

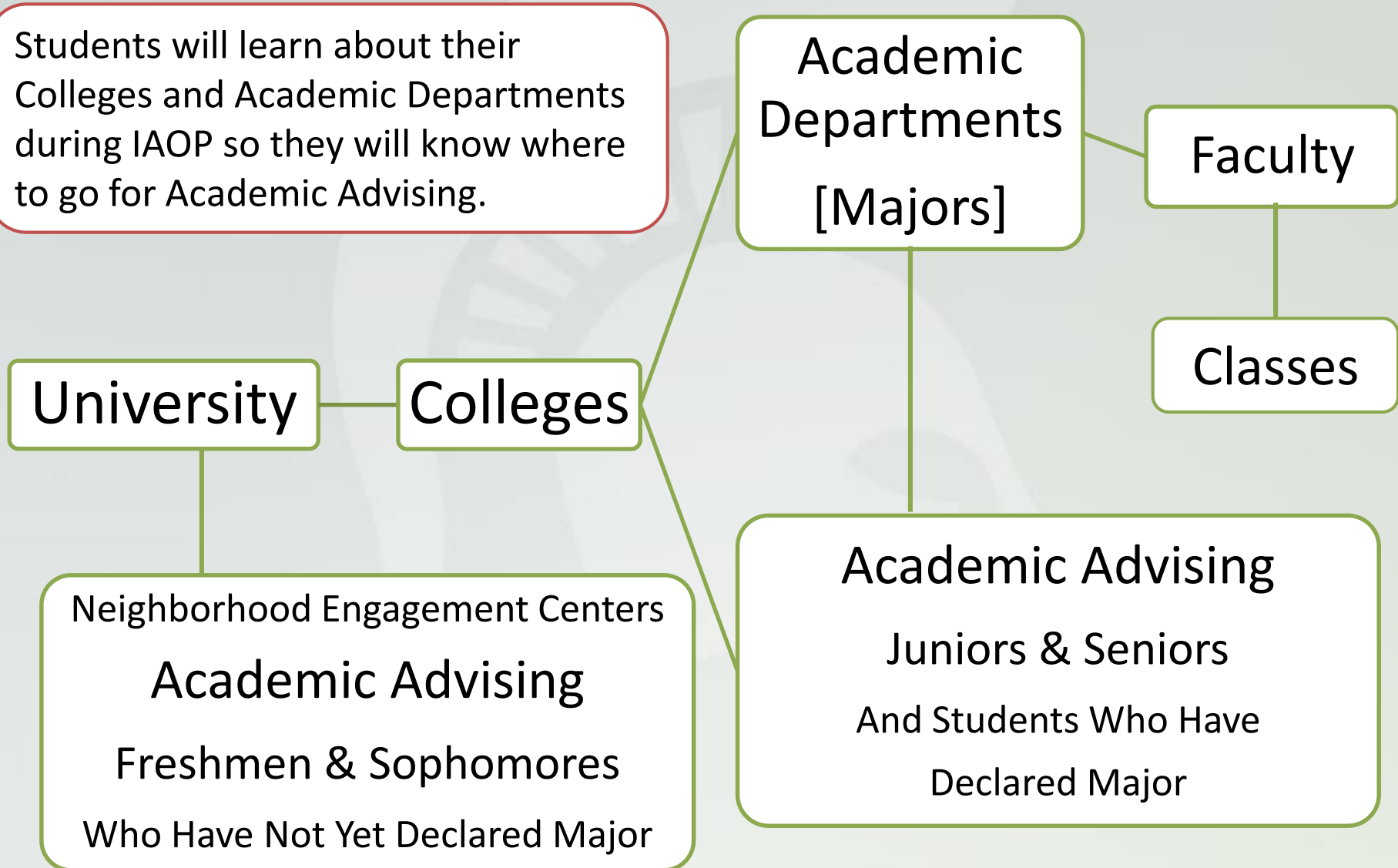
# ACADEMIC ADVISING AND THE MSU DEGREE



**What Every Parent Should Know**

# MSU Academic and Advising Structure

Students will learn about their Colleges and Academic Departments during IAOP so they will know where to go for Academic Advising.



# Academic Advising

- Academic Advisors at MSU ensure personalized care and attention to the success of students.
- Academic advising is a collaboration between students and advisors. Students must be active participants in the advising process.
- Students should meet with an academic advisor at least two times each semester.
- Academic Advisors provide recommendations to learning resources and help students find a major that combines what they like to do, what they are good at, and their future professional plans.
- They are the best source of accurate academic information.
- They are someone who will listen to students concerns.



# Academic Advising

- Freshman and Sophomore students who have not declared a major (called no-preference students) will see an advisor in the Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative (NSSC) – until they declare a major.
- Neighborhood Advising Locations:
  - Brody Neighborhood: 160 Brody Hall
  - South Neighborhood: Holden Engagement Center
  - East Neighborhood: C130 Hubbard Hall
  - River Trail Neighborhood: C101 McDonel Hall
  - North Neighborhood: 337 Union Building
- Students with a declared major should see an advisor in their major within their department or school, in their college.

# Degree Requirements

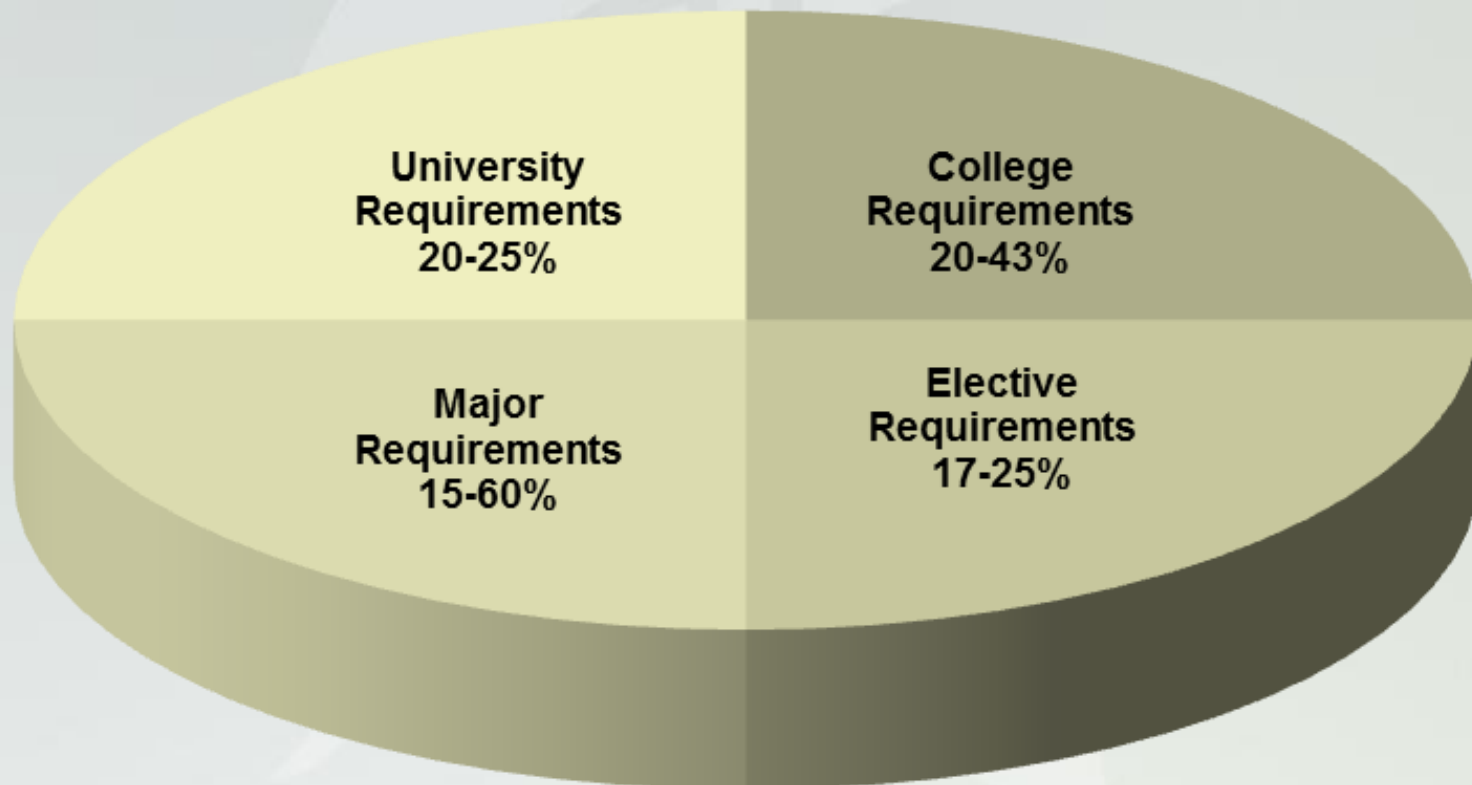
- All undergraduate degrees at MSU require a minimum of 120 credits.
- University Requirements that are required for all academic programs:
  - Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures (WRA)
  - Integrative Studies in Arts and Humanities (IAH)
  - Integrative Studies in Social Sciences (ISS)
  - Integrative Studies in Biological and Physical Science and laboratory (ISB & ISP plus Lab)
  - Mathematics (MTH)

There are also:

- College Requirements
- Major Requirements
- Elective Requirements



# Degree Requirements



**Disclaimer:** The percentages listed are estimates. You should consult with your advisor to get more specific information.

# Degree Requirements

- Students at MSU must be admitted to a College when they have earned 56 credits or more. Some Colleges allow for earlier admission.
- Students must talk with an academic advisor about admission requirements and academic planning in preparation for admission to a College.
- Caution: some programs at MSU are limited enrollment programs (limited space and competitive admission process). Many other programs are “open majors”, which allow any student in good standing to join.

# Advising and Enrollment During Orientation

- Step 1: Students attend a large-group presentation about their intended College and major. Degree requirements, admission to the major (if required), career opportunities and extra-curricular options are discussed.
- Step 2: Students meet with their academic advisor to plan their first year courses.
- Step 3: Students enroll for classes with assistance from current MSU students and academic advisors.

***Class schedules are final once enrollment has ended at AOP until August 27.***



# During or After Orientation

- Students must make sure all final transcripts from high schools and colleges/universities they attended prior to MSU are provided to MSU.
- Students must make sure all scores from AP, CLEP, IB or International A levels are sent to MSU.
- Schedule changes as a result of credit earned through one of the means listed above are the only reason changes can be made prior to the first week of classes. Students are provided information on who to contact should this occur.
- All other changes to schedules can take place beginning August 27, 2018.

# U.S. Colleges and Universities Communication with Parents

- MSU adheres strictly to the U.S. Family Educational Rights & Privacy (FERPA) law.
- Access to individual grades during the course of the semester is only available to your student.
- At the end of the semester grades are posted electronically and students can access them through StuInfo (MSU online records system).
- Students can give parents and family members access to academic and financial information through StuInfo guest access.
- Talk to your student about what your expectations are for access to their records. Your student has the legal right to choose not to give you access or to take your access away.

# Academic Resources

- Academic Programs – the place to find information about MSU policies and procedures
- Description of Courses – the place to learn about any course, prerequisites, and restrictions
- Spartan Resource Guide and Planner – includes helpful websites and important dates
- Academic Advisor – the person to help students understand the policies

# Academic Resources

- STUINFO – this system includes student-specific information related to your academic life at MSU
- Schedule Builder – search for courses, view text information, add courses to your schedule
- Academic Integrity – practicing honest, responsible and ethical scholarship
- Degree Navigator – advising tool that allows a student to view their degree requirements

*Students are responsible for knowing the policies related to academic issues (academic standing, repeating courses, grading systems, adding and dropping courses)*

# Grade Point Average Requirements

4.0 – 3.0

- Student is making good progress

3.0 – 2.0

- Student is struggling in some classes
- Student should get help from campus learning resources and instructors

2.0

- Minimum GPA for Good Academic Standing after freshman year
- Some majors may require at least a 2.5 GPA in required course to graduate

2.0 – 1.5

- Minimum GPA for freshmen at the end of fall semester

1.5 – 0.0

- Academic Probation, Academic Recess (suspension) or Academic Dismissal

# Academic Probation - Freshman Year

## Probation

- Freshmen with less than 1.5 GPA after the end of Fall Semester 2018 (1<sup>st</sup> semester) will be placed on Academic Probation
- Must meet with an academic advisor to create a plan to improve GPA next semester

## Final Probation

- Freshmen with less than a 2.0 GPA after the end of Spring Semester 2019 (2<sup>nd</sup> semester).
- Must meet with academic advisor to discuss improvement plan.
- Granted by advisor if they think the student will likely improve their GPA.

## Extended Final Probation

- Fail to raise GPA to at least a 2.0 after Summer or Fall Semester 2019 (3<sup>rd</sup> semester).
- Must meet with academic advisor to discuss personal, medical, or other reasons for inability to improve GPA.
- Granted by academic advisors.

## Academic Recess

- Fail to raise GPA to at least a 2.0 after probation, final or extended final probation. Determined by academic advisor based on interactions with student.
- Students who receive a 0.0 GPA in any single semester will be Recessed.
- Must take one calendar year off and take classes at another college or university or online courses as directed by their academic advisor.
- After one year off, may be readmitted on probation or final probation if the Associate Dean of their college believes that the student is likely to succeed.

## Academic Dismissal

- Students who have been recessed or dismissed, are readmitted to MSU and then again fail to maintain a 2.0.
- Students who do not comply with written conditions of readmission.
- Must take at least two years off from MSU.
- After two years off, may be readmitted on probation or final probation if the associate dean of their college believes that the student is likely to succeed.



# How will your student know if they are doing well in classes?

- By keeping track of grades on quizzes, tests, assignments and projects.
- By checking D2L. Most instructors use MSU's "D2L" ("Desire to Learn") online platform to organize their class. Instructors may require students to upload finished assignments, papers and projects in D2L. Grades on each assignment may be posted in D2L.
- By checking StuInfo after the semester ends. Final grades and GPA are posted in StuInfo after the end of the semester.

# How will your student know if they are on probation, recessed, or dismissed?

- Confidential messages will be posted in StuInfo if your student is placed on academic probation, recessed or dismissed. These messages will give the your student instructions on what they need to do next.
- Remind students to check StuInfo after the end of each semester for grades and confidential messages.



# MSU Wants All Students to Succeed

Encourage your student to:

- Get help right away if they are falling behind in coursework or are receiving low grades on quizzes, tests, assignments and projects. MSU offers help for no extra cost!
- Talk with academic advisors who will guide students towards learning resources and help them develop time management and study skills
- Go to office hours of instructors, professors, graduate assistants, and teaching assistants who will help students understand course content

# MSU Wants All Students to Succeed!

Encourage your student to:

- Get tutoring for specific classes in the Neighborhood Engagement Centers and in the colleges
- Go to Writing Center consultants in Bessey Hall and in the Neighborhood Engagement Centers
- Go to the Math Help Center in Wells Hall and in the Neighborhood Engagement Centers



*“It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves, that will make them successful human beings.”*

*-Ann Landers, famous Chicago Sun-Times newspaper advice columnist from 1955 - 2002*



# QUESTIONS?