

Our Mission

The Student Academic Advising Center provides academic advising for undeclared majors, students questioning their choice of major, and for students in transition from one major to another.

We offer students assistance in:

- *Developing their educational plans*
- *Guiding them through the decision-making process for selecting a major*
- *Clarifying the relationship between educational plans and career goals*



SAAC advisers actively create an open, respectful, and supportive environment for all people. We serve students of all abilities, sexual orientations, genders, races, cultures, and socio-economic status.

SAAC Staff



Director—Dr. Angela Kellogg

Program Assistant—Julie Thiele

Academic Advisers:

Andy Held

Carol Lanphear-Cook

Laura Polum

Julie Schneider

Kami Weis

Advising Outreach Coordinator:

Becky Konietzki

Student Peer Advisor Staff

SAAC also utilizes a team of peer advisors (PAs). Students meet with PAs to learn about major and career exploration basics, including registration procedures and online major/career resources.

PAs also support many of SAAC's outreach efforts by presenting to classes and student groups and assisting with other program initiatives.

Student Academic Advising Center (SAAC)



103 Student Services Center

Office Hours:
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Contact Us:
715-346-3361
saac@uwsp.edu
www.uwsp.edu/advising



**University of Wisconsin
Stevens Point**

Academic Advising

Advising for Undeclared Students

Students who are undecided in their major choice are assigned a SAAC adviser. SAAC advisers help students:

- Understand the purpose and value of general education as part of the college experience
- Learn the “ground rules” governing university requirements, policies, and procedures
- Select courses which fulfill General Education Program requirements and complement students’ academic and personal interests
- Understand and use Degree Progress Reports and other resources to the fullest extent
- Take responsibility in the advising/decision making processes.

Major Alternatives Advising

SAAC advisers can also help students who are questioning their current choice of major or who are struggling to meet departmental academic standards. Students receive assistance identifying different academic majors, determining how completed coursework might be incorporated in other majors, and developing a credit to degree plan. Students are also referred to appropriate UWSP resources, such as Career Services and the Tutoring Learning Center.

Students can call or visit SAAC to schedule a meeting with an advisor.

Associates Degree Advising

UWSP offers a 2-year, 60 credit Associates Degree. SAAC advises students who are pursuing this degree option.

Other Services

Advising Outreach

SAAC staff members are available to present in class and speak to student groups (e.g. residence hall groups, student organizations) on a variety of topics, including exploring majors and careers, General Education Program requirements, and registration/enrollment processes. Please contact SAAC for a full list of offerings.

For faculty and staff who are new to their advising role, SAAC advisers can assist with training and information sharing. We are glad to meet with individuals or larger groups. Please contact SAAC to schedule a session.

The Academic Affairs Office also provides a list of [Academic Advising resources](#) (see link).

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA)

SAAC is the initial point of contact for students interested in earning credit based on life experiences outside the classroom. Prior Learning Assessment can take shape in the form of standardized exams, departmental exams, or faculty review of documentation/portfolio. Credit is not granted simply for the experience, but rather for the learning obtained from the experience. Initial inquiries about the process may be made to the PLA Coordinator.

The UWSP Course Catalog also has detailed information on the [PLA process](#) (see link).

Good to Know

Career Services

While Career Services and SAAC function as independent offices with their own locations, we share one director and collaborate often with one another. Career Services supports students and alumni with career planning/development, gaining relevant experience through internships and work, job search assistance, and graduate and professional school exploration.

Strengthening Academic Success Title III Grant

In September 2013 the U.S. Department of Education awarded UWSP a \$1.5 million Title III grant aimed at improving student retention and graduation. Along with Career Services and the Tutoring Learning Center, SAAC participated in the grant application and plays an ongoing role in its implementation. SAAC’s primary role is the administration of an intrusive academic advising program for undecided majors, highlighted by peer advisors and coordinated outreach to both undecided and declared majors.

