

Tougaloo College First-Year Academic Advising Model

So, you're new here to the Eagle Queen, and you have questions about academic advising. No worries! We got you covered here. Follow along with us as we explain the academic advising model here at Tougaloo. And don't worry, if you have any additional questions, we'll cover that in the FAQs section:

1. As a first-time freshman, you will be assigned a Student Success Coach to serve as your primary academic advisor throughout your freshman year. Your assigned Student Success Coach will meet with you to map out and select courses for your incoming Fall semester, and the Spring semester as well. How do we do it? Well, we're glad you asked. Our team of Student Success Coaches use the *Curriculum Outcomes Redesigned for Engagement (CORE)/ General Education* outline to guide our course selection process for first-time freshman. This outline provides you a detailed chart of the required General Education courses needed to earn your degree from Tougaloo College. You can access this document at any time by clicking here [CORE/General Education](#)

Additionally, we wanted to highlight some very important details about the CORE/General Education curriculum:

Critical Notes:

- Some students may be advised or required to pass developmental, pre-college, non-degree credit course based on their ACT and SAT score. Credits earned from developmental courses will not count toward hours required for graduation.
- ENG 100, ENG 300 and MAT 091 are requirements for those students who demonstrate a need based on their ACT and SAT score. Except for ENG 100, credits earned from developmental courses will not count toward hours required for graduation.
- Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in all required CORE general education courses.
- Students have the option to "test out" of modern languages at the elementary levels and earn credit toward graduation.

This information can additionally be found in the Tougaloo College 2020-2022 Catalog (p.55).

Course Placement

At Tougaloo, we use assessment tools to drive our academic advising and ensure students are in the appropriate courses. These tools include the ACT, SAT, and Accuplacer. These tools are essential when determining which Math and English course a student will be enrolled in for the upcoming semester. Here's a quick breakdown of how we use assessment tools for course placement:

Mathematics Placement

What mathematics course should a Freshman or Transfer student take at Tougaloo College?

The College adopted the following cut-off mathematics ACT score (or mathematics SAT score) for the mathematics placement:

If your Mathematics ACT Interval	If your Mathematics SAT Interval	You must take
Less than 20	Less than 480	MAT 091- <i>Elementary Algebra</i>
20-23	480-550	MAT 103- <i>College Algebra II</i> or MAT 106- <i>Contemporary Mathematics</i>
24 or more	560 or more	MAT 104- <i>Trigonometry</i>
27 or more	620 or more	MAT 221- <i>Calculus I</i>

English Placement

A student with an ACT interval score below 19 will be placed in ENG 100. Students must pass ENG 100 before advancing to ENG 101.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

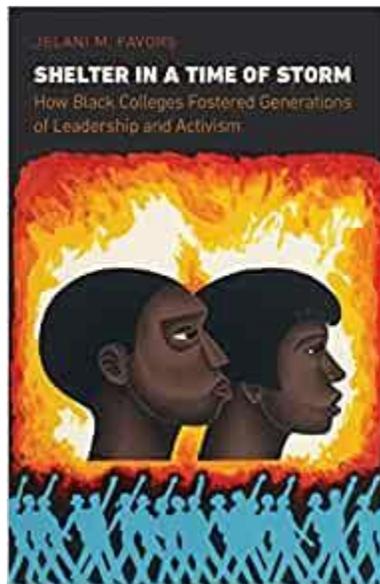
1. *When do I declare my major?*
 - a. First-Year, first-time freshman do not officially declare a major until the end of the Spring semester of their freshman year. This process is completed during our annual Rite of Passage Program. This timeline is the same for transfer students transferring in less than 30 credit hours.
 - b. For students transferring in more than 30 hours, those students will declare their major through the Office of Student Retention and will be assigned a major advisor from their respective School.
2. *Can I not take an 8 o'clock class?*
 - a. Two months ago, you had to be in class by 8AM in high school. In addition, your potential job may require you to be at work by 8AM. Thus, taking an 8AM class may not be as you think, and good practice for your future.
3. *Where can I find a copy of my schedule?*
 - a. Your course schedule can be found via *The Loo* under “Student Schedule”.
4. *How do I change my major?*
 - a. If you wish to change your major, you will need to complete a Change of Major Form [Major Change Form](#) with the assistance of your academic advisor. If you are a first-time freshman, your academic advisor will be your Student Success Coach. If you are Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, your major advisor can be found on “The Loo”.
5. *How do I calculate my Grade Point Average (GPA)?*
 - a. GPA calculations by hand can be tough. So make it easy on yourself by visiting “The Loo” where you can have these projections calculated for you. [GPA Calculator](#)
6. *I need to check my grade(s). How do I do that?*
 - a. Final grades can be viewed via “The Loo”. Simply log-in, select the Students → Schedule & Grades → Grade Report → Midterm or Final
 - b. To check grades for individual courses throughout the semester, use Canvas.
7. *When do refunds drop?*
 - a. Ahh.. you looking for that money, huh? Refund distribution timelines vary. To learn when you are eligible to receive your refund, please contact the Office of the Bursar at 601-977-7725.
8. *I think I need a tutor. Where would I find one?*
 - a. Whether you’re experiencing challenges in a course or not, it’s good practice to meet with a tutor throughout the semester. Doing so helps you stay sharp— especially down the stretch as you prepare for final exams. To set up an appointment with a tutor, use this link: [Tutorial Services](#)
9. *When is the last day to drop a class?*
 - a. Keep up with important dates throughout the academic year by using the Academic Calendar [2022-2023 Academic Calendar](#)
10. *How many hours am I allowed to take each semester?*
 - a. The maximum that each student is permitted to take is 18 credit hours per semester. Anything over 18 credit hours is considered a course overload and will require approval from the Office of Academic Affairs.
11. *How many hours should I take each semester/year?*
 - a. It is recommended that each student attempts between 15-18 credit hours per semester to earn the 124 hours required for graduation.

**Tougaloo College First-Year Seminar
Common Read**

Shelter in A Time of Storm- How Black Colleges Fostered Generations of Leadership and Activism by Jelani M. Favors- Henry E. Frye Distinguished Professor of History at North Carolina A&T State University

For the 2022-2023 academic year, the First-Year Program will adopt *Shelter in A Time of Storm- How Black Colleges Fostered Generations of Leadership and Activism* for its common read program. The purpose of the common read is to ignite conversations surrounding civic engagement, social justice, and responsibility among first-year students.

Often referred to as, “The Cradle to the Civil Rights Movement”, Tougaloo College’s history of serving as a haven and asylum for advocates of social justice is eloquently unveiled in Favor’s book. Thus, utilizing this body of work, Student Success Seminar instructors will further educate our students on the History and Legacy of the Institution, while simultaneously arousing the spirit of civic engagement and social justice.



Tougaloo College Student Success Seminar Course

Student Success Seminar 101 & 102

- History and Legacy of the Institution
- Financial Literacy
- Effective study strategies
- Civic Engagement and Social Justice

The Student Success Seminar course is a two-hour credit course that meets twice per week on Monday and Wednesday. These fifty-minute, interactive sessions assist in extending first-year orientation for First-Year students throughout their freshman year.