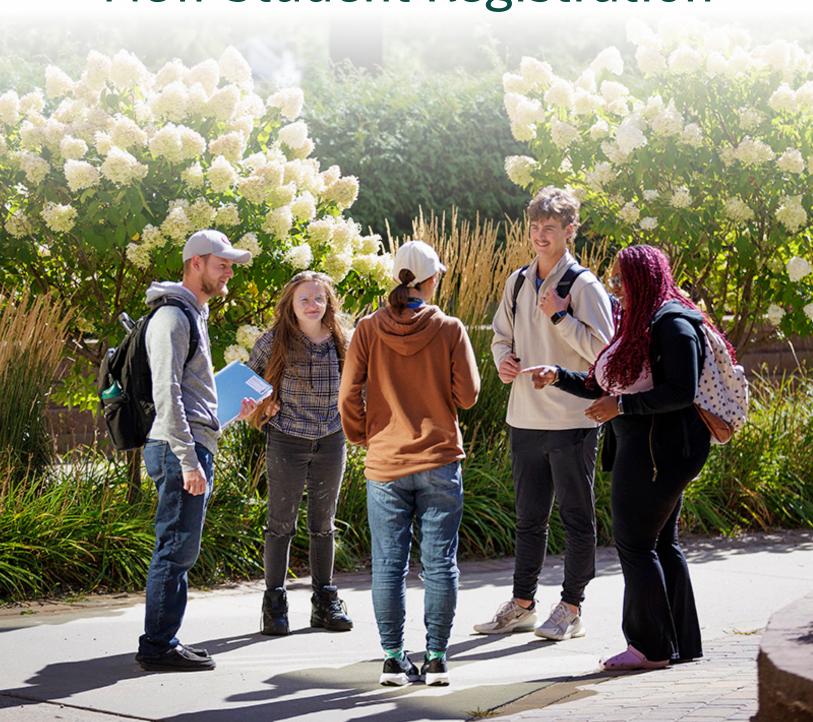


ADVISING GUIDE

New Student Registration



Welcome to Bemidji State University

This guide helps you understand academic advising and degree progression, and guides you through the course registration process. Please refer back to this guide as you continue in your academics at BSU.

Included in this guide is basic reference information, suggestions for success, and support office contact details which are helpful beyond the New Student Registration event. Thank you for choosing Bemidji State University!

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Collaborative Advising at BSU

Enrolled, degree-seeking students have access to two or more advisors. This collaborative team is your primary resource for academic matters, exploring opportunities and finding solutions to problems. Your relationship with your advisors is a crucial component of your success at BSU.

What is Advising?

Advising is an umbrella term we use to describe the academic guidance you seek and receive as you complete your degree program at BSU.

Even if you are a very confident student with support from your family and friends, there are aspects of advising that you will find helpful and necessary for your success.

Advising Help

The Student Success Center in Decker Hall 202 is where you'll find most of the staff advisors. We offer year round walk-in and scheduled advising appointments inperson, by phone, or by Zoom. If you aren't sure where to start with your academic questions or planning, come visit with a staff advisor to get pointed in the right direction.

In addition to advising, you'll find career development resources, accessibility services, RISE success coaching, and proctored testing in the center. Across the hall you'll find the TRIO/SSS and McNair Scholars offices. Come check out your support network!

Finding Your Advisors

There are several ways to find out who your advisors are. Here are two options:

In e-Services: In MyBSU, select the e-Services tile, and select Courses and Registration, then View/Modify Schedule. Your advisors are listed near the top.

In your Degree Audit Report (DAR):

Log in to e-Services, and click/tap on Academic Records, then Degree Audit. Follow the instructions to run your DAR and your advisors will be listed near the top of the report.

Changing Your Advisor

Students are encouraged to change advisors when/if they declare or change majors to ensure contact with a faculty member in their major(s).

To submit a request to change your faculty advisor, send an email to **advising@bemidjistate.edu** with your StarID, and the name of the faculty advisor you wish to select. We'll do our best to honor your request. It's a good idea to check with your new faculty advisor before making the request.

Meeting with Your Advisors

Your faculty advisor:

is your primary resource for academic progress including registration, degree/major planning, graduation planning and choosing elective courses in your major. They are also a great resource for mentoring in your major, learning about research and internship opportunities and helping you synthesize your learning with your career aspirations. We encourage all students to contact your faculty advisor within the first three weeks of the semester to introduce yourself and establish an ongoing relationship.

Your staff advisor:

is a troubleshooter who can help you find resources, forms and services. They can help you understand your degree audit report (DAR), guide your decisions about adding, dropping or withdrawing from courses, help you choose a major or submit petitions to release holds and much more. In general, staff advisors can help you navigate BSU systems so you can efficiently complete your degree. Your staff advisor is an excellent go-to if you aren't sure where to start with a question or concern.

When and How to Get Advising

When

- Ideally, several weeks prior to a new semester registration period, or to make changes to your schedule, or when you change your major or add another major/minor or certificate.
- Any time you have questions about your academic progress, need guidance on navigating an academic policy, or need assistance planning for your future.

How

- Use the BSU online directory to find your advisor's contact information and schedule an appointment. If you stop in without an appointment, be prepared to wait or schedule for another day. Consider when your advisor will be especially busy, such as during registration or final exam week.
- Ask questions and verify information through email prior to your meeting to make the most of your time together.
- When you meet for the first time, introduce yourself and become acquainted. Ask your advisor about their interests, experience, and research, and share your interests and goals with them.
- Come prepared for the meeting. If discussing registration, come with a tentative course schedule.
- Read the undergraduate catalog to become familiar with policies and degree and program requirements. Ask your advisor to clarify what you don't understand.
- Discuss problems that may impact your academic performance. Ask about exploring, selecting, or changing majors.
- Discuss careers, graduation plans, internship opportunities and graduate school.
- Put thought and research into developing academic, career, and personal goals. Be ready to examine how these goals will affect your life.

Resources Needed for Academic Advising

Undergraduate Catalog

BSU's academic catalogs are posted on the BSU website. Catalogs are split into single years, and the catalog is updated mid-year. This helps students identify any approved curriculum changes as they make progress. Important information you will find in the catalog includes:

- A complete list of majors, minors, and certificates and their course requirements
- Academic policies, grading and graduation information
- Core Curriculum options and requirements
- Descriptions of all courses
- Information about honors and dean's list, academic progress, and more

Please reference the catalog at: www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/catalog

Degree Audit Report (DAR)

Your Degree Audit Report is an advising tool designed to help you track the completion of requirements for the various components of your degree program. This report is available online through e-Services and can be accessed at any time by a student with an active admission status and StarID account.

Transfer Credit Evaluation

- The BSU Records office evaluates all transfer credits identified on official transcripts and other documents such as AP score sheets. Students are responsible for ensuring BSU Admissions has received all official transcripts. Students who take non-BSU courses as they progress in their degree programs are responsible for notifying the BSU Records office of credit to be transferred, and for ordering new official transcripts from non-Minnesota State schools.
- Transfer courses meeting core curriculum goal area requirements are placed directly into their designated goal area(s) during the transfer evaluation.
- Some transfer courses may be accepted as a direct equivalent to a BSU course. Equivalent transfer courses may be used in core curriculum, major/minor requirements, or general electives.
- In the event a transferred course is evaluated as a general elective, a student may complete and submit a Substitute/Transfer Course Equivalency form in consultation with their faculty advisor. The purpose of the form is to move transferred courses from general electives into a major or minor requirement, to increase the course's value toward degree completion.

Class Schedule

The class schedule shows which courses are offered in the current and future semesters. It can be accessed online through e-Services under Courses and Registration or on the BSU website here: www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/schedule/

Your Degree Audit Report (DAR)

Your **Degree Audit Report (DAR)** is a web-based report that assists you in visualizing and planning out your academic progress at BSU, and includes any transfer courses that have been evaluated. Access your DAR through your e-Services account.

In **e-Services**, select **Academic Records** in the left menu, then select **Degree Audit**. Then follow the instructions to run your DAR. You may also run a DAR for a major/program you are just considering, as a way to explore how your existing credits will apply to that program.

DAR Excerpt

Examples of satisfied and unsatisfied Core Curriculum Goal Areas are indicated on the DAR excerpt below. Goal 5 appears complete with a green check while Goal 4 has not been satisfied, indicated by a red X, and identifies the remaining credits and course options to satisfy the goal area.

Your DAR also identifies how your transfer courses were evaluated. As you can see in Goal 5, two courses completed at different colleges in S24 (Spring term 2024) and graded "TA" (all transfer course grades are preceded by a "T") have transferred in as equivalents to BSU courses, and have been found to meet the Goal 5 requirements.

In addition to Core Curriculum, the DAR will provide you information about your chosen major. These requirements appear further down the report after the Core Curriculum requirement section. Each major/program has a different set of requirements.

✓ ■ GOAL AREA 4: MATHEMATICAL/LOGICAL REASONING

1) Select 1 of the following courses:

NEED: 3.00 CREDITS

COURSE LIST: CS 1309(S13-SS25), 1310(F 25 OR AFTER) GEOG3231(SS18 OR

AFTER) MATH1100,1107,

MATH1120,1170,1180,1470,2471,2472 PHIL2230 STAT1100(E

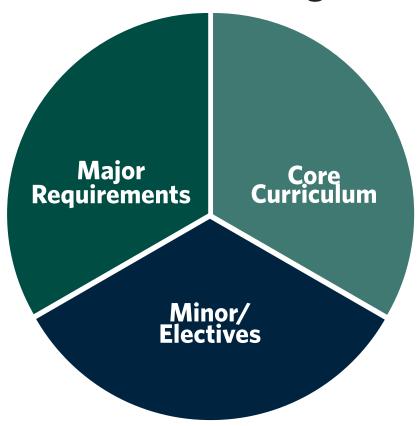
23 OR AFTER), 2610

✓ ■ GOAL AREA 5: HISTORY AND THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

EARNED: 6.00 CREDITS

S24 INST1107	3.0 TA	Intro to Anish Studies LLTC: ANI 101
S24 PSY 3367	3.0 TA	Social Psychology CLC: PSYC2441 >>MATCHED AS: GOAL 5

Components of a Bachelor's Degree



Degree Requirements

120 Semester Credits Minimum

30 BSU Credits Minimum

Minimum GPA (major and cumulative)

Core Curriculum (10 goal areas, 40 credits)

40 Credits at the 3000-4999 Level

Major/Minor Requirements

Nisidotaading (mutual understanding)

BSU Focus: Performance and Participation

Core Curriculum Requirements

BSU's Core Curriculum helps our learning community create an environment where students of diverse backgrounds and abilities can acquire the knowledge, the skills, the values, and the confidence necessary for effective and responsible participation in our changing global society. Here are the requirements of each goal area.

GOAL AREA

Communication

- requires two courses, one of which must be ENGL 1151
- 6 or more credits

GOAL AREA 6

Humanities and the Arts

- requires two courses
- 5 or more credits

GOAL AREA 2

GOAL Critical Thinking

is satisfied when all other goal areas are complete

GOAL AREA 7A/7B

Human Diversity (7A), or Race, Power, & Justice (7B)

- requires one course
- 2 or more credits

GOAL AREA

Natural Science

- requires two courses
- 7 or more credits
 - at least one course must have a lab component (LC)

GOAL AREA 8

Global Perspective

- requires one course
- 3 or more credits

GOAL AREA 4

GOAL Mathematics

- requires one course
- 3 or more credits

GOAL AREA 9

GOAL Ethical and Civic Responsibility

- requires one course
- 2 or more credits

GOAL AREA

5

History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

- requires two courses
- 6 or more credits

GOAL AREA 10

People of the Environment

- requires one course
- 3 or more credits

BSU . FOCUS .

Performance and Participation

- requires one course, 1 or more credits
- While this is not part of the Core Curriculum, completion is a Bemidji State University graduation requirement.

NISIDOT-AADING

Nisidotaading-Indigenous Course Requirement

- requires one course, 3 or more credits
- While this is not part of the Core Curriculum, completion is a Bemidji State University graduation requirement.

Honors Program

Students participating in the Honors program follow a different core curriculum. Contact the Honors Program Office at (218) 755-3984 or search "honors" on the BSU website for more information.

Top 5 Core Curriculum Tips

- Focus mainly on core curriculum in your first semester. Over time, complete the 10 goal areas, earning at least 40 credits. You don't need to complete core curriculum before taking major courses.
- Pay attention to your major course requirements that *also* satisfy core curriculum goal areas (especially in the sciences). Think about taking these first!
- Some courses count in more than one goal area. Taking one or more of these will open opportunities to take more courses in your areas of interest.
- Complete one course in BSU Focus: Performance and Participation, and one course meeting the Nisidotaading requirement. Look for overlap!
- You may satisfy some core curriculum requirements by studying abroad through the International Program Center.

First Year Students!

Consider these courses in your first semester

1. First Year Experience or TRIO/SSS College Orientation course.

All new entering first year students are <u>highly encouraged</u> to enroll in either a **First Year Experience (FYE)** or a **TRIO/SSS College Orientation course**. They are 1-credit courses intended to continue a student's orientation to the university throughout the first months of college. Students who successfully complete FYE or TRIO College Orientation are more likely to have a higher GPA and persist to graduation!

Note: There are a few FYE courses designed for specific majors. Students who qualify for the TRIO/SSS program should register for a TRIO/SSS College Orientation course. Please pay careful attention to the specific course sections when registering for a FYE course.

2. ENGL 1151 for Core Curriculum Goal Area 1.

Fun fact: ENGL 1151 Composition is the *only required* course in core curriculum. The rest of your core curriculum courses are (mostly) up to you! Many students transfer a course that covers this requirement (via College in the Schools, PSEO, AP, etc.), so be sure to check your DAR carefully for a course already counting in Goal Area 1 for ENGL 1151.

3. Declared in a natural science major like Biology or Chemistry?

It's important to start your science sequence(s) right away, since your major courses require these foundational courses be done first. Check the major requirements on your DAR to look for courses like CHEM 2211, or BIOL 1400, and plan to take one or both of those in your first semester. You may have transferred similar courses, so checking your DAR first is the way to go! Consult with an advisor if you aren't sure.

4. Check the Math Placement Tool to know which Goal Area 4 class to take.

Fun fact: Not all majors require College Algebra! The math placement tool suggests the correct Goal Area 4 course to take for your major. You may not need to take a math class in your first semester, but if you are just finishing math at high school, it may be a good idea to continue in math your first semester at BSU just to keep things fresh.

5. Focus mainly on Core Curriculum courses, but in consultation with your major requirements. If you are a Business major, for example, consider taking ECON 2000 to knock out half of Goal Area 5, all of Goal Area 9, AND a major requirement in one fell swoop. This is what we mean when we say a course is a "double-dipper".

What is a Reasonable Credit Load?

To be considered "full-time", you must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits, although the average load is 15 credits per semester **to complete degree requirements in four years**. This usually means that you will be enrolled in 4-6 classes per semester. (New students with a GPA less than 3.0 may not enroll in more than 18 credits in a semester without advisor approval.)

What's reasonable depends on many factors. Overall, think about your academic success to this point, your goals for graduating (set a target date!), and seriously consider how busy you want to be.

Class time plus study time for a full-time student can equal or exceed **the equivalent of a full-time job**. You should plan on a minimum of two hours for study/preparation/research for every hour of class time a week. When determining your credit load, consider the time you devote to athletics, work, family, and extra-curricular activities.

Notes: Enrolling in fewer than 12 credits per semester may affect your eligibility for some types of financial aid, and on-campus employment. International students must be full-time each semester to maintain their student visa status.

Credits	Class Time Per Week*		Study Time Per Week	Total Time Per Week
1 credit	1 hour	+	2 hours	3 hours
3 credits	3 hours	+	6 hours	9 hours
4 credits	4 hours	+	8 hours	12 hours
12 credits	12 hours	+	24 hours	36 hours
15 credits	15 hours	+	30 hours	45 hours
18 credits	18 hours	+	36 hours	54 hours

*50-minute class periods rounded to 1 hour

Academic Course Levels

Courses are categorized by levels using the following course number ranges. The classifications are provided only as a suggestion. There are situations when first-year students take higher level courses.

0800 level College preparatory courses. No credits may be applied to graduation.

0900 level Developmental courses. Up to four credits may be applied to graduation.

1000 - 1999 Freshman-level, lower-division courses. Usually open to all students.

2000 - 2999 Sophomore-level, lower-division courses. Usually open to all students.

3000 - 3999 Junior-level, upper-division courses. These courses may have prerequisites.

4000 - 4999 Senior-level, upper-division courses. These courses very likely have prerequisites.

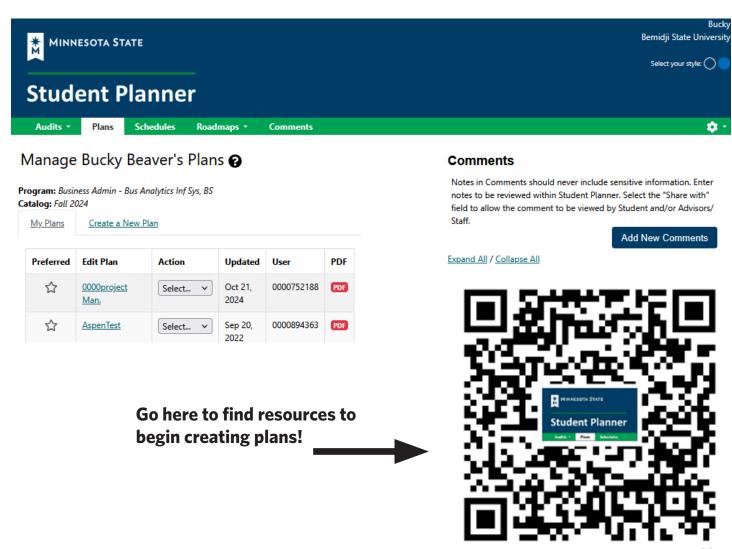
Student Planner Intro

Minnesota State **Student Planner** is a tool that helps expand the power of your Degree Audit Report (DAR). You can access custom degree audit reports and create plans to complete your degree requirements over the course of several semesters or years. You are encouraged to run and check your DAR and update your plan:

- Every semester and whenever a change (like transferring in credits) has been made.
- Before you register to see which courses you still need.
- After you register to check that the courses you registered for meet your program requirements.
- After your grades are posted to make sure the grades are correct and meet the requirements.

To access Student Planner, head to e-Services, then select Academic Records, then Degree Audit. Within the Degree Audit system, you will see a menu item called **Plans**. Click that to get started!

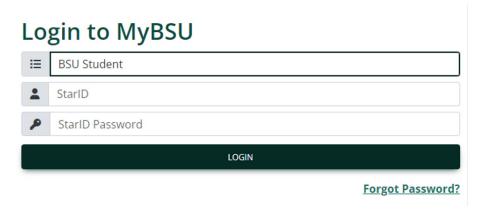
Multiple different plans can be created and stored for you to come back to later



Logging in to MyBSU and e-Services

- 1) On the BSU website: www.bemidjistate.edu select **MyBSU** in the top right menu.

 Apply Library Directory MyBSU Q
- 2) Login to MyBSU using your StarID and password. If you have not yet set up your StarID, select **Forgot password?** and follow the steps to set up your StarID or reset your password.



3) Once logged in, click on the e-Services tile



In e-Services you can:

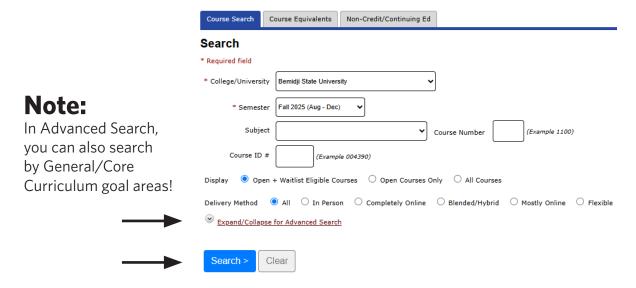
- Register for classes and make changes to your class schedule
- Run your Degree Audit Report (DAR) and find your advisors' names
- Check your financial aid status and award information
- Access grades and your unofficial BSU transcript
- Sign up for student housing and a meal plan
- Pay your student tuition/fees bill and access the BSU bookstore and other resources

Registering for Courses in e-Services

1) In e-Services, select **Courses & Registration** in the left menu. Then select **Search for a Course**.



2) Enter the information for the course you are searching for. Select **Expand/Collapse for Advanced Search** for more options. When you are ready, select **Search** and a list of courses will appear.



- 3) From here you can add courses to your **Wish List** by selecting the icon. If a course is full, you may add yourself to the **Wait List** for that course by selecting the icon.
- 4) Repeat until you have all the courses you want in your **Wish List**. When you are ready, select **Continue to Review My Plan** located above the list of courses. Both the **Wish List** and the **Wait List** will be displayed. Look over these lists carefully.
- 5) To finalize your registration, check each box next to the courses you want to register for in your **Wish List**, then click Select Course(s) to proceed to Register Then, enter your Star ID password and select **Register**.

Student Housing

On-campus living is a requirement for all incoming first-year students. Moving into a residence hall is one of the smartest decisions you can make in your transition to life at BSU.

As a community member in BSU's residence halls, you'll participate in the First Year Residential Experience (FYRE), a specialized program for first-year students that provides a supportive social and academic experience. Through the FYRE program, you'll easily make new friends and share experiences with others who are also new to BSU. Together and with the help of hall staff, you'll make a successful and comfortable transition to college.

Benefits of Living On-campus

- **Higher GPA:** On average, students who live on campus have higher grade point averages than those who live off campus.
- **Close to classes:** A tunnel system connects the residence halls to other campus buildings. No searching for a parking spot when the snow piles up!
- **Convenience:** Costs of meals, Internet access, heat, and cable TV are included in the rates and do not change during the year.
- **Social scene:** Plenty of social, recreational, and academic opportunities are just outside your door. This includes the Gillett Wellness Center, library, computer labs, basketball and volleyball courts, dining facilities, swimming pool, Lake Bemidji, Diamond Point Park, the Outdoor Program Center, coffee shops, athletic events, concerts, and more!
- **Support:** Specially trained staff live in the residence halls and are on hand to help you reach your academic, personal, and social goals.
- **Leadership and service opportunities:** By participating in leadership opportunities such as a Residence Assistant or a Peer Academic Advisor, you can help shape the living environment.
- **Safety:** Residence halls are locked 24 hours a day with electronic access. Public Safety personnel are available around the clock.
- Small campus = a personalized college experience.

Dining at BSU

There are multiple dining options at BSU. Wally's and The Upper Deck are located in Walnut Hall. Wally's accepts both meal plans and Beaver Bucks, while The Upper Deck accepts credit and Beaver Bucks. The Lakeside food court accepts credit or Beaver Bucks and is located at lake level in the Lower Hobson Memorial Union.

Start Planning Now

Check out our move-in guide online at: www.bemidjistate.edu/services/reslife/move-in-guide/

Here you can find information on bed lofting, what to bring, and the items provided with your room. While you're at it, browse the rest of our website for building information, room diagrams, and much more!

Did You Know...?

Orientation

Attending and actively participating in orientation weekend is highly beneficial. Learn about campus, meet other new students, and ask any questions you have about life as a new student. Activities are planned throughout the weekend, so go and experience what BSU has to offer!

Class Location

If you're unsure where your first classroom is, Bucky's Guide Service is available to help during the first week of class. Don't be afraid to ask for directions or for a map!

Desire to Learn (D2L)

Many instructors use D2L to collect and grade assignments. You have access to D2L once logged into your MyBSU account.

e-Services

All of your student information is accessible through your e-Services account. Check it out and check it often!

Assignments

Your instructor may not remind you of deadlines. It is your responsibility to check your syllabus for due dates. Write down due dates and test dates in an academic planner or an app on your phone.

Attendance

Missing class means missing material that will be on tests and quizzes. In some classes, you may also miss out on points for attendance.

Note: Some instructors consider arriving late as being absent! Be on time.

Books

It is important to order your books in advance so you have them for class! It is okay to share books, but we recommend you have your own copy as well. The BSU Bookstore offers the option to rent some books at a reduced rate.

All students registered for one or more BSU credits may charge their books to their account at the BSU bookstore. The timeline for charging books is one month prior to the first day of classes and ends on the 4th day of the semester. Books charged on your account at the BSU bookstore must be paid either by financial aid funds or personal funds.

Schedule

Before changing your schedule, be sure to contact your faculty advisor or the Advising Center. Make sure to pay attention to prerequisites for the class you are signing up for. Prerequisites are requirements necessary to enroll in a certain course.

Syllabus

A course syllabus may be on paper or online, many times in D2L. Instructors include their name, office hours, office location, tentative schedule, grading scale, and much more on their syllabus. Read them and don't lose them!

Email

Get in the habit of regularly checking your BSU email account. Your student email is the official form of communication between you and BSU. You will receive notifications about assignments, events, grades, and class cancellation.

Student Support Offices

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Decker Hall 202 - 218.755.2139 - accessibility@bemidjistate.edu

ADVISING CENTER

Decker Hall 202 - 218-755-2038 - advising@bemidjistate.edu

AMERICAN INDIAN RESOURCE CENTER

AIRC building - 218-755-2032 - airc@bemidjistate.edu

BUSINESS OFFICE and CASHIER

Deputy Hall 202 - 218.755.2045 - businessoffice@bemidjistate.edu

CAREER ADVANCEMENT

Decker Hall 202 - 218-755-2406 - career@bemidjistate.edu

CENTER FOR HEALTH AND COUNSELING

Cedar Hall first floor - 218-755-2053 - healthservices@bemidjistate.edu

FINANCIAL AID

Deputy Hall 114 - 218.755.2034 - financialaid@bemidjistate.edu

HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Walnut Hall first floor - 218.755.3750 - reslife@bemidjistate.edu

INFORMATION DESK and STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Hobson Memorial Union - 218.755.3760 - hobsonunion@bemidjistate.edu

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM CENTER

Deputy Hall 111 - 218.755.4096 - international@bemidjistate.edu

RECORDS and REGISTRATION

Deputy Hall 101 - 218.755.2020 - records@bemidjistate.edu

TRIO/STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Decker Hall 240 - 218.755.2614 - trio_sss@bemidjistate.edu

VETERANS SERVICES

Decker Hall 102 - 218.553.2487 - shannon.reyes@state.mn.us

New Student Checklist

Use this checklist over the next few weeks/months to ensure you are ready for your first week!

- » Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at: www.fafsa.gov
- » **Secure student housing** through your e-Services account. Information about student housing is found on page 14.
- » Send final transcripts. Have your final high school or transfer college transcripts sent to BSU Admissions prior to the start of classes.
- » **Immunization form.** If you haven't done so already, complete the online immunization form located on the BSU website.
- » Check important deadlines. Keep these dates handy: www.bemidjistate.edu/offices/business-services/tuition-fees/fall-tuition-fees/
- » Log-in to your MyBSU and e-Services. Access MyBSU via the top corner of the BSU homepage. Once logged in, you can explore your BSU email, e-Services, D2L, and more.
- » **Complete the Sexual Violence Prevention Training.** This training will be accessible via D2L and should be completed during your first semester.
- » **Consult with an advisor** about any major changes, or changes to your fall semester schedule. It's always best to have another set of eyes review.
- » Purchase your textbooks. After making any schedule changes and before the second week of class, be sure you have the required materials! The Bemidji State University Bookstore is located in the Lower Hobson Union. You may stop by the bookstore or reserve books online at the following website: www.bemidjistate.edu/bookstore.





BSU ADVISING CENTER

A publication of the Advising Center at Bemidji State University Decker Hall 202, 755-2038, advising@bemidjistate.edu



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