Top 20 Questions

♦ ♦ ♦

Whether you are meeting your academic counselor for the first time or for the last time, it can be an overwhelming experience. It's important to understand that SMC's counselors are here to help you reach your academic goal by helping you plan your academic pathway, select strategic courses, explore programs of interest, and connect you with campus resources.

Here are some questions that can help guide your next academic appointment:

1. How flexible is my major?
2. Should I earn an associate's degree or transfer?
3. What classes are required for my major (think math requirements, prerequisites, major preparation courses, foreign language, etc)?
4. What skills will this major help me develop?
5. How many courses should I take per semester?
6. What kind of careers can I pursue with a degree in this major?
7. Can I change my major? How?
8. My friend mentioned CSEP, TAP, TAG, and Assist, what do these acronyms mean?
9. Where do I submit previously completed coursework (i.e., AP scores and previously completed coursework from different institutions)?
10. What campus events should I have on my radar?

COUNSELOR TIP

Be sure to avoid asking rapid-fire questions – it may feel more like you're interrogating your counselor. Instead, engage in the conversation and offer pieces of information about yourself that may help you reach your academic goal.

11. If I'm struggling academically, what resources do you suggest I utilize?
12. Where can I get tutoring services at SMC?
13. Does my current academic education plan have me on track to graduate at my desired time?
14. When and how can I register for classes?
15. Is there a difference between in-person, online, and hybrid courses when transferring?
16. What academic goals should I set for myself?
17. When do I start applying for transfer?
18. Am I required to take electives?
19. If I have any questions, what is the best way to reach you?
20. Do you have any advice or tips for me?

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THE BENEFITS YOUR SMC OFFERS YOU.