Creating Momentum for our Students

Program Maps as Key Ingredient for Student Success
USG Momentum Year

Making a purposeful program choice

Creating a productive Academic Mindset

Attempting the first 30 hours of a Clear Pathway

Attempting 9 hours in Academic Focus

Complete initial English and Math
Momentum Year: Clear Pathways

- Clearly navigable programs of study
- Clearly defined expectations and pathways to completion
  - Visually represented in Program Maps
    - Straightforward presentation
      - Curriculum sheets
      - Catalog pages
Program Maps: The Recipe

- Some requirements provided by USG
  - Area A ENGL and MATH completion in first 30 hours
    - Appropriate MATH pathways alignment for all programs of study
  - Three (3) focus-area related courses in first year
  - Thirty (30) credit hours in first year
  - Term-by-term course sequences
Program Maps: The Recipe

- Requirements GS added to the implementation
  - Clearly identified prerequisite and critical courses
  - Milestones and benchmarks
  - Checkpoints for on-time graduation
  - Program relevant co-curricular suggestions
  - Consistent presentation

- Exploratory program maps (1st 30 hours) for academic focus areas
Program Maps: Refining The Recipe

• Rookie mistake: Shared interpretation (not)
• Clearly articulated expectations needed
  • Created a how-to document
    • Need to be easy for a new college student to follow
    • Non-negotiable on most elements
      • Follow the recipe
      • Some standardized milestones and benchmarks
  • Non-negotiable on structure
    • Semester-by-Semester
    • Consistent look across all programs, majors, and colleges
• Collaboration between academic programs and academic advising
Program Maps

- Located on all College and Advisement Center websites
# Program Map

## BBA Accounting

### Major: Catalog Year: [Edition]

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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Fall</th>
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**Tips:**
- Meet with your Academic Advisor before your registration date so you can register on time.
- Attend the Academic Success Workshop to learn about time management, study tips, procrastination, etc.

**Tips:**
- Courses not completed in Fall or Spring can be taken over Summer (if available) to stay on track!
- Attend an Academic Success Workshop to learn about note-taking, email etiquette, professionalism, etc.

**Tips:**
- Courses not completed in Fall or Spring can be taken over Summer (if available) to stay on track!
- Meet with an Accounting professor to discuss your major and networking opportunities.

**Tips:**
- Look into Business Abroad, Internship, and other experiential learning opportunities!

**Tips:**
- Courses not completed in Fall or Spring can be taken over Summer (if available) to stay on track!
- Check DegreeWorks and confer with your advisor via email to verify you are on track to graduate.

**Tips:**
- Check DegreeWorks and confer with your advisor via email to verify you are on track to graduate.
- You can utilize the Dean's Closet in order to find business appropriate clothes to borrow for interviews!

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* A grade of "C" or better is required.

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Georgia Southern University accepts the premise that ultimately a student's program is in his or her own responsibility.

Taking any coursework that does not fit within your chosen program of study may impact your financial aid.

Not all courses are available every semester on each campus, and in the stated semester on the Map.

Students must consult with their advisor.

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2020 - 2021 Catalog
Program Maps: The Brownie

• Intended to guide students through their academic journey
  • Onboarding to graduation

• Initially designed for first-time, full-time first-year students
  • Mindful of incoming credits (DE, AP, IB, other CBE, etc.)
  • Specialized maps for Exploratory in Focus Area students

• Can – and moving forward should - be created for
  • Transfer students
  • Adult learners
  • Students who attend less than full-time
Improving the Recipe

• Must support student progress
  • Default is sometimes what’s easier for the institution/program, not student
  • Design and implement with students’ needs and goals in mind

• Iterative process

• Collaborative process

• Program maps should be an effective planning tool for
  • Students
  • Academic advisors
  • Department Chairs, program directors, faculty, and course schedulers
  • Institution
A Better Brownie

• Recreate program maps each year
  • New program map for each catalog year
  • Incorporate curriculum changes
  • Review/revise milestones, tips, benchmarks, co-curricular activities

• Program maps have to work for students
  • Can a student graduate in four (4) years with the courses as outlined on the program map each semester?
    • Pressure test the program maps
      • Both current schedule and historical scheduling practices
Final Ingredient: Incorporate Program Maps in Scheduling Practices

• Program maps and course scheduling should be linked
  • Does the program/department course schedule reflect the program map course outline?
  • Does the course schedule reflect the needs of current students?
  • Does the course schedule support student degree velocity/time to completion?
    • How do we assess?
    • How do we adjust?
Thank you!