

Freshman Advising Syllabus – Your First Semester at UNC Asheville

What	How	Why
Learn about opportunities at UNC Asheville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your Resident Advisor, other Residence Life staff, your faculty advisor • Read the UNC Asheville <i>Catalog</i> • Explore the UNC Asheville web site • Visit student activities offices in Highsmith Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It helps you develop a sense of place, an understanding of where you are. • Participating in clubs, special events, social groups like fraternities/sororities, intramurals, etc is a wonderful part of college life. • You get to meet new people and try new things.
Learn about resources and support services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check out the information in your <i>Orientation Guide</i> • Visit the OneStop, the Writing Center, the Math Lab, the Health and Counseling Center, the Career Center, the Intercultural Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These resources are here to help you succeed at UNC Asheville • These resources are available to you free of charge. • If you know where they are, and have met their directors, you may be more likely to use them.
Learn how to find information on your own	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the UNC Asheville web site—learn where to find academic calendars, calendars of special events, information about majors, information about academic requirements, etc. • Explore Ramsey Library—learn where to find reference materials, DVDs, periodicals, etc • Ask your advisor for tips and suggestions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every web site is organized differently, and being able to find information quickly means learning how the site is organized. • Libraries are about much more than books, but you won't know how much more until you spend some time exploring. • College is the perfect time to become self-sufficient and an independent problem solver.
Learn the requirements of the ILS program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read about ILS in the <i>Catalog</i> • Visit the ILS web site (www.unca.edu/ils) • Review the checksheets posted on that web site in the "Students" section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will help you plan for next semester and beyond • Your advisor is there for advice and counsel, but ultimately you are responsible for making sure requirements are met.
Learn the basics of using DegPar (degree audit system)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run a DegPar "degree audit" for yourself as an undeclared student (i.e., without a chosen major) • Explore how the information listed changes if you pick one or two different majors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DegPar simplifies the process of tracking your progress toward graduation. • Its flexibility lets you see what life would be like with a variety of different majors.
Develop a plan for a Spring semester class schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the Learning Foundation courses you need in your DegPar report • Read about Topical Clusters on the ILS web site • Talk to your advisor about majors your are considering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILS foundation courses are best completed during the freshman year. • Picking a Topical Cluster lets you get started on that requirement. • Most majors have introductory courses that are accessible to freshman students.

Please send questions, comments, or suggestions to Dr. Lisa Friedenber at friedenb@unca.edu or to Calley Stevens Taylor at cstevens@unca.edu