



Welcome to MSU

On behalf of the Morgan State University's (MSU) freshman academic advising team, welcome to Morgan State! As you embark on this new chapter of your life, our academic advisors are here to provide you with the necessary support to be academically successful during your freshman year.

Academic Advising MSU Edition

Academic advising is a critical component of the educational experience at Morgan State University. It is an intentional, collaborative, and ongoing partnership between students and the institution.



As a freshman at MSU, you will be assigned a freshman academic advisor to help you to develop and to achieve your educational, personal, and career goals. Your academic advisor will also help you to

navigate the MSU campus and will provide guidance to you when selecting classes. Your role in the advising process at MSU is also very important. Your [academic advising syllabus](#) will help you to understand your role in the academic advising at MSU.

YOUR Academic Advisor

Within the first few weeks of the fall 2021 semester your academic advisor will be assigned to you. This person will be either an Office of Student Success and Retention (OSSR) or Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA) staff member. Students who participated in CASA Academy will be assigned an academic advisor from the CASA department. All other students, with a declared major, are assigned to a Retention Coordinator (OSSR staff) in their school/college. General studies majors are advised by CASA academic advisors.

This person will serve as your academic advisor for your entire first year at MSU and until you achieve at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA), earn at least 24 credits, and declare a major. In the next few weeks, you will be able to log in to your STARFISH account to retrieve the name and contact information of your first year academic advisor. In the meantime, a current list of all the freshman academic advisors is also available on page 2.

Academic Advising Hold

To help ensure that you are receiving the most accurate guidance with regards to registering for classes, declaring your major, resolving academic issues, and understanding the University's academic policies, a first year academic advising hold (FY) is placed on all first time freshman students' WEBSIS accounts. This hold ensures that you meet with your academic advisor prior to registering and/or dropping/withdrawing from any courses. The hold does not impact any other services accessible to you via WEBSIS.

FIRST YEAR ACADEMIC ADVISING

Freshman Academic Advisors by School/College and Department

Center for Academic Success & Achievement

Alkwanzo Burke - Alkwanzo.Burke@morgan.edu
Salifu Cham - Salifu.Cham@morgan.edu
Trishia Faulkner - Trishia.Faulkner@morgan.edu
Zamark Fleming - Zamark.Fleming@morgan.edu
Amber Wilson - Amber.Wilson@morgan.edu

College of Liberal Arts

Promis Crawford - Promis.Crawford@morgan.edu
Deborah Hargrave - Deborah.Hargrave@morgan.edu
Andre Patterson - Andre.Patterson1@morgan.edu

General Studies Majors

* Students are assigned based on the first letter of their last name*

Last name A-C Alkwanzo Burke - Alkwanzo.Burke@morgan.edu
Last name D-G Trishia Faulkner - Trishia.Faulkner@morgan.edu
Last name H-L Amber Wilson - Amber.Wilson@morgan.edu
Last name M-R Salifu Cham - Salifu.Cham@morgan.edu
Last name S-Z Zamark Fleming - Zamark.Fleming@morgan.edu

School of Architecture and Planning

Charles Thomas - Charles.Thomas@morgan.edu

School of Business and Management

Freddie Davis - Freddie.Davis@morgan.edu
George Manso - George.Manso@morgan.edu
Nia Scott - Nia.Scott@morgan.edu

School of Community Health and Policy

Michelle Gross - Michelle.Gross@morgan.edu

School of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences

Rolicia Martin - Rolicia.Martin@morgan.edu
Kierra Stephens - Kierra.Stephens@morgan.edu

School of Education and Urban Studies

Michael James - Michael.James@morgan.edu

School of Engineering

Myra Curtis - Myra.Curtis@morgan.edu
Lafaun Davis - Lafaun.Davis@morgan.edu

School of Global Journalism and Communication

Ayana Shannon - Ayana.Shannon@morgan.edu

School of Social Work

Danielle Ballard - Danielle.Ballard@morgan.edu



Did you have an outstanding academic advising experience?
Do you want to acknowledge an academic advisor for a job well done?

ACADEMIC ADVISING KUDOS

Acknowledge an academic advisor for their outstanding service and commitment to student success.

www.morgan.edu/advisinghotline

FIRST YEAR ACADEMIC ADVISING

Staying Connected!

Your academic advisor is an integral part of your success here at MSU. I encourage you to connect with your advisor at least twice a semester. Your advisor may be accessible via phone, email, appointments, and/or walk-in office visits.

General Freshman Advising Email and Website

In addition to periodic check-ins with your academic advisor, you will also receive emails to your Morgan email from fy_advising@morgan.edu. All communication from this email address will have a specific title followed by FY ADVISING e.g. Registration - FY ADVISING. During the fall and spring semesters, important dates and deadlines, vital academic advising and registration information, and various success tips will be shared with you via fy_advising@morgan.edu. You can also access more information about freshman academic advising on our website www.morgan.edu/fyadvising.

Access Granted: Starfish



Dear Morgan State University student:

Welcome to Starfish Retention Solutions!

Starfish is an interactive tool that fosters engagement and feedback between students, faculty, and advisors. Morgan State University is utilizing Starfish again this semester to help our students to show progress and to become successful in every class. If you have not already done so, please log-in to Starfish and set-up your profile:

<https://gateway.morgan.edu/casban/>

You may be receiving email messages from your faculty regarding your attendance, your assignments, your participation, and your progress in your courses. Please respond to their feedback by addressing their concerns. You also may receive encouraging messages or "kudos" from your faculty through Starfish. One of the best features in Starfish is the appointment calendar. You can schedule appointments with your faculty and advisors through Starfish directly by clicking "see available appointments" under the "My Success Network" menu on your Starfish homepage. Should you have any questions or concerns pertaining to your Starfish account, please contact me directly at star.fish@morgan.edu. Please enjoy the benefits of Starfish Retention Solutions, and have a great semester!

Best wishes,

Dr. Mfume

Tiffany Beth Mfume, DrPH

Starfish System Administrator

FIRST YEAR ACADEMIC ADVISING

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

DegreeWorks

Degree Works is an online degree auditing program that lets you see where you stand in fulfilling your degree requirements. This tool will make academic planning easier, allowing you to view current program information, courses completed, and courses still needed to complete your degree. Degree Works allows both the student and advisor to track required courses, elective options and completed courses according to actual transcript records.

Please keep in mind that Degree Works is not intended to serve as a replacement for meeting with your academic advisors. Students remain responsible for meeting with their advisors regularly while using Degree Works to enhance advising sessions. Please note that the course record in DegreeWorks is the record which will be used by the graduation auditor, so it is important to ensure the accuracy of your audit each semester.

Using the information of your catalog year, transcript, degree, and concentrations, students will be able to manage course selection with a snapshot view of where they are in their degree progression. "Minor" degrees (different from a concentration) can be managed as well. Students can also discuss any concerns with their audits with advisors, including petitioning for substitutions.

Take time today to review your DegreeWorks profile. Start by logging into Banner, select Student, and then Degree Works. Degree Works Frequently Asked Questions and other important Degree Works information can be found [here](#). Degree Works Tutorials are also available [here](#).

Happy trails to you on your next step to Leading the World!

Kind Regards,

Office of Records & Registration

DO YOU HAVE AN ACADEMIC ADVISING CONCERN?

HAVE YOU...

- checked Starfish or Degree Works for your advisor's contact info;
- contacted your academic advisor to resolve your concern;
- allowed 3 business days for your advisor to respond?

STILL NEED ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE?

ACADEMIC ADVISING HOTLINE

A resource to help students resolve academic advising concerns.

www.morgan.edu/advisinghotline

