

How to Kick It Up a Notch

FIRST YEAR

- Think about:
 - What are your goals?
 - What are you interested in?
 - While these things can change, what are you interested in studying/pursuing?
- Goals for the end of the year:
 - Build a relationship with at least one faculty member
 - Outline a four-year plan with your adviser
 - Become acquainted with the course catalog and your major requirements
 - Explore classes outside of your intended major to expose you to other possibilities. Utilize the general education program for this.

SECOND YEAR

- Think about:
 - What is your major/minor?
 - What are essential prerequisite courses you have to take for your last two years?
 - What are you thinking about after graduation and are there opportunities you should identify now to maximize your experiences?
- Goals for the end of the year:
 - Declare your major(s) and/or minor(s)
 - Alter your four year plan if your major changed
 - Decide your internship, study abroad, and/or original research options so you can prepare with any necessary coursework or paperwork
 - Meet with resources on campus to begin planning for after graduation (Career Center, Office of Merit Awards, academic adviser, Multicultural Affairs)
 - Identify possible faculty mentors
 - Think about doing a five year BA/MA program in your major

THIRD YEAR

- Think about:
 - What careers am I interested in exploring through internships, networking, or other opportunities?
 - Will I be applying to graduate school in the fall and what type of requirements are there?
 - What job opportunities am I looking for?
- Goals for the end of the year:
 - Develop resume
 - Look for experience in your field (research, internships, etc.)
 - Maintain relationships with faculty
 - Become acquainted with the graduate school/job application process
 - Review four year plan and make sure there are no outstanding courses to take beyond senior year

FOURTH YEAR

- Think about:
 - Have I started the application process for graduate school/jobs?
- Tasks:
 - Apply for jobs or graduate school

Links

- [Career Center](#)
- [Office of Merit Awards](#)
- [AU Abroad](#)
- [Academic Support Center](#)
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