

"Trigger Questions" for your advising meetings

- Have you been able to access your degree audit online? Do you understand your degree audit? Walk through the student's degree audit to ensure they understand each requirement. If you or the student have questions please contact Academic Counseling.
- Have you checked your midterm grades? Were there any surprises? Keep in mind that if a student fails a course that is a prerequisite for another course, they must retake that course - even if they are already registered for the next course in the sequence.
- How is your semester going? Are any classes posing a particular challenge? Which classes do you enjoy most?
- Where are you in your decision making process towards declaring a major? Too often students consider themselves "an undecided major" when a more accurate description is "exploring majors." Students need to know the steps involved in making a good decision. You will find some useful resources for discussions with [exploring students](#) on our website.
- What kind of connections have you made at St. Thomas outside of the classroom?
- How do you like being a student at St. Thomas?

Questions especially important to ask during Spring advising meetings

- Are you thinking about studying abroad? If so, have the student contact the [Study Abroad office](#) as soon as possible to begin planning courses.
- What are your plans for the summer? If the student is thinking about taking a course at another institution refer them to Academic Counseling to make sure the class has been pre-approved. Also, if the student is heading into their last year at St. Thomas, the Senior Residency requirement stipulates 32 of the last 36 credits earned must be taken at St. Thomas or an ACTC school.