

YOUR ACADEMIC PLAN

A Preliminary Planning Worksheet for New Freshmen

Evergreen students all design their own Academic Plan with guidance from faculty and advisors. An Academic Plan can be focused (like a major), broad or a combination of both. Your Academic Plan is a living, breathing organism that will evolve and adapt to changes over time, just like you. That's why Evergreen encourages you to explore many subjects and stay flexible as you decide where to focus your studies. A strong Academic Plan includes study in a variety of subject areas. Your Academic Plan should build on your past experiences, your hopes for your college education and your goals for your life after Evergreen. This worksheet is a tool to help you begin your academic planning. To get the most out of it, we encourage you to read through the **Programs for Freshmen** section of the catalog and review the following definitions:

Planning Units

Freshmen should use the 'Programs for Freshmen' section in the catalog at www.evergreen.edu/catalog/2006-07/freshmen

Evergreen's 'departments.' Evergreen's curriculum is divided into six Planning Units. The Planning Unit headings in the catalog help you locate programs in your areas of interest. For example, **Scientific Inquiry** contains programs in the lab sciences, math, computer science, etc.

Modes of Study

Ways to earn credit towards your degree

Program

A full-time (16 credits), team-taught academic offering combining several subject areas under a central theme or question. Programs are 1 – 3 quarters in length and are organized into 5 levels: Core – All Freshmen, Lower Division – Freshmen & Sophomores, All Level – A mix of all classes, Intermediate – Sophomore and above, Upper Division – Juniors & Seniors.

Independent Study

Student-designed independent study options take the form of Independent Learning Contracts and Internship Learning Contracts. Contracts are for advanced study (usually Juniors & Seniors) and must be negotiated with and supervised by a faculty sponsor.

Evening & Weekend Studies

Half-time programs and single subject courses. This option is sometimes used by freshmen to supplement their full-time program. Freshmen considering this option should meet with an advisor to avoid credit overload.

Study Abroad

Study abroad can be incorporated into your Academic Plan through programs, exchanges and individual study. Study abroad requires advanced planning and Academic Advising assistance.

Academic Fair

A quarterly event that precedes registration where faculty from all programs offered for the upcoming quarter provide program details and are available to meet with students and answer questions.

List 3 goals you have for college (Don't worry, this answer is not set in stone. Your goals can be specific or general).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

At this time, what academic subjects do you see as the main emphasis of your studies?

What strengths do you have that can help you accomplish your goals?

In what areas do you need to improve or explore in more depth to accomplish your goals?

With your goals, academic interests, strengths and areas for improvement in mind, list the top three program choices that will help you balance these priorities. Remember to choose programs appropriate to your class standing and beginning in the appropriate quarter.

CHOICE #1

Program Name	Major Areas of Study	How it builds on strengths and addresses areas for improvement

CHOICE #2

Program Name	Major Areas of Study	How it builds on strengths and addresses areas for improvement

CHOICE #3

Program Name	Major Areas of Study	How it builds on strengths and addresses areas for improvement

Next Steps

- Meet with an Academic Advisor or Admissions Counselor to review this worksheet.
- Attend the Academic Fair preceding registration or contact the faculty of your top three programs directly.
- Log on to the Gateway Registration System at least one week before the Academic Fair to familiarize yourself with the format, set up your permanent PIN and confirm your registration time.
- Register at your assigned time. The student who registers on time is more likely to get his/her first choice program.

A Final Thought

This is just the beginning. Your academic planning will continue throughout your time at Evergreen. You should revisit this process every quarter. As your interests expand and your goals become more defined, you will benefit from a well thought out Academic Plan – even when you change your mind!