



1st Year Strategic Planning Map

Theme: “Exploration”

	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester
MAXIMIZE COURSE & DEGREE PLANNING	<p>Check up! Schedule an appointment with your academic advisor by no later than September 30th.</p> <p>Review tutoring and study skill resources offered by the Campus Learning Center and the Writing Center.</p> <p>Starting to wonder about your major and if it is a fit for you? Talk to your advisor about reviewing your Spring class schedule prior to Winter Break.</p>	<p>Check up! Schedule an appointment with your academic advisor by no later than February 28th.</p> <p>Go to your professors’ “Office Hours” to discuss research interests, picking future classes in your major, and strategies for success in your degree program.</p> <p>Attend Sophomore Orientation in April – watch for more information from your advisor.</p>
GET CONNECTED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY	<p>Did you know there are over 500 student organizations at VCU? Why not try at least one? Or start your own?</p> <p>Extracurricular activities? Recreational sports, fraternities/sororities, or campus social events. Pick something, give it a try!</p> <p>Consider registering for a Spring class that has a Service Learning component.</p>	<p>Check out RamsConnect! Explore all of the ways you can engage in the VCU campus and surrounding communities through volunteerism and community service.</p> <p>Build your LinkedIn profile with Career Services.</p> <p>Job shadow someone in the RVA community who does what you are thinking about doing after graduation.</p>
BUILD CULTURAL COMPETENCE	<p>Learn about your study abroad options by visiting a study abroad fair and attending a First Advising Session in the Global Education Office.</p> <p>Review the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs website for programs, events, and resources.</p> <p>It is easy to just go to class, listen, and then leave for your next class. Talk to your classmates, listen to their experiences, engage in conversations outside of class.</p>	<p>Build a study abroad savings plan and budget with an advisor from the Global Education Office.</p> <p>Consider writing one of your class assignments about a view point different from your own.</p> <p>Ask your advisor about diversity training workshops or resources.</p>
GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE	<p>Explore “What Can I Do With This Major” to learn about employers and job titles in your field of study.</p> <p>Complete your HireVCURams profile and opt-in to industry email lists to learn about opportunities.</p> <p>Meet with a career advisor in Career Services to assess your strengths, interests, and areas of opportunity for growth.</p>	<p>Create a draft of your resume and come to drop-ins at Career Services to have it reviewed.</p> <p>Attend Career & Internship Fairs and career events throughout the year to explore your interests.</p> <p>Talk to your professors about their research interests and visit the Office of Research and Innovation website for VCU research opportunities.</p>
PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER COLLEGE	<p>Complete a “Gap Analysis” Strategic Plan with your academic or career advisor.</p> <p>Learn more about VCU’s Student Leadership and Involvement Center, which offers trainings, workshops and conferences to give you the tools to become a successful leader.</p>	<p>Conduct at least 2 informational interviews with someone in the RVA community who does what you dream of becoming when you graduate.</p> <p>Talk to your advisors about ways to make the most out of your upcoming summer – what summer jobs make sense, should you take a summer class, or what companies/organizations/agencies can you schedule meetings with to build your network?</p>