

# ACADEMIC SERVICES

## Academic Advising

The mission of academic advising and the advisors who administrate the advising process follows the general mission of the University and the founding Brothers of Christian Instruction. The advising process serves in multiple areas of students' academic life by serving all students, especially the underserved. Advisors act as both repositories of university information and conduits for student success in classes taken and goals developed while at Walsh University and preparation for life beyond college.

The purpose of academic advising at Walsh University is threefold: to assist students in the development of their academic programs; to explain and develop the students' rights and options in the advising process; and to point out to students their responsibilities as advisees.

First Year Academic Advisors are assigned to all freshman at the start of the freshman year, to any student transferring into Walsh University, and to any student declaring a major or changing a major. Any freshman entering with 30 or more transferred/earned college credit hours will directly receive a faculty advisor as their primary advisor except for Pre-Nursing and Undeclared majors. Transfer students will receive a first year academic advisor or faculty advisor as their primary advisor depending on their major or number of transfer credit hours.

The advisor is the guide through the Walsh experience. This association is one of the most important that students will have especially early in their academic careers and in pursuit of a bachelor's degree. The advisors will answer questions and present options to students that may impact their success as Walsh students. Advisors do not tell students what to do but rather assist them in making thoughtful, reasoned decisions, explaining the benefits and consequences of potential decisions or directions students wish to pursue. It is to students' advantage to develop a good working relationship with their advisors as soon as possible. All advisors have regular office hours.

The Associate Vice President of Academic Administration is responsible for overseeing academic advising.

## The Academic Support Center

The Academic Support Center (ASC) serves the student body, beginning with the students in transition to college from secondary school and proceeding all the way to graduation. The ASC includes tutoring, Accessibility Services, the Academic Achievement Program, and the Cavs CORE Learning Community. These services are located in the Library, 2nd Floor which allows for one central place to find a variety of academic support.

## Tutoring

The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides free tutoring to Walsh students in selected subject areas such as math, chemistry and biology, along with tutoring in writing for any subject area. Tutoring is usually on a one-to-one basis, arranged in half-hour or one-hour sessions, and tutoring hours are posted around campus each semester and are available in the ASC. In addition to providing help in specific content areas, the tutors are available to assist with any area of the writing process: brainstorming, developing ideas and organizing them, understanding research and documentation, and reviewing individual points of grammar. Reference works, such as dictionaries, thesauri, style manuals and manuals on

writing for various fields, along with textbooks for selected subject areas, are available in the Center, as are numerous computers with network access. Students can access tutor schedules and appointments online at <https://walsh.mywconline.com>.

## Accessibility Services

Walsh University is committed to fostering an institutional climate in which qualified students with disabilities have full access to the academic environment. Housed in the Library, 2nd Floor, Accessibility Services verifies students' disability status and determines eligibility for specific accommodations. Academic accommodations, such as tape recorders, electronic textbooks, and extended test time, are coordinated through this office, as are physical accommodations, including disability-appropriate housing and physical changes to classrooms or labs. Students must register with Accessibility Services in order to receive these services. Per federal law, Accessibility Services can provide these accommodations only to students with verified disabilities and not to the general student population.

## Academic Achievement Program

The Academic Achievement Program coordinates peer tutoring along with counseling and addresses time management and study skills for students on academic probation. The faculty work with freshmen and sophomores as one group, and juniors and seniors as a second group in addressing academic needs. Walsh University provides this program to assist students in achieving their academic goals while working toward graduation. The faculty and staff meet with each student to identify their needs in subject areas and skill training. They provide assistance, as needed, to help each student be successful.

## CAVS COR Learning Community

The Cavs CORE Learning Community is designed to offer incoming freshmen who test into Walsh's beginning-level English and math courses additional structured assistance over their first years. Students are enrolled in this learning community based on their placement test results. Cavs CORE students have ongoing access to tutors and a variety of experiential learning activities. Students in this learning community will take FYE 110 and a collegiate literacy course during both terms of their first fall semester at Walsh.

## Service Learning

The Office of Service-Learning's mission is to facilitate mutually beneficial service-learning opportunities among Walsh and the local community. This is accomplished by supporting faculty as they develop and incorporate service-learning into courses and by understanding community needs via established relationships with local organizations. Through Service-Learning courses students will:

- Apply course content to the service experience in the community.
- Apply knowledge from the service experience to the course content.
- Demonstrate an enhanced understanding of issues and needs in the community based on the service experience.

To discover a service-learning course that fits with your academic goals, visit the s (<https://www.walsh.edu/service-learning.html>)service-learning webpage (<https://www.walsh.edu/service-learning.html>) or contact the Office of Service-Learning.

## Blouin Scholars

The Blouin Scholars Program at Walsh University provides students with a unique opportunity to become part of a community of students and faculty dedicated to using scholarship and service to address local and global challenges. This program is designed to foster change-makers in the community and develop leaders in service to others. Blouin Scholars take classes with a cohort of similarly dedicated students.

All classes are built into the Walsh University core curriculum—you still choose your own majors and minors—and center on common themes of social justice within our local and global communities. Throughout this experience, students are supported by the Office of Experiential Learning and a team of faculty dedicated to the learning community. Students will also be supported with opportunities such as global learning, study away, special lectures, co-curricular activities, priority registration and advising procedures, and special designation at commencement.

## Career Connections

Walsh University empowers students and alumni to connect their academic preparation to employment, year(s) of service, or continued study beyond graduation. Career Center staff use a comprehensive approach to work with students on career design, network building, and experience articulation through self-assessment, experiential learning, and best-practice coaching to support students and alumni success in both identifying and reaching the next step in their professional journey.

The Career Center works to cultivate relationships with local and national employers to connect student and alumni talent with internship and career opportunities in northeast Ohio and beyond. Through a series of professional education workshops and events, career treks, and on-campus and regional career fairs, students have opportunities to connect with local professionals, alumni, and graduate degree programs.

Have you considered working abroad? Walsh University is proud of its status as a Peace Corps Preparatory Institution. The prepares students for international work experience or Peace Corps service. Students build four core competencies through interrelated coursework, hands-on experience, and professional development support.

Handshake, the Career Center's online career management platform, provides students and alumni with 24/7 access to conduct job or internship searches, schedule appointments with the Career Center, and register for events. Handshake uses simple but powerful search tools and alerts to help find the best fit from more than 500,000 jobs and internships posted by 120,000 companies, non-profits and government organizations. Handshake continually personalizes career recommendations based on majors, interests, and connections.

### Career Compass Learning Community

The Career Compass Learning Community celebrates undecided majors through exploration opportunities as they begin their journey with Walsh. Career Compass is designed to support incoming students in landing a major that leverages their interests and career goals. The Career Compass Learning Community combines academic major investigation, career experiences, and one-on-one advising to guide students through the process of choosing a major and landing in a career that taps into their academic and professional interests.

## Global Learning

Inspired by the example of global citizenship of the Brothers of Christian Instruction, the Office of Global Learning provides opportunities

for students to develop into leaders in service with an international perspective. Global Learning promotes learning which transforms the student, the university and the communities which they serve.

Through the Office of Global Learning, students have the opportunity to participate in a number of semester long, short-term, faculty-led, and international internship programs offered throughout the year. Walsh University offers semester experiences to Rome and Gaming, Austria (collaborating with the Franciscan University of Steubenville), and Carlow, Ireland (collaborating with Carlow College, St. Patrick). In addition, Walsh provides educational experiences to Europe, Uganda, Uruguay, Mexico, Tanzania, Haiti, and beyond.

Global Learning programs offer students unique academic experiences that broaden their intellectual awareness, cultural sensitivity, professional preparedness, and exposure to the world. This is why Walsh University students are encouraged to participate in at least one Global Learning experience before they graduate.

Students may also seek study abroad opportunities and international internships through a number of providers and partners including UNIVA (Universidad del Valle de Atemajac) a Catholic University in Guadalajara, Mexico, Carlow College in Carlow, Ireland, or CAPA –The Global Education Network to offer students a number of international internship opportunities in locations such as Buenos Aires, Dublin, London, Shanghai, and Barcelona. Walsh also is a member of the Cooperative Center for Study Abroad (CCSA) a consortia of universities and colleges. Students interested in exploring such opportunities should contact the Office of Global Learning.

Walsh University is also proud of its status as a Peace Corps Preparatory Institution. The Peace Corps Prep program will prepare students for international development fieldwork and potential Peace Corps service. To accomplish this, students build four core competencies through interrelated coursework, hands-on experience, and professional development support.

Details for the application process for any of these programs can be found on the Global Learning webpage (<https://www.walsh.edu/global-learning/>) or by contacting the Office of Global Learning.

## Assessment of Student Academic Achievement

Walsh University's regional accrediting agency, The Higher Learning Commission, requires documentation of student academic achievement in general education studies (Walsh's core curriculum) and in the major. Walsh University requires students to take various assessment tests, as deemed necessary and appropriate by the School Dean and division/department/program chairs. At present, critical thinking, placement, and proficiency testing are done as a matter of course.

## Student Publications, Broadcasting and Video Production

*The Spectator*, the official student newspaper, reports current events on campus and voices the opinions and attitudes of the student body regarding various aspects of life at the University. The campus literary society publishes a magazine, *Raison d'Être*, and conducts various events. Walsh offers video production and podcasting facilities.