** CSM Student Success Center**

**Student Success Planner**

The staff in the Student Success Center are dedicated to providing strengths based advising, in order to inspire students to realize their true purpose, achieve academic success, and to ultimately make an optimal contribution to their intended profession. Our office is located in Wheatley Hall, on the 4th floor, in Room 151. You can contact us at [Studentsuccess@umb.edu](mailto:Studentsuccess@umb.edu).

If you're like most college students, an overarching goal is to find a major you love, discover purposeful work, and secure a great job. Together with your SSC advisor, explore ways to reach your potential and to realize your academic and vocational purpose. If you're experiencing any bumps in the road, we are here to help you find a path forward. Also, be sure to tell us what's working well! We want to celebrate your successes with you.

Realizing Your Purpose:

Having a sense of purpose at work is more than just working in your chosen field: instead, it's about making an optimal contribution to your profession where you move beyond 'average competence' to a place of 'greatness and excellence.' This is about pursuing work you love and making a difference by doing what you do best. It is where you move beyond striving for a comparative advantage in achievement, status, or popularity, to a place where you are giving your unique set of strengths to the world around you, and to pursue work that aligns with your deeply held values.

**Imagine having the kind of major that inspires deep learning, dreams of discovering solutions to the world's most challenging and complex problems, and pursuing work that is profoundly purposeful.**

**What does this mean to you? How will you start to Realize Your Purpose?**

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**Success Strategies:**

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| On a scale from 1 to 10, how confident do you feel in your ability to do each of the following?  1 - Not confident at all 10 - Very confident | |
| Attend class and contribute meaningfully to class discussions |  |
| Ask for help when needed from faculty, teaching assistants, and advisors |  |
| Develop good time management skills |  |
| Take careful class notes, ask questions, and prepare in advance for exams and projects |  |
| Take full advantage of tutoring services, the math resource center, and the writing center |  |
| Be ready to discuss your academics, ask questions, and take notes during advising |  |
| Check your UMass Boston email on a daily basis |  |
| Discuss your Degree Audit and Early Alert notifications |  |
| Meet with your faculty advisor during office hours and build a strong relationship with each of them |  |
| Visit the Health Services or the Counseling Center to take care of your well-being |  |

Strengths, Challenges, Goals, & Resources:

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| In your own words, please describe academic successes and personal accomplishments that you are proud of. It may help to think of a peak experience, or a challenge you overcame, when you felt really good about yourself. |
| Strengths: |

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| Describe the factors both in and outside of the classroom that contributed to any recent academic concerns/challenges (ex. difficulty balancing school and work, missed/skipped classes, etc.) |
| Challenges: |

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| List goals you have identified to help you succeed this semester and improve your academic standing. Include any resources that will help you reach your goals. Your advisor will review this and help you come up with a plan. |
| Goals & Resources: |

Time Management & Pace:

Managing your time effectively is essential to your success and wellbeing both in and out of the classroom. As a college student, we understand that you have to juggle many responsibilities, and sometimes it feels like there’s not enough time in the day to get everything done. We’re here to help.

It’s important to make an informed decision regarding your course load for each semester. Although a four-year graduation plan generally entails taking 15 credits a semester, it is vital for you to work at a pace that is manageable for you. When selecting courses, consider your work schedule, your personal time, and any other obligations you may have - would a full-time course load be realistic? If not, discuss the advantages and drawbacks of enrolling part-time with your SSC advisor and your financial aid counselor.

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| Given your work, family, and commuting obligations, how many courses should you take each semester? |  |

**Keys to Good Time Management:**

* Don’t cram all of your assignments and studying into one session. Break your studying time into smaller intervals.
* Look at your syllabus and create deadlines for yourself using digital calendars.
* Make sure to check your UMB Outlook email regularly! Outlook has a built-in calendar that you can use to plan deadlines for assignments and manage your time.

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| We understand the anxiety (and maybe shame) that comes with procrastination. We can help you to manage your time effectively!    Scan the QR code to access a Time Management Calculator that can help you visualize and plan out your time. |

Responsibilities:

While degree planning is a shared partnership between you and an advisor, ultimately however, it is your responsibility to fulfill the University’s graduation requirements through the use of advising tools such as the Degree Audit, WISER pre-requisite information, plans to graduation, and the undergraduate course catalog.

* Read your Degree Audit frequently and carefully. The Degree Audit helps you plan and track your progress toward your degree as it connects with the information in WISER to keep track of university, general education, and major/minor requirements.
* Be aware of the university’s academic calendar, dates, deadlines, and course drop & course withdrawal policies. Add these dates to your academic planner or calendar.
* Know that failure to attend a class does not constitute a University withdrawal or drop.
* You must earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 overall to maintain good academic standing. Know that many academic departments have major-specific GPA requirements. All requirements can be found on your degree audit.
  + Check for grade pre-requisites for major-required courses
  + Check for co-requisites such as labs

For some classes, just earning a passing grade is not enough to move on to the next required course. Listed below are the grade requirements for certain pre-requisites.

* **B or better in MATH 115 or MATH 130** to move on to the next math course
  + Please note that the College of Management’s IT major does not require calculus. Speak with your advisor if you are interested in changing to the College of Management.
* **C- or better in MATH 140** to move on to MATH 141
* **C- or better in CHEM 115 or CHEM 116** to move on to the next chemistry course
* **C- or better in CS 110** to move on to CS 210 and CS 240
* **C- or better in CS 210 AND CS 220** to move on to CS 310
* **C- or better in CS 220** to move on to CS 420
* **C- or better in PHYSIC 107, PHYSIC 113, and PHYSIC 171** to move on to the next physics course
* **C- or better in ALL ENGINEERING major courses**



Reach out to the CSM Student Success Center for any and all questions related to your degree planning and academic success. Scan the QR code to find your SSC advisor’s information, or check WISER. If you have other questions, and are not sure who can help you, we’ll be happy to connect you to the right resources. [www.umb.edu/ssc](http://www.umb.edu/ssc)