SOPHOMORE PLANNING TIMELINE

WEEKS 1-3  Kickoff & Department Info  Jan. 21-Feb. 5

☐ Attend Chocolates, Chai & Choosing:  Thursday, January 21, 6:30-7:45 pm
LPAC Pearson-Hall and Lobby

You will get information about how to apply for your academic major and about related opportunities (Honors, fellowships, study abroad, career, wellness, and more).

☐ Attend Departmental Info Sessions:  Each department holds hour-long information sessions for students who are interested in a major or minor in the department. The schedule will be distributed at Chocolates, Chai & Choosing.

Unless the session time conflicts with your class schedule, you must attend the department info session(s) for your prospective major/minor(s). If you have a class schedule conflict, then you should ask a friend to attend and take notes for you.

WEEKS 4-6  Individual advising & plan drafting  Feb. 8-26

☐ By Mon., Feb. 8 at 1 pm, you decide on your intended majors/minors and indicate this in the Sophomore Plan portal through mySwarthmore. Then, each of those departments will assign you a Sophomore Plan Advisor. The advisor is a member of the faculty who advises you in writing your sophomore plan.

☐ You schedule a meeting (and sometimes a second follow up meeting) with that advisor. Once each department has assigned your sophomore plan advisor that information will appear in the Sophomore Plan portal through mySwarthmore.

☐ Draft your sophomore plan of study - a brief narrative essay about your reasons for seeking your major/minor and a list of courses that you plan to take over the next 2 years. You can draft this in the Sophomore Plan portal, work on it with your advisor, and update it over time.

WEEK 7  Finish plan  PLAN DUE:  Monday, Feb. 29 at 1 pm

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE:
http://www.swarthmore.edu/student-life/academic-advising-and-support/sophomore-plan-of-study.xml
WHAT IS THE “SOPHOMORE PLAN?”

The “Sophomore Plan” is a reflection on your experiences, and a plan for your remaining time at Swarthmore. The Plan is also a central piece of your application for your academic major(s) and – if sought – your minor(s).

The Sophomore Plan has a few parts:

1) A brief (1-2 page) description of the primary interests, purposes, and principles that organize your program of study, including major(s), minor(s), off-campus study, Honors, teaching certification, etc.

2) A semester-by-semester list of courses and seminars which are central to your academic program or are remaining graduation requirements that you need to fulfill (e.g. distribution requirements, PE, etc). This list will assist you in planning for the next two years. Note: because of leave patterns and other factors, there is no guarantee that students will be admitted to all seminars and courses they list, even if their program is approved.

3) If applicable: Any forms required by specific departments or the Individualized Special Major form.

The department(s) to which you apply will read your Sophomore Plan. The department(s) will look at your transcript to decide if you have met its requirements for entry into the major. Then, the department(s) will decide whether your plan for the major is feasible and will notify you of its decision before the April advising period for Fall 2016.

Before applying, it is our hope that you:

- reflect on the classes you have taken so far and your intellectual interests
- assess your strengths and weaknesses in the disciplines that you have explored
- think about where you want to go with your degree after you leave Swarthmore

Be sure to:

- read the department/program info online
- attend department/program info session, if possible
- ask questions of your professors, SAMs, deans, and advisors
- read and respond to your email

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