

UL LAFAYETTE

PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER



► ADVISING FOR SUMMER & FALL 2022

It's already time for your student to start preparing for their **sophomore year** of college! Advising for Summer and Fall 2022 takes place **March 14-25**. 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](#).

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

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- Check your registration time ticket in ULink.
- 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 withdraw 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.

SPRING 2022 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

(Subject to change)

March 14-25

Advising Session

March 31

Last Day to Drop Class with "W"

April 15-24

Spring Break

April 27 - May 1

Dead Days

April 29

Last Day of Classes

May 2-6

Final Exams

May 6

Semester Ends

► 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](#), [Italy](#), [Japan](#), and [Morocco](#). [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.

► SPRING CAMPUS VISIT

While there is no official “Family Weekend” for the Spring semester, we highly encourage all parents and family members to visit their student on campus in the Spring. As the weather starts to warm up, UL Lafayette blooms with beauty and lots to do! Below are our suggestions for fun activities on and around campus in the Spring.

- See the on-campus swamp from a new perspective on [Cypress Lake Pier](#).
- Enjoy student performances put on by the College of the Arts:
 - [Musical performances](#)
 - [Theatre and dance productions](#)
- Cheer on the Ragin’ Cajuns at an athletic event:
 - [Ragin’ Cajuns Baseball Schedule](#)
 - [Ragin’ Cajuns Softball Schedule](#)
 - [Ragin’ Cajuns Men’s Tennis Schedule](#)
 - [Ragin’ Cajuns Women’s Tennis Schedule](#)
- Explore new exhibits at the [Hilliard Art Museum](#).
- Check out the [University Events Calendar](#) for other options.



The city of Lafayette is the proud home of [Festival International de Louisiane](#) (April 27-May 1, 2022), the largest international music and arts festival in the United States. This FREE, five-day music festival takes place in Downtown Lafayette, just blocks from campus, and offers activities and events for the whole family! Lafayette truly comes to life during Festival, making it a great time to visit your student.



► 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 your students asks 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-TO-PARENT ADVICE

Here's what former freshman parents and guardians have to say:

"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 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."