 Community and Environmental Sociology (CALS)
 Conservation Biology (LS)
 Entomology (CALS)
 Environmental Engineering (ENGR)
 Environmental Sciences (CALS/LS)
 Environmental Studies (LS)
 Forest Science (CALS)
 Geography (LS)
 Geological Engineering (ENGR)
 Geology & Geophysics (LS)
 Global Health (CALS)
 Landscape & Urban Studies (LS)
 Landscape Architecture (LS)
 Microbiology (CALS/LS)
 Plant Pathology (CALS)
 Plant Science & Technology (CALS)
 Soil Science (CALS)
 Wildlife Ecology (CALS)
 Zoology (LS)

Behavior & Society: The Social Sciences

African Cultural Studies (LS)
 Anthropology (LS)
 Asian Languages & Cultures (LS)
 Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies (LS)
 Community & Environmental Sociology (CALS)
 Communication Arts (LS)
 Consumer Behavior & Marketplace Studies (SOHE)
 Economics (LS)
 Educational Studies (ED)
 Gender & Women's Studies (LS)
 Geography (LS)
 Health Promotion & Health Equity (ED)
 History (LS)
 Human Development & Family Studies (SOHE)
 International Studies (LS)
 Jewish Studies (LS)
 Journalism (LS)
 Latin American, Caribbean & Iberian Studies (LS)
 Legal Studies (LS)
 Marketing (BUS)
 Philosophy (LS)
 Political Science (LS)
 Psychology (LS)
 Public Policy (LS)
 Real Estate & Urban Land Economics (BUS)
 Religious Studies (LS)
 Sociology (LS)

Working with Words

Communication Arts (LS)
 Community & Organizational Development (SOHE)
 English (LS)
 Journalism (LS)
 Life Sciences Communication (CALS)
 Linguistics (LS)

**Earth, Space, & Numbers:
The Physical Sciences**

Aerospace Engineering (ENGR)
 Applied Math, Engineering, and Physics (LS)
 Astronomy-Physics (LS)
 Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (LS)
 Biochemistry (CALS)
 Cartography & Geographic Information Systems (LS)
 Chemical Engineering (ENGR)
 Chemistry (LS)
 Civil Engineering (ENGR)
 Engineering Mechanics (ENGR)
 Engineering Physics (ENGR)
 Environmental Engineering (ENGR)
 Geography (LS)
 Geological Engineering (ENGR)
 Geology & Geophysics (LS)
 Materials Science and Engineering (ENGR)
 Mechanical Engineering (ENGR)
 Nuclear Engineering (ENGR)
 Physics (LS)

Design

Applied Math, Engineering & Physics (LS)
 Art (ED)
 Art Education (ED)
 Biological Systems Engineering (CALS)
 Biomedical Engineering (ENGR)
 Cartography & Geographic Information Systems (LS)
 Chemical Engineering (ENGR)
 Civil Engineering (ENGR)
 Computer Engineering (ENGR)
 Computer Sciences (LS)
 Design, Innovation, and Society (SOHE)
 Electrical Engineering (ENGR)
 Engineering Mechanics (ENGR)
 Engineering Physics (ENGR)
 Environmental Engineering (ENGR)
 Geological Engineering (ENGR)
 Industrial Engineering (ENGR)
 Information Science (LS)
 Information Systems (BUS)
 Interior Architecture (SOHE)
 Landscape Architecture (LS)
 Landscape & Urban Studies (LS)
 Materials Science and Engineering (ENGR)
 Mechanical Engineering (ENGR)
 Nuclear Engineering (ENGR)
 Textiles & Fashion Design (SOHE)
 Theatre & Drama (ED)

Artistic

Art (ED)
 Art Education (ED)
 Art History (LS)
 Dance (ED)
 English (LS)
 Interior Architecture (SOHE)
 Landscape Architecture (LS)
 Landscape & Urban Studies (LS)
 Music (LS)
 Textiles & Fashion Design (SOHE)
 Theatre & Drama (ED)

**Studying Living Things:
The Biological Sciences**

Animal & Veterinary Biosciences (CALS)
 Anthropology (LS)
 Biochemistry (CALS)
 Biological Systems Engineering (CALS)
 Biology (CALS/LS)
 Biomedical Engineering (ENGR)
 Botany (LS)
 Civil Engineering (ENGR)
 Communication Sciences & Disorders (LS)
 Community & Environmental Sociology (CALS)
 Conservation Biology (LS)
 Dairy & Food Animal Management (CALS)
 Entomology (CALS)
 Environmental Engineering (ENGR)
 Environmental Sciences (CALS/LS)
 Environmental Studies (LS)
 Food Science (CALS)
 Forest Science (CALS)
 Genetics & Genomics (CALS)
 Global Health (CALS)
 Health Promotion & Health Equity (ED)
 Kinesiology (ED)
 Landscape Architecture (LS)
 Landscape & Urban Studies (LS)
 Microbiology (CALS)
 Molecular & Cell Biology (LS)
 Neurobiology (LS)
 Nursing (NUR)
 Nutritional Sciences (CALS)
 Nutritional Sciences-Dietetics (CALS)
 Plant Pathology (CALS)
 Plant Science & Technology (CALS)
 Psychology (LS)
 Soil Science (CALS)
 Wildlife Ecology (CALS)
 Zoology (LS)

Studying Business

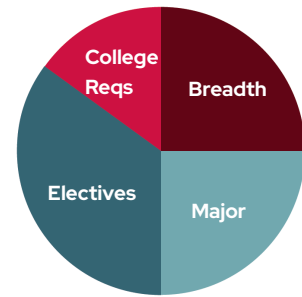
Accounting (BUS)
 Actuarial Science (BUS)
 Agricultural & Applied Economics (CALS)
 Agricultural Business Management (CALS)
 Communication Arts (LS)
 Community & Organizational Development (SOHE)
 Consumer Behavior & Marketplace Studies (SOHE)
 Economics (LS)
 Finance, Investment & Banking (BUS)
 Human Resource Management (BUS)
 Industrial Engineering (ENGR)
 Information Science (LS)
 Information Systems (BUS)
 International Studies (LS)
 Journalism-Strategic Communications Track (LS)
 Life Sciences Communication (CALS)
 Management (BUS)
 Marketing (BUS)
 Operations & Technology Management (BUS)
 Personal Finance (SOHE)
 Real Estate & Urban Land Economics (BUS)
 Risk Management & Insurance (BUS)
 Supply Chain Management (BUS)

Degree Requirements

All CCAS students start in the College of Letters & Science. Until you declare a major, you will be assigned to a CCAS advisor who advises across all eight undergraduate schools and colleges.

As an L&S student, you will need to complete either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) degree.

Degree credits by category
Most L&S Degrees: 120 credits



Every degree within the Universities of Wisconsin System requires:

CORE GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Communication & Literacy	Builds writing, reading, speaking, and critical thinking for clear, effective communication.
Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning	Develops skills to analyze data, use mathematics, and draw evidence-based conclusions.
Civics & Perspectives	Centers experiences and contributions of marginalized U.S. communities while building skills for public engagement.
Natural Science & Wellness	Studies the natural world through science while exploring foundations of personal well-being.
Humanities & Arts	Examines human culture, creativity, history, and values through interpretation and expression.
Social & Behavioral Science	Explores individual behavior, groups, and institutions using evidence-based analysis of society.

All UW-Madison students must satisfy these Core General Education Requirements, but students can expect to do this by completing their School/College Degree Requirements.

BREADTH OR LIBERAL STUDIES

Natural Science

Biological science: studies living organisms
Physical science: studies non-living systems
Natural science: develops formal reasoning skills

Humanities

Examines social, cultural, and personal aspects of the human condition

Social Science

Examines society and human behavior

You will complete varying numbers of credits in these areas depending on your school/college.

ELECTIVES

Elective credits are needed for graduation. They may not be associated with any other specific requirements.

Start your UW-Madison journey at CCAS.

We'll help you decide where to go next!



STRATEGIC EXPLORATION

- College of Letters & Science
- College of Agricultural & Life Sciences
- School of Business
- School of Education
- College of Engineering
- School of Human Ecology
- School of Nursing
- School of Pharmacy

L&S Degree Requirements

Communication A _____

Communication B _____

Ethnic Studies _____

Quantitative Reasoning A _____

Quantitative Reasoning B _____

BREADTH OR LIBERAL STUDIES

HUMANITIES: 12 CREDITS (including 6 credits of literature)

(LIT) _____

(LIT) _____

SOCIAL SCIENCE: 12 CREDITS

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

OR

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (BS)

NATURAL SCIENCE: 12 CREDITS

3-credit biological science course _____

3-credit physical science course _____

6 credits biological, physical, or natural science

LANGUAGE

Fourth level (or 4 high school units) of a single language

OR Third level (or 3 high school units) of one language**AND** Second level (or 2 high school units) of a second language

MATHEMATICS

Met with General Education Requirement Quantitative Reasoning A & B. Certain majors may require additional math courses.

NATURAL SCIENCE: 12 CREDITS

6 credits biological science _____

6 credits physical science _____

LANGUAGE

Third level (or 3 high school units) of a single language

MATHEMATICS

Two (3+ credit) Intermediate or Advanced-level courses in math, computer science, or statistics. At most, one course in computer science and one course in statistics may be counted toward this requirement.

ELECTIVES

DEPTH OF INQUIRY IN THE LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) credits: L&S students must complete 120 credits to graduate. Of these, 108 credits must be LAS credits.

Intermediate/Advanced work: Minimum of 60 credits at the Intermediate or Advanced level.

Courses not coded "LAS" will not count toward Level or Breadth degree requirements in L&S.

Major: All L&S students must declare at least one major before reaching 86 credits (includes AP, retroactive, transfer, and in-progress credits).

Please note: This is NOT a complete list of L&S degree requirements. Consult a DARS report or your advisor for more details.

Working Together with CCAS

You can talk with an advisor about anything!



Classes, Majors, & Careers

How are classes going?
Thinking of changing your schedule?
Should you drop a class?
Want help exploring majors?
Career advice and meeting with a career advisor?



Social Connections

Meeting people?
Do you have support?
Involvement and participation opportunities?



Your Transition To College

Roommate relationships?
Time management practices?
Interested in a student job?



Health, Wellness, & Identity

Eating and sleeping okay?
Finding ways to be active?
What to do if you get sick or have an accident?
Worried about anxiety and depression?
Questions about pronouns, inclusion, and sexuality?
Questions about identity?

CCAS Course

Inter-LS 139: Belong, Explore, Become – Discovering your UW Paths

This 1-credit CCAS course is for first-year, undecided students exploring majors in any school or college at UW-Madison.

In a small-class setting, you will use personal reflections, readings, discussions, and in-class activities to explore self, community, and the liberal arts education.

“Through this class, you’ll develop knowledge, confidence, and tools to navigate the University’s opportunities and resources.”

-Dr. Laura Stephenson, Instructor

How do students describe the class?

“This course is a good way to work on self-reflection and understand the many factors that can go into exploring a major.”

“Helps you narrow down major choices strategically.”

“Really insightful class that teaches a lot of necessary tools for managing your first year.”

“It is a course that can help you adapt to college, especially if you feel like you don’t have it all figured out yet.”

Belong to our community.

Connect with other explorers. Learn about yourself and how you got here.

Explore your college path.

Dive into your interests. Consider new possibilities. See what UW-Madison has to offer you.

Become empowered.

Create your own toolkit to draw from as you become who you want to be now and in the future.

Learn more about Inter-LS 139!

ccas.wisc.edu/interls-139



Career Exploration Center

Career Exploration is Career Preparation

Feeling overwhelmed by all the career and major choices? No worries, the Career Exploration Center (CEC) has got your back! Our career advisors are experts in career exploration and can help you make the most of your time at UW. If you're unsure about your academic path or how it ties into your future career, we're here to help you figure it all out.



Our goal is for you to feel prepared to navigate your career journey and to help you find success during college and beyond. Career development is a continuous process, where you will:



ASSESS

your own
interests, values,
and skills



EXPLORE

academic, career,
and industry
interests



PREPARE

to navigate your
lifelong career
journey



GAIN EXPERIENCE

to test out
your interests

And CEC career advisors are here to help you explore all your options! From reflecting on what you learn about yourself and your career goals, to designing your path to success -- meet with us early and often!

Talk to a CEC career advisor about:

- Exploring career and major options
- Connecting your academic interests and career goals
- Getting involved and gaining experience
- And much more!

Get help with career exploration through:

- One-on-one career advising appointments
- Career and major exploration events
- Online resources and assessments

Learn more about the CEC:



cec.wisc.edu

114 Ingraham Hall
(608) 265-4497

cec.wisc.edu

[@uwcareerexploration](https://twitter.com/uwcareerexploration)

wisc.joinhandshake.com/login

Handshake

Handshake is where you will find career events, job and internship opportunities, and more! Activate your account today so you don't miss out.



Things to Note

Congrats! You've finished SOAR!

Here are some next steps:

- ☐ Check your @wisc.edu email for SOAR follow-up
- ☐ Attend CCAS Orientation in September
- ☐ When you begin fall semester:
(within first 4-6 weeks)
 - ☐ Schedule an appointment with your CCAS advisor
 - ☐ Find CCAS drop-in locations and hours
 - ☐ Email your CCAS advisor _____

At CCAS we...

Care about **you**
Honor your **identities**
Celebrate your **exploration**
Empower your **decisions**
Support your **voice**

...are a team.

Meet the CCAS Team

At CCAS, we value the identities of our students and staff, and strive to honor the lived experiences of everyone we meet.



Learn more about our
CCAS advisors!

ccas.wisc.edu/meet-our-staff



Where to Find Us

CCAS LOCATIONS

CCAS Main Office
10 Ingraham Hall
1155 Observatory Dr.

1:1 Appointments

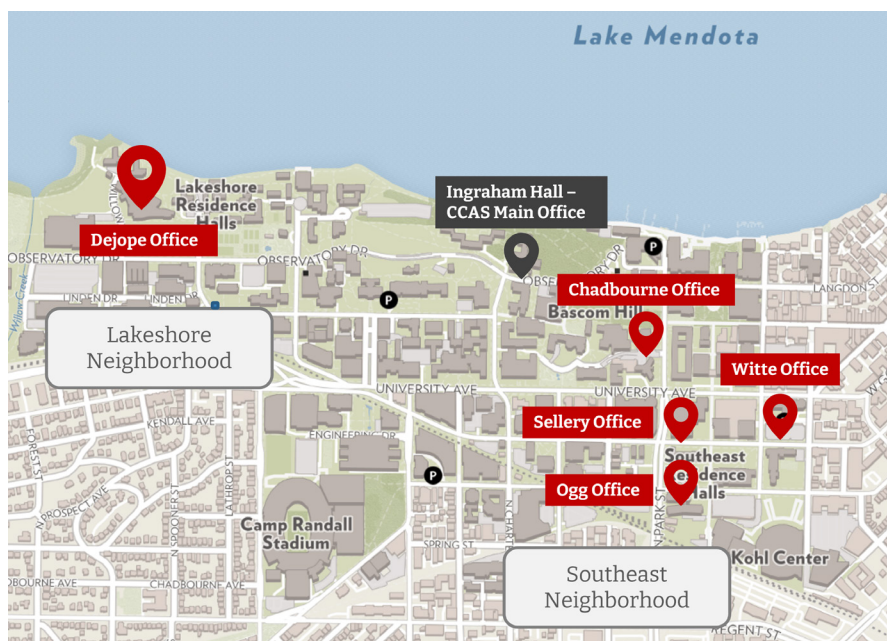
Monday–Friday
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Residence Hall Advising Offices

- Dejope Hall, rm 1130
- Sellery Hall, rm 145
- Witte Hall, rm 124
- Ogg Hall, rm 1116
(Mon/Tues only)
- Chadbourne Hall, rm 101
(Wed/Thurs only)

Drop-ins & Appointments

Monday–Thursday
12:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.



Need Advising?

ADVISING OPTIONS:

Appointment:

30 minutes scheduled

(video, phone, or in-person)

Drop-in:

10 minutes, no appointment

(in-person at residence hall locations)

HOW TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT:

Schedule online:

- Log in to MyUW
- Click on Starfish
- Find your advisor's name
- Choose a date/time that works for you

Call us: 608-265-5460

Accommodation needs:
608-265-5460

Make an appointment at
ccas.wisc.edu/get-advising





Cross-College Advising Service

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ccas.wisc.edu

Email: ccas@ccas.wisc.edu

Phone: 608-265-5460

[@ccasuw](#)

Make an appointment: ccas.wisc.edu/get-advising

Accommodation needs: 608-265-5460