

First Year Success Map



BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY

| | How will I make the most of this year? | How will my academic advisor help? | What other resources are available? | Semester Checklist |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| CULTIVATE Learning & Academic Excellence | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Learn about the core curriculum and other university graduation requirements.Learn about major classes and other program requirements such as GPA or exams.Utilize MyBallState, Canvas, Navigate, and Stellic often.Review all your course syllabi to find assignment info, how to contact your professor, and other important information.Get organized and create a study plan.Keep track of your own grades. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Help you learn about the advising process including both the advisor and student responsibilities.Show you how to use the course planning tool in Stellic.Create a study or academic success plan.Help you understand major and university graduation requirements.Help prepare you for important course scheduling deadlines.Help you set goals and monitor your academic success. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">University College offers resources such as success coaches to support your progress.The Office of Disability Services helps students with learning or physical differences. If you had accommodations in high school, use them in college too.The Learning Center provides tutoring, skill development and other academic services.The Writing Center delivers support with writing assignments through individual sessions, workshops, and presentations.Ball State Libraries offer a quiet study environment as well as many resources to support your coursework. | Week 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor if you need to make class schedule changes.<input type="checkbox"/> Review all your course syllabi.<input type="checkbox"/> Create a study plan and create goals for the semester. Week 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explore all of your classes in Canvas.<input type="checkbox"/> Go to a residence hall meeting. Week 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Go to a tutoring session in the Learning Center.<input type="checkbox"/> Explore and setup your personalized MyBallState page. Week 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Log in to Stellic to view your future course plans.<input type="checkbox"/> Explore University Library's study spaces and resources. Week 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Join a student club or other social organization. Week 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Visit your college's success center. Week 7: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your academic advisor to confirm your next semester class schedule. Week 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check your midterm grades and re-evaluate your study plan and semester goals. Week 9: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your academic advisor if you need to drop a class. Week 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check your time ticket so you are prepared to register as early as you can. Add a reminder to your calendar. Week 11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with a career coach, success coach, study abroad, or other campus resource you are interested in. Week 12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Register for next semester's classes. Week 13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> View the final exam schedule and plan ahead. Week 14: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all remaining assignments are submitted. Week 15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Begin studying for final exams. Week 16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well for final exams. |
| ENGAGE Locally & Globally | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meet with your academic advisor whenever you are invited but no less than once per semester.Meet with your professors during times set aside for meeting students, also known as "office hours".Consider getting involved in your residence hall and/or join a student organization.Check your email daily, deleting unnecessary emails.Visit the Learning Center early in the term to become familiar with tutoring. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Connect to your college's success center.Balance academic & other commitments.Connect you with major, professional, or social clubs or organizations.Introduce you to future study abroad opportunities.Discuss taking classes during the summer.Introduce you to Ball State alternative break options. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Check out opportunities with Recreation Services including visiting the rec center, participating in group exercise classes, or joining an intramural or club team.Ball State University Athletics sponsors 19 intercollegiate sports and other exiting events to show off your school spirit!Benny Link offers a variety of student clubs or organizations.Learn what it means to be a Cardinal and become familiar with the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. | |
| PREPARE Post-Graduation Success | <ul style="list-style-type: none">You will complete Key Careers during orientation that will help you learn which Ball State major(s) meet your career aspirations.Access the Occupational Outlook Handbook to explore career opportunities including pay, future demand, and what specific careers do.Complete Finance 101 by accessing financial wellness resources from Student Financial Services.Ensure you understand requirements for maintaining financial aid eligibility. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Help you articulate your professional goals.Introduce you to career opportunities from your major you aren't aware of.Help you examine Ball State major options that are best aligned to your future goals.Discuss minor or other credential options that align with your future career goals.Discuss the results of your KEY Careers online experience. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Office of Student Life sponsors many ways to connect socially including fraternities & sororities, student government, and student clubs.Explore opportunities for on-campus student employment to supplement your income while building translatable skills.Visit Cardinal Central to learn important information surrounding scholarships and other financial aid as well as understanding your student bill.Ball State's Basic Needs Hub offers resources for students experiencing financial hardship. Resources include food assistance, housing support, and resources for unaccompanied homeless or foster youth. | |

Sophomore Year Success Map



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| | How will I make the most of this year? | How will my academic advisor help? | What other resources are available? | Semester Checklist |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| CULTIVATE Learning & Academic Excellence | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete 50% of your coursework graduation requirements (at least 60 credit hours) by the end of the academic year.Reflect on what elements of your freshman study plans went well, and what didn't. Create a new plan accordingly.Work to complete or nearly complete the core curriculum by the end of the academic year.Declare a minor or second major if your primary major and personal goals allow. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide feedback and guidance to your study plan and goals.Provide recommendations for core curriculum courses and confirm you are set to finish or nearly finish at the end of the year.Provide guidance on how a second major or minor will affect your time to completion and other important information.Help translate academic progress and policies, including University Scholastic Standards. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Visit the undergraduate catalog to view available majors and minors.Visit the undergraduate catalog to view core curriculum requirements and course opportunities.Make an appointment with a Student Success Coach to help with creating a plan for achieving your academic and personal goals.Familiarize yourself with Academic Progress and Policies housed in the Office of the Registrar. | Week 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor if you need to make class schedule changes.<input type="checkbox"/> Review all your course syllabi.<input type="checkbox"/> Create a study plan and create goals for the semester. Week 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explore all of your classes in Canvas.<input type="checkbox"/> Go to a tutoring session in the Learning Center. Week 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explore a minor second major. Week 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Log in to Stellic to view your future course plans. Week 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your faculty mentor. Week 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explore Immersive Learning opportunities. Week 7: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your academic advisor to confirm your next semester class schedule. Week 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check your midterm grades and re-evaluate your study plan and semester goals. Week 9: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your academic advisor if you need to drop a class. Week 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check your time ticket so you are prepared to register as early as you can. Add a reminder to your calendar. Week 11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Attend an event in the Multicultural Center. Week 12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Register for next semester's classes. Week 13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> View the final exam schedule and plan ahead. Week 14: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all remaining assignments are submitted. Week 15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Begin studying for final exams. Week 16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well for final exams. |
| ENGAGE Globally & Locally | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Find a faculty mentor within your major. Meet with them at least twice throughout each semester.Take on a leadership position in a Ball State sponsored club or organization.Complete a study abroad or study away experience.Enroll in an Immersive Learning course that provides credit towards graduation while supporting the local community.Explore opportunities to be a peer wellness ambassador. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Introduce you to faculty members with similar interests whom you haven't met yet.Connect you with learning opportunities within or outside your academic college.Help you with study abroad or study away procedures and confirm how courses apply to your program of study and graduation timeline.Help you plan for your immersive learning course and demonstrate where it fits in your academic plan. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors provide opportunities for students to make scholarly or artistic contributions.Ball State's Multicultural Center provides valuable resources and learning opportunities for students from all cultural backgrounds.Ball State's Honors College offers a wide range of benefits and may be a great option.Create or join an Intramural Sports team or join a Sport Club. | |
| PREPARE Post-Graduation Success | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Log into the Cardinal Career Link to access tools for building skills and exploring career readiness opportunities available to Ball State students.Examine Graduate School or other continuing education opportunities that meet your personal and career goals.Ensure you understand any financial aid packages you have and explore how you can minimize post-graduation debt. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Share information about upcoming programs and events within the department, college, and university.Connect you with faculty or administrators who can provide guidance on career or graduate opportunities at Ball State or elsewhere.Provide information on professional organizations that fit your personal or professional goals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Visit the Counseling Center for numerous services and resources to support your mental health.Check out workshops offered by the Career Center covering a variety of topics designed to make you career-ready.Make an appointment or drop-in to see a Career Coach to ensure you are familiar with available resources and how to access them. | |

Junior Year Success Map



BALL STATE
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| | How will I make the most of this year? | How will my academic advisor help? | What other resources are available? | Semester Checklist |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| CULTIVATE Learning & Academic Excellence | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete 75% of your coursework graduation requirements (at least 90 credit hours) by the end of the academic year.Utilize the GPA calculation tool to ensure you are on track to meet your program requirements and your personal goals.Revisit your long-term goals and adjust your moderate and short-term goals accordingly.Participate in tutoring opportunities early and often. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Answer questions related to your academic plan and progress towards degree.Guide you and answer questions about the GPA calculation tool.Guide you through transferring credit to Ball State.Examine other immersive learning opportunities, classes, or seminars you may be interested in exploring. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider working in the Learning Center as a tutor or supplemental instruction leader.Visit the Entrepreneurship Center to explore academic, experience, and engagement opportunities.Consider credentialing, upskilling, and other opportunities through Lifetime Learning.Utilize the Transfer Center when transferring credit from other institutions to Ball State. | Week 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor if you need to make class schedule changes.<input type="checkbox"/> Review all your course syllabi.<input type="checkbox"/> Create a study plan and create goals for the semester. Week 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explore all of your classes in Canvas.<input type="checkbox"/> Go to a tutoring session in the Learning Center. Week 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Join a professional organization. Week 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Log in to Stellic to view your future course plans. Week 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Explore Lifetime Learning upskilling opportunities. Week 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Access the Career Ready tool.<input type="checkbox"/> Update your resume. Week 7: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your academic advisor to confirm your next semester class schedule. Week 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check your midterm grades and re-evaluate your study plan and semester goals. Week 9: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your academic advisor if you need to drop a class. Week 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check your time ticket so you are prepared to register as early as you can. Add a reminder to your calendar. Week 11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Attend a show or performance offered by the College of Fine Arts. Week 12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Register for next semester's classes.<input type="checkbox"/> Visit a financial wellness advisor. Week 13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> View the final exam schedule and plan ahead. Week 14: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Make sure all remaining assignments are submitted. Week 15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Begin studying for final exams. Week 16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well for final exams. |
| ENGAGE Globally & Locally | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in a program offered by Undergraduate Research and Creative endeavors.Attend at least 1 event per semester offered by the Multicultural Center.Attend an art show or performance offered by the College of Fine Arts.Consider sharing your experience as a Ball State student by working for Orientation or as a peer mentor.Join a professional organization related directly related to your major, minor, or future career goals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide feedback and discuss engagement opportunities and help align them to your personal and professional goals.Help complete the process for assigning study abroad or study away courses to your Ball State progress towards degree.Help you balance engagement opportunities and academic responsibilities by discussing self-and time management strategies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Student Voluntary Services can connect you with opportunities to support the Ball State and local communities.Get involved with Student Government Association by participating in meetings or running for office.Explore Outdoor Pursuit trip opportunities to find your next outdoor adventure.Familiarize yourself with the Center for Survival Support and its services.Explore resources to support alcohol, tobacco, and other drug safety and awareness. | |
| PREPARE Post-Graduation Success | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Use the Career Ready tool by learning what employers are looking for.Attend at least 1 Career Center workshop each term that supports your professional development.Utilize resources to develop a resume, cover letter, portfolio, and reference list.Visit with a Financial Wellness Advisor to prepare for post-graduation financial responsibilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Share information about upcoming professional events within the department or college.Provide guidance on any applicable graduate school entrance exams.Connect you with potential internship opportunities that meet your personal and career goals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore resources for creating positive First Impressions with potential employers.Go on a Site Visit to potential Indiana employers.Explore opportunities for funding graduate school if you are considering an advanced degree. | |

Senior Year Success Map



BALL STATE
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How will I make the most of this year?

How will my academic advisor help?

What other resources are available?

Semester Checklist

CULTIVATE

Learning & Academic
Excellence

- Review program requirements to ensure you are on track to graduate in alignment with your goals.
- Confirm your major and core grade/GPA requirements are on pace to meet graduation requirements, graduate school requirements (if applicable), and your personal and career goals.
- [Apply to graduate](#) for the term you will complete your graduation requirements.

- Confirm your academic plan is up to date and your course sequencing is meeting your graduation timeline goals.
- Discuss all graduation requirements and confirm your progress in meeting them.
- Confirm your graduation application has been submitted for the appropriate term according to your plan.
- Answer questions regarding early graduation.

- Prepare for [graduate or licensing exams](#) as appropriate through Lifetime Learning.
- [Explore Health Promotion and Advocacy outreach programs](#) to support your 9 dimensions of health.
- Check with your academic department for learning, career development, or volunteer opportunities.

Week 1:

- ☐ Meet with your advisor if you need to make class schedule changes.
- ☐ Review all your course syllabi.
- ☐ Create a study plan and create goals for the semester.

Week 2:

- ☐ Explore all of your classes in Canvas.
- ☐ Go to a tutoring session in the [Learning Center](#).

Week 3:

- ☐ Login to [Cardinals Connect](#) for professional development resources and network options.

Week 4:

- ☐ Meet with your academic advisor to confirm you are on track to graduate. Ensure you are meeting GPA and credit hour requirements.

Week 5:

- ☐ Apply to graduate.

Week 6:

- ☐ Attend a job fair or other [Career Services](#) event.

Week 7:

- ☐ Meet with your faculty mentor to discuss future graduate or employment or graduate options and networking opportunities.

Week 8:

- ☐ Check your midterm grades and re-evaluate your study plan and semester goals.

Week 9:

- ☐ Meet with your academic advisor if you need to drop a class.

Week 10:

- ☐ Apply to a graduate program or for employment.

Week 11:

- ☐ Explore loan repayment resources.

Week 12:

- ☐ Connect with the [Ball State Alumni Center](#) to see how you can remain connected to Ball State after graduation.

Week 13:

- ☐ View the final exam schedule and plan ahead.

Week 14:

- ☐ Make sure all remaining assignments are submitted.

Week 15:

- ☐ Begin studying for final exams.

Week 16:

- ☐ Get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat well for final exams.

ENGAGE

Globally & Locally

- Take a leadership role in a professional organization related to your future career goals.
- Complete an internship, shadow experience, or other form of workplace experience.
- Participate in at least 1 volunteer event in your local community.
- Research and plan to visit potential graduate school locations.
- Research and plan to visit potential employment locations.

- Direct you to potential professional organizations and help you plan for balancing your participation with your academic and personal responsibilities.
- Connect you with potential on-and-off-campus volunteering opportunities.
- Help you review potential graduate school opportunities including translating admission requirements.
- Provide tips on what to look for when exploring locations post-graduation.

- Explore opportunities for staying in good physical health with [Rec Fit](#).
- Utilize the campus [Health Center](#) for general health services, vaccination or immunizations, or reproductive health services.
- Visit the [Multicultural Center](#) to discover cultural learning and social opportunities.

PREPARE

Post-Graduation Success

- Connect with [Ball State Alumni](#) and be paired with a former Ball State student and alumni for mentoring and networking opportunities.
- Attend the fall and spring [Job Fairs](#) offered by the Career Center.
- Join [Cardinals Connect](#), a network of Ball State alumni designed to provide networking and other professional development resources.
- [Order your Ball State transcript](#) to include in your applications for graduate programs and/or employment.

- Share information about upcoming programs and events within the department, college, and university.
- Provide pre-professional resources and graduate exam materials.
- Help you identify professional organizations related to your major/profession.
- Review applications for [graduate programs](#) and/or employment.
- Ask an advisor, faculty, or mentor to write you a letter of recommendation.

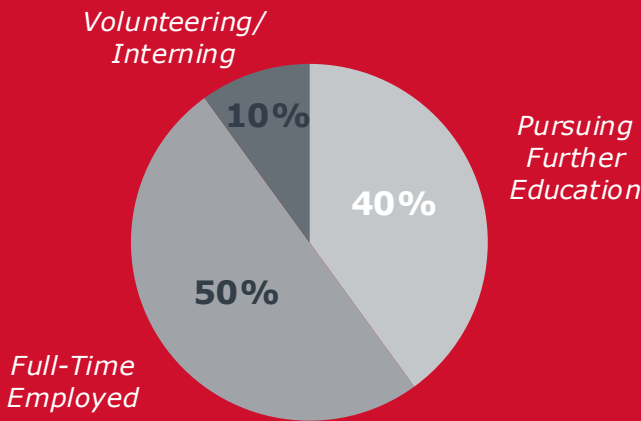
- The Career Center offers [Interview Assistance resources](#) including the opportunity to schedule a mock interview.
- Consider joining Ball State's [Alumni Association](#) after graduation.
- Explore [loan repayment resources](#) from Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Where Our Students Go:

Student Pursuits One Year After Graduation

Note the data source and cohort year

n-value (ex: n=84 graduates)



Snapshot of Further Education Pursued by Graduates

One year after graduation, our alumni are furthering their education in diverse fields:

Example: English

- PhD English Literature
- Data Science Certificate
- Master's of Education
- Juris Doctorate

Snapshot of Jobs One Year Out

Example: English

- Guest Services Supervisor
- Research Associate
- Social Media Coordinator
- Study Abroad Coordinator

Careers of Alumni 3-5 Years Out

Example: English

- K-12 Teacher
- Copy Writer
- Digital Marketing Specialist
- Lawyer

Develop Your Skills

What skills will students learn through this program?

- Understand how language and literature shapes culture and society
- Set priorities, meet deadlines, manage time Oversee and lead project management
- Present a clear and concise argument
- Engage with complex narratives
- Write, interpret, and edit materials in print and digital formats

Career Information

What kinds of careers can I pursue with this degree?

List 5-8 examples of job titles for alumni one year after graduation

Delete italics and fill in with institution-specific information

Example: English

- Publisher or Editor
- Advancement Officer
- Lawyer
- Journalist
- Librarian
- Program Coordinator
- Marketing Manager
- Researcher

Major | Career Information

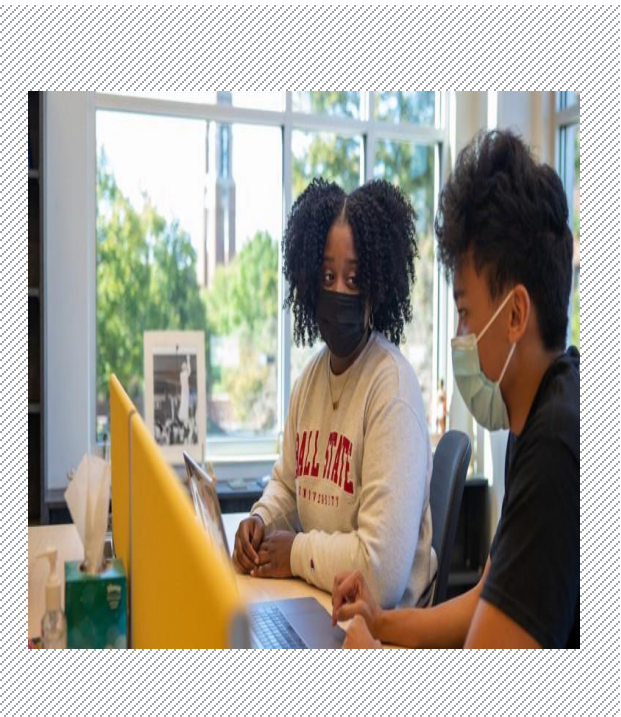


Get to know [MAJOR]

The is the place for your 'elevator pitch' on the program. Consider the following questions in creating your pitch:

- What is the unique value proposition of the program?
- What separates this program from other programs or disciplines at your institution?
- What are the goals of the program?
- What is the focus of the program?

Keep in mind the messaging is for students and parents who may know little to nothing about the disciplines and may have no interest in pursuing an academic career in this or a related discipline.



Academic Options in [Program Name]

List any concentrations, minors, specializations, or other academic options available in the program.

Example: English

- Academic Tracks
 - Creative Writing Track
 - Publishing and Editing Track
 - Secondary Education Emphasis
- Minors and Specializations
 - English Minor
 - Publishing and Editing Minor
 - Secondary Education Minor
 - Professional Writing Specialization