

Pioneering Your Academic Adventure

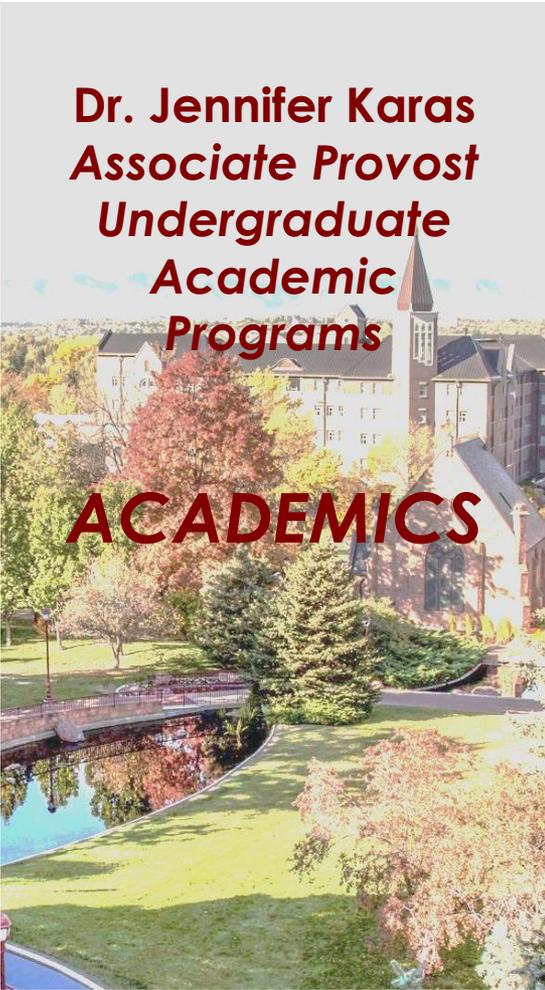


Monday, September 7, 2015



Dr. Jennifer Karas
Associate Provost
Undergraduate
Academic
Programs

ACADEMICS



❖ Components of An Academic Plan (schedule book p. 77):

Major

Minor

General Education
(Common Curriculum)

Electives

❖ Common Curriculum Matrix (schedule book p.78).



What Parents/Families can do...

Encourage students to:

- ❖ Develop their Advising **Team**:

Academic Advising is a partnership between faculty and professional advisors across all four years of study.

- ❖ Take **academic risks** by trying new classes:

Many classes count toward the Common Curriculum, others may apply as Electives.

- ❖ Find opportunities to **extend learning beyond the classroom** through student research, service learning, and internships

- ❖ Explore **opportunities** to meet their academic, social, career, and wellness goals.



Three Take-Aways

- ❖ **Everything COUNTS.** Remember that all courses count toward the degree. Just because a student takes a class that is an “elective” does not mean it doesn’t “count.”
- ❖ The academic goal this first week is for students to **understand more about the DU community**, to gain a sense of academic expectations faculty have for them, and to learn more about their curriculum (major, minor, and Common Curriculum).
- ❖ The Advising Team **offers students support and encouragement** throughout all four years of the academic journey. Ask about your students about their advising team.



Dr. Tom I. Romero, II
Assistant Provost and
Professor of Law and
History

**DIVERSITY,
EQUITY and
INCLUSIVE
EXCELLENCE**

❖ **Critical** to success of university mission to advance scholarly knowledge, **cultivate critical and creative** thought, and generate knowledge.

❖ **Challenges** each student to understand that academic achievement at the highest levels only happens if DU graduates are **prepared to succeed** in an increasingly diverse and global society.

❖ **Transforms** everyone in the university to become leaders who are responsible for creating a campus environment that engages, promotes, and **celebrates all of its diversity** in the pursuit of individual and collaborative learning in and out of the classroom.



What Parents/Families can do...

Encourage students to:

- ❖ **Own your education.** Be an active participant in learning and avoid the temptation to be passive consumer;
- ❖ **Find and nurture mentoring relationships** and a peer support community;
- ❖ **Step outside of your comfort zone** and **engage** diverse peers, professors, and staff in and outside of the classroom;
- ❖ **Use your voice** and **share** your lived experiences;
- ❖ **Follow your passion** and use it as a source of motivation for learning;
- ❖ **Trust your instincts** – draw upon their personal, political, intellectual, and spiritual ways of making sense of the world we live in.



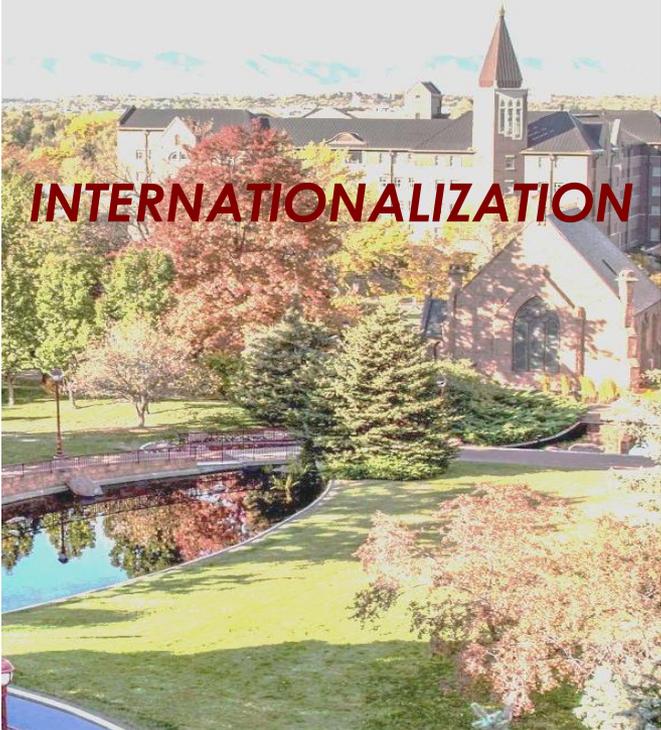
Three Take-Aways

- ❖ One of the most important metrics of a great university is its substantive commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusivity.
- ❖ It is everyone's responsibility at DU to develop and deepen his or her understanding of issues related to inequality and to strive to become leaders in finding solutions.
- ❖ Embrace awkwardness, uncomfortableness, and unfamiliarity, but be mindful that everyone has different experiences, divergent starting points, and disparate skills to learn and lead around issues of inclusive excellence.



Dr. Luc Beaudoin
Associate Provost

INTERNATIONALIZATION



- ❖ **Learning** without Borders.
- ❖ Office of **Internationalization** includes:
 - ❖ Center for World Languages and Cultures
 - ❖ English Language Center
 - ❖ International Student and Scholar Services
 - ❖ Office of International Education (Study Abroad).
- ❖ Building competencies that connect the local to the global, cultivating critical thinking, learning, and intercultural **understanding from the multiple perspectives** that serious international engagement offers.



What Parents/Families can do...

Encourage students to:

- ❖ Choose an international experience that is less about travel and more about engaging with new perspectives and ways of thinking.
- ❖ Be open to non-English language avenues for intercultural communication and development.
- ❖ Look at our in-depth partnerships and programs with institutions abroad such as our strategic partnerships and foundational programs.
- ❖ Understand that intercultural and international growth is grounded in diverse cultural interactions on campus here in Denver.
- ❖ Do their own decision-making, planning, and application for study abroad: it's part of the growth process.



Three Take-Aways

- ❖ Look at the **international experience** as being here on campus and in Denver as much as abroad.
- ❖ The goal of internationalization is understanding that **knowledge isn't compartmentalized by country or language**: seeing the world from a one-country and one-language point of view may be to miss the fundamentals of what is happening in the world.
- ❖ Even though the country of destination is a naturally important motivator, there might be programs that are a better fit and ultimately more challenging and rewarding somewhere else. Go to the **Office of International Education** to find out what's out there.



Dennis Becker Registrar

FERPA

❖ FERPA – **federal law** applying to education records (schedule book pp: 64-66).

❖ Provides students with four rights:

- The **right to inspect and review education records** held by DU.
- The right to request amendment of records that the student believes are inaccurate.
- The **right to file a complaint** with the U.S. Department of Education concerning any failure by the University to comply with FERPA.
- **Control** over disclosure of education records.

❖ The **rights are now the student's** rights.



What Parents/Families can do...

Encourage students to:

- ❖ Understand their rights and responsibilities under FERPA.
- ❖ Share information with you.



Three Take-Aways

- ❖ FERPA is a federal law.
- ❖ It is the student's responsibility to share information with their families.
- ❖ Students who would like to give permission for the University to share information if their family member calls **MUST** complete the Release of Confidential Information form in PioneerWeb.



QUESTIONS?



Share Feedback

- On the PioneerLife App, please:
- Select the session you are in from your schedule (your specific schedule track)
- Scroll to the bottom of the session description
- Click the box that says “Fill out this form”
- Fill out the short three question survey

