Introduction to Advising
FIRST YEAR STUDENTS
What are we going to cover?

- Academic Basics
- University Catalog
- Core 21 (general education requirements), and Major
- Your first semester
- Advising and Registration
- 4 to Finish and graduating in 4 years
- Now what?
Academic Basics – Parts of a Degree

- Degree minimums:
  - 124 credits are required
  - 40 credits of upper division (300, 400 level classes)
  - 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) overall, in your major and in any minor

- General Education or Core 21

- At least one major

- Residency Requirement: 30 of your final 40 credits must be at Cal Lutheran. In addition 33% of the under division courses in your major must be completed here.
Everything that you are required to do in order to complete your degree can be found in the academic catalog, which is posted online at:

https://catalog.callutheran.edu/undergraduate/

In the catalog, you can find:
- Graduation Requirements
- Academic Policies
- Courses of Instruction

If in doubt, check the catalog first.

Under My CLU Portal, Student Planning lists your specific degree requirements that includes all completed and registered classes.

A tutorial regarding Student Planning can be found here.
The following requirements must be met as stated. They may not be petitioned and the University does not round numbers up.

- 124 credits required for the degree
- 40 credits of upper division credits
- 2.0 GPA overall for the degree and in every major or any minor
The goals of Core 21 are to enable students:

- to become proficient in analytical and critical thinking and to be able to process, transform and communicate information;
- to be able to comprehend issues from a variety of perspectives and to understand how different academic disciplines ask questions about the world;
- to understand themselves as both heirs and creators of history; to understand the forces that have shaped their cultural heritage and appreciate the diversity of values and viewpoints in the United States and the world;
- to be able to integrate information and moral reflection in order to develop creative solutions to new problems.
Core 21 Sections

- Proficiencies
  - Written Communication
    - English Composition
    - Writing Intensive
  - Speaking Intensive

- Perspectives
  - Humanities
  - Social Sciences
  - Natural Sciences
  - Visual and Performing Arts
  - Health and Well-Being

- Cultures and Civilizations
  - Global Perspectives
  - US Diversity

- Integrated Studies
  - Capstone requirement in your major
Your Major

- At least one major is required.
- You will find the major requirements in the catalog and in Student Planning.
- Minimum requirements:
  - 33% of a major’s upper division Required Courses and Required Electives must be taken in residence at Cal Lutheran. Internships and independent studies are excluded from this calculation unless they are required for the major.
  - A minimum grade point average of 2.0 is required in the major. Required support courses are not included in the major GPA.
  - At least 75 percent of the required courses for a major must be unduplicated with any other major or minor.
  - All major courses and required supporting courses taken outside of Cal Lutheran after matriculation require prior approval by that major’s department chair or program director and Academic Services.
Your first semester – your schedule

- Your schedule for the Fall is based on:
  - Your Registration Preferences form.
  - Classes that all freshmen should take in their first year:
    - English Composition
    - Religion 100
    - Math requirement
  - Core 21 requirements
  - Major requirements or required prerequisites
You have a team of 3 faculty and staff to support your advising

These are:

- **Faculty Academic Advisor**: This is a faculty member in the department of your declared major. This advisor provides advising and mentoring regarding your course schedules and career plans. You are required to meet with this advisor at least once each semester before registration for advising clearance. Your faculty academic advisor is listed in the Self-Service portal. (Note: You must change your academic advisor if you decide to change your major.)

- **First Year Seminar Faculty Mentor and Peer Mentor**: This is the faculty member and Cal Lutheran student who will lead your First Year Seminar course during your first semester. They will support your transition into University life.

- **Student Success Counselors**: You are assigned to a Student Success Counselor based on your last name. These counselors can offer information about time-management, study skills, stress-management, as well as various tutoring services available on and off campus. They can also meet with you to review your academic progress toward graduation. Student Success Counselors also provide academic assistance for students in the STAR program. Student Success Counselors’ offices are in the Academic Services building.
After your initial registration for fall, registration, adding and dropping will occur in the MyCLU portal through Student Planning.

One exception are classes that are closed or wait listed.

- These require instructor permission to add.
- Approach the instructor to receive permission to add the class, if that is approved use the add form found [here](#).
Cal Lutheran believes strongly that students should be able to graduate from the university in 4 years.

This belief is backed up by a guarantee.

Detailed information regarding the 4 to Finish program can be found here.

If you wish to participate you need to complete the 4 to Finish Agreement form that is found here.
4 to Finish and Graduating in 4 Years - Tips

- You should complete a minimum of 31 credits a year over 4 years.
- Talk with your faculty advisor about your major requirements.
  - Are there any prerequisite courses that must be taken first?
  - Are there courses that you need to take in sequence?
  - Are there major courses that also satisfy Core 21?
- Maximize registering for classes that satisfy multiple requirements. We call this double dipping.
- Do not put off degree requirements you do not like.
- Meet with your faculty advisor and register at your appointment time.
In the MyCLU Portal, select Self-Service
Now What?

- You must submit an Advising Acknowledgement form that acknowledges you understand the information covered in content of this Introduction to Advising.
  - The form will be available at 11:30 am today
- One business day after completion of the acknowledgment form you will be able to begin to adjust your schedule on your own
- Things to remember:
  - You must stay in at least 12 credits.
  - Always add a class before you drop.
  - Every class you currently have on your schedule satisfies degree requirements.
  - Sometimes the class you did not think you would like is where you find your purpose and direction.
The Advising Acknowledgement Form is on the Academic Services page at:

https://www.callutheran.edu/academics/academic-services.html