Undergrads Union Grads

GRADUATING ON TRACK

IMPORTANT CLASSES TO TAKE

- Review semester class guides for Financial mathematics, Applied Mathematics, and Pure Mathematics posted on the NCSU math website.
- You should register for MA 225 (Foundations of Advanced Mathematics) as soon as you complete MA 241 (Calculus II)
    - MA 225 is your first real proof writing class and will provide you with the tools necessary to succeed in more advanced courses.
- You're required to take three main advanced math classes:
    - MA 405 (Linear Algebra and Matrices)
    - MA 407 (Introduction to Modern Algebra)
    - MA 425 (Mathematical Analysis I)
- Taking other advanced classes is a great idea, but make sure you fulfill the prerequisites of any course you want to take.
    - Check that the electives you take count towards your math degree
- You'll be eligible to enter the math honors program during your sophomore or junior year by maintaining a high GPA (3.5). To graduate with honors, you'll need to take honors courses and finish a thesis.

GRADUATION

- By December (or August, if you're graduating in the winter), you need to apply for graduation in MyPack and fill out a COS Application for Degree.
    - You'll receive instructions to fill out an Application for Degree form early in the semester of your graduation.
- Remember to think about applying to jobs or graduate school about a year in advance - a lot of programs and employers have deadlines in the fall semester, and it can be hard to get references at the last minute.

GOOD PRACTICES FOR SUCCESS

- Develop a four-year plan and update it every semester.
    - Be sure to talk with your advisor about the classes you plan to take, and ask early on about how to work certain subjects into your schedule
    - Some classes are only offered in particular semesters, and there might be some flexibility in fulfilling your degree requirements
- Get to know your professors - go to office hours, introduce yourself, and don't be afraid to ask questions
    - In addition to providing a good letter of rec, professors that are familiar with you can suggest future classes and even help you get involved with research or special topics courses
- Develop good study practices, and don't hesitate to ask for help when you need it
    - If you find material challenging, try to read ahead of the class so that lectures are easy to follow. Work through plenty of practice problems, and try to make connections between the new ideas you learn
    - Try to study on a regular basis, and not just before exams or homework due dates. Also, make sure to find the best studying technique for you - forming homework groups, making flashcards, working in short bursts, or studying for long stretches
- There are many on-campus resources to help you in your classes. The tutoring center in SAS is staffed by graduate students, or you can apply for a tutor from the tutorial center in Park Shops.
- Remember that an audit or a drop is better than a fail - if you think that a class is too challenging for you, talk to the professor. You can always audit a class and try to take it again later.