

UL LAFAYETTE

PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER



ADVISING FOR SUMMER & FALL 2021

It's already time for your student to start preparing for their **sophomore year** of college! Advising for Summer and Fall 2021 takes place **March 15-26**. During this time, your student is required to meet with their academic advisor who will help them plan for the upcoming semester and lift their advising hold. Your student can find their advisor's contact information on the "Academics" tab in [ULink](#).



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ADVISING 1-2

STUDY ABROAD 2-3

EXPERIENCE LAFAYETTE 3

THE MARCH STUDENT 4

PARENT ADVICE 4

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- SPRING 2021 -

MARCH 15-26
ADVISING SESSION FOR SUMMER & FALL

APRIL 2-6
EASTER HOLIDAY

APRIL 16
LAGNIAPPE DAY- HOLIDAY

APRIL 23
LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITH 'W'

APRIL 28 - MAY 2
DEAD DAYS

APRIL 30
LAST DAY OF CLASSES

MAY 3-7
FINAL EXAMS

MAY 7
SEMESTER ENDS

As your student [prepares for advising](#), remind them do the following:

- Schedule an appointment with your advisor. Keep in mind that some advisors may have virtual advising procedures in place.
- Check your registration appointment time.
- Use the [Schedule of Classes](#) and [Academic Catalog](#) to plan your schedule.
- Check for [holds](#) and have them cleared from your account.

SHOULD MY STUDENT TAKE SUMMER CLASSES?

There are several reasons why students might consider taking summer classes:

- Completing a pre-requisite for a course they plan to take in the Fall
- Retaking a course that they received a poor grade in or withdrew from
- Getting ahead with their degree plan requirements

There are, of course, financial and housing considerations to keep in mind as your student weighs the pros and cons of summer classes. If your student is considering enrolling in summer classes, they should talk to their academic advisor about their options. After their advising session, be sure to discuss the decision as a family as well.

STUDY ABROAD

Having the opportunity to study abroad is a transformative experience! As our world becomes more globally connected, students with international experience and global competence stand out to potential employers. Most students wait until later in their academic career to study abroad, but it's never too early to discuss the locations, costs, and options with your first-year student.

The UL Lafayette [Study Abroad Program](#) facilitates a variety of these unique experiences. Typically, students enroll in 3-9 credit hours while they live and study abroad during the summer. UL Lafayette hosts summer programs in [Costa Rica](#), [France](#), [England](#), and [Italy](#). [Semester or year abroad](#) programs are also available through our partner institutions around the world.

Did you know that [scholarships and financial aid](#) packages may be available to offset costs? If your student is interested, have them fill out the [“I’m Interested”](#) form online or email studyabroad@louisiana.edu.

**Please note that Summer 2021 study abroad programs have been cancelled due to COVID-19. The Study Abroad Office looks forward to Summer 2022 and is thrilled to introduce a new study abroad location in Rabat, Morocco for those interested in Arabic language and cultural courses.*

EXPERIENCE LAFAYETTE - VIRTUALLY!

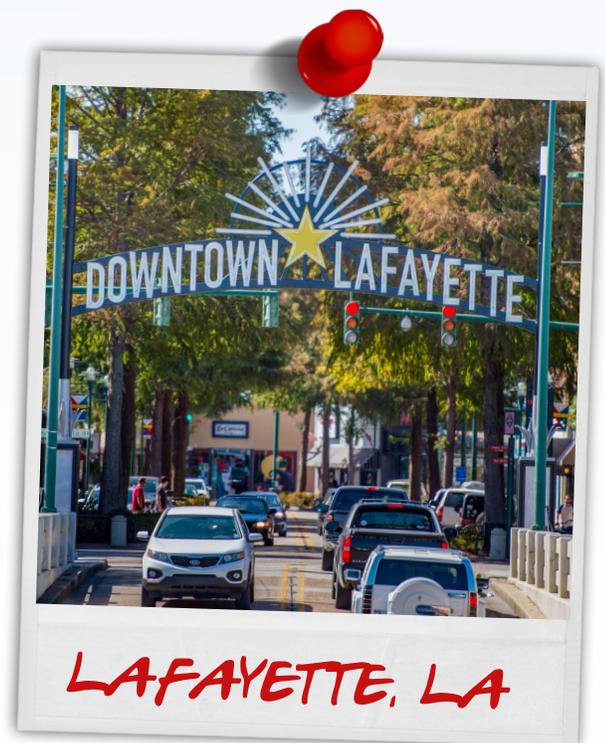
Some of Lafayette’s most cherished spring traditions are shifting to a virtual format for 2021. This means that you and your family can experience them from the comfort of your own home –no matter where you live! We hope you and your students enjoy these unique and exciting Lafayette events.

- [Downtown Alive!](#) - For over three decades, Downtown Alive! (affectionately known as DTA!) has been bringing the party to Downtown Lafayette. Each DTA! show will highlight Downtown venues and homegrown artists while providing an intimate opportunity to celebrate live, local music. Concerts begin at 6 PM and will be streamed online from the [DTA! Facebook page](#). This year’s 3-part virtual concert series includes:

- **Friday, March 19:** Cupid
- **Friday, April 16:** Sweet Cecilia
- **Friday, May 21:** Eric Adcock + Michael Juan Nunez

- [Festival International de Louisiane](#) - The city of Lafayette is the proud home of Festival International de Louisiane, the largest international music and arts festival in the United States. The theme for this year’s virtual Festival is “commUNITY” and will feature several events:

- **April 1-30:** FEASTival International – a month of Festival food
- **April 23-25:** Virtual/Immersive Festival International
- **April 24:** Live/Virtual 5K



THE MARCH STUDENT

YOUR STUDENT IN MARCH

During the month of March, students begin preparing for the upcoming Fall semester by scheduling classes and meeting with their advisor. Many students begin to feel the pressure and stress of mid-term exams during this time as well. Additionally, if your student is dissatisfied with their major choice, they may consider changing it. Students may also feel stressed about the summer as finding summer jobs or internships can often be difficult. Here are some tips:



Communicate - As always, be open to communication. If your student expresses their stress or worries to you, give advice and support. Remind them of the various student support services available to them on campus.



Be open to change - Remember that change is a good thing! If your student is considering a major change, encourage them to explore their interests and to visit [Career Services](#). Share this [“Major and Career Exploration”](#) video with your student!



Lee Hall - If they ask for guidance, especially in academic-related areas, refer them to academic counselors. The Academic Success Center in Lee Hall offers counseling to students who are unsure about their major, want to see if they're on track to graduate, or any other academic advice.

PARENT ADVICE

“Encourage your student to be proactive when it comes to scheduling. Press the student to confidently reach out to their advisor.”

“Tell your student to take advantage of all of the resources UL offers. The staff is always willing to help.”

“Push your student to try new things and join organizations so they can better understand their strengths and interests.”

“Have your student write down a plan that details their educational goals, the steps to achieve them, and a weekly schedule to allocate time for out-of-class work which includes reviewing past tests and notes related to them.”