

Monday, October 19, 2009

Fall 2009

## Good For You: Changing Your Major

Your first choice of a major may not suit you as your interests develop and you discover all that college has to offer. Sometimes students will find that a different major better suits them -- particularly as they learn more about various fields and career opportunities. If you are considering a change of major, please note the steps outlined below.

### To change your major and/or minor:

1. Make an appointment with your current academic advisor. Be honest concerning your major, if you are thinking about switching, do not be embarrassed to say so. Your advisor will work with you to explore your interests and refer you to appropriate resources to learn more about the major you may be interested in.
2. Make an appointment with the departmental chair of the major you are interested in. Discuss issues and concerns you may have about admission to the major and course requirements. (Some majors do have additional GPA, course, or portfolio entrance requirements that you must satisfy before you are eligible for admission.) The departmental chair can approve

the major change and assign a new advisor for you.

3. Make an appointment with your academic advisor and contact the departmental chair of your major or contact the Registrar's Office. Written authorization from the departmental chair is not required for a minor change.
4. To change your Academic Advisor without changing your major, you will need to make an appointment with the department chair. Advisor changes are approved at the departmental level.
5. Want to explore all your options? Contact [Career Services](#) and the [Academic Success Center](#). These offices will help you identify a major that satisfies your abilities and interests. They will also provide you with contact information to faculty in the major for further exploration.

If you know you want to change your major, but are afraid to change it because you will be in school longer, don't let that stop you. You are not the only one feeling that way. Some students have changed their major a few times because their interests changed.

## Mortarboard: Registration Preparation

Can you believe that it is almost time to register for spring semester?! Neither can we! Before you can register for next semester's courses (spring 2010), you will need to meet with your Academic Advisor to discuss the upcoming semester and get your registration PIN.

### Here are four pieces of advice from a UWRF Academic Advisor:

1. Bring along your current DAR (Degree Audit Report - find yours on [eSIS](#)).
2. Come to the advising appointment with some ideas of courses that you might want to take.
3. Do not come in at the last minute (i.e., the day you register) unless instructed to do so by your advisor.
4. Be honest concerning your major, if you are thinking about switching, don't be embarrassed to say so. Your advisor will work with you to explore your interests and refer you to appropriate resources to learn more about the major you may be interested in.

The Advising Period for the spring 2010 semester begins October 26, so make your appointments NOW for a few days before your registration day! You can register for classes any time after the assigned date and time given on your home page in [eSIS](#).

At this point in the semester and during the "official advising weeks", some advisors' calendars are very full and advance appointments may be necessary. Most faculty and academic advisors will have an advising schedule posted near their office where you can sign-up for an appointment time. In some cases, email may work to set up an appointment or you may need to visit the department or college office to schedule an appointment.

For more tips on advising and registration, visit [www.uwrf.edu/fye/advising.html](http://www.uwrf.edu/fye/advising.html).

And remember, the First-Year Experience Office is here to help, so don't hesitate to contact us at [fye@uwrf.edu](mailto:fye@uwrf.edu) or call us at (715) 425-4444.

## Falcon Challenge Winner:

**Jimmy Mattsen** Weeks of Athletic passes for you and your non-UWRF friends  
Welcome (up to 4 friends)

Look for an email from the FYE Office with instructions on how to redeem your prize.

## Career Corner:

Evaluate yourself using self-assessment tools at [Career Services](#) (211 Hagestad Hall). There are also other valuable resources available!

## Hidden Gem:

Looking for a place to exercise and have fun? Play racquetball in the lower level of the Karges Center! Call (715) 425-3381 for more information.

“ Tough semesters never last but tough students do. ”

—Dr. Rosa Cintron

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## FYI from FYE

### UW-River Falls Gone “Phishing”

Many UWRF accounts were sent an email last night that looked appeared to be from the University Webmail Support Team. If you have received this email, do not respond to it. Mark it spam and then delete it. There have been a number of UW-River Falls students and staff falling victim to fraudulent online scams called “phishing.”

Phishing is the fraudulent process of attempting to acquire sensitive information such as user names and passwords by claiming to be a trusted organization (such as UWRF-ITS or the University Webmail Support Team). Phishing often occurs through email, and typically involves an ‘official-looking’ email promising dire consequences, like having your account disabled, if you do not reply or visit a web site to provide confidential information.

It is important to beware of any request to verify your Falcon Account information. These requests are not legitimate. Division of Technology Services (DoTS) will disable any account responding to such emails. Don’t get hooked! Don’t respond to requests to verify your Falcon Account. Spammers use replies to access your account and send spam. To minimize abuse of compromised accounts, a security feature is currently in place for off-campus webmail users. If an account is found to be sending spam, it will be disabled immediately without prior warning.

If you know of any students, faculty or staff who did reply to the email and now cannot access their email, eSIS account, D2L, log into computers on campus, etc., have them visit <https://faa.uwrf.edu/ActivateStart.php> to change their account information. If they are unable to do so, have them call the DoTS at (715) 425-3733. They will be able to help them reset their account.

The Univerisity (or any other email domain) will never ask you for your personal information; they already have it because you gave it to them when you signed up!

## At a Glance:

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|-----------------------|---|
| Tuesday, October 20   | Degree Audit Report (DAR) Support Session<br>(4-5 p.m., Kinnickinnic River Theater, UC)   |
| Wednesday, October 21 | Body Composition Testing (6 p.m., Grimm Hall)   |
| Thursday, October 22  | Final tuition payment is due if using the partial payment plan.<br>Session B begins.<br>To add an open Session B class through October 28, no signatures are needed. Students may drop/add Session B classes through October 28 on eSIS.<br>Intramural Volleyball Captains’ Meeting<br>(7 p.m., Kinnickinnic River Theater, UC) |
| Friday, October 23    | Falcon Spirit Day   |
| Sunday, October 25    | Intramural Volleyball begins  |

## Urinetown -- A University Theater Production

Urinetown is a comedic tale of greed, corruption, love and revolution in a Gotham-like city. When water is worth its weight in gold and the government enforces a ban on private toilets, a single malevolent company profits by charging the citizens to use public amenities until a hero arises to lead them all to freedom. Inspired by the works of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, Urinetown is an irreverently humorous satire in which no one is safe from scrutiny.

Show dates are from October 22-24, 29-31. Visit [www.uwrf.edu/csta/FORMS/Ticket%20Order%20form%2009-10.pdf](http://www.uwrf.edu/csta/FORMS/Ticket%20Order%20form%2009-10.pdf) for prices and ticket information.

## Intramural Volleyball

It’s now that time of the year to head indoors for Intramurals. Volleyball starts off the indoor season on Sunday, October 25. All of the games are held at the Knowles Indoor Complex. We offer a Men’s Competitive and Recreation League, a Women’s Competitive and Recreation League, and lastly a Co-ed Competitive and Recreation League. Team sign-ups are available online now at [sa.uwrf.edu/sa/rsf/recreation/intramurals](http://sa.uwrf.edu/sa/rsf/recreation/intramurals).

A mandatory captain’s meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22 at 7 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic River Theater in the University Center.

## January Term Courses

Registration is now open for undergraduate and graduate courses offered during December 26, 2009 through January 24, 2010. In addition to on-campus and online courses, international trips and study tours are available.

Visit the January Term web page at [www.uwrf.edu/ogs/ce/ce-index.php/ce-jterm/0/ce](http://www.uwrf.edu/ogs/ce/ce-index.php/ce-jterm/0/ce) for links to class schedules, housing availability and other useful information. Talk to your advisor for any additional questions you may have.

**This Edition of the Falcon 411 Has Been Brought to You By:**

First-Year Experience • Career Services • Division of Technology Services • University Theater • Recreation