Course Selection Tips

Discuss the need for a “back-up” course or two in case one of the four courses chosen does not work out for whatever reason. Every year, there are a handful of first-year students who find themselves at the end of the Add/Drop period in the untenable position of needing to drop one of the original four courses while being without options for adding a fourth course at that point.

Urge the student to speak about what s/he hopes to gain from each course (just interested, taking to fulfill a requirement, etc.). Based on the degree audit, the courses being considered, and any applicable placement exam results, raise questions as appropriate about how student expects to complete foreign language.

Please refer to the departmental entries of the advising handbook, the Catalog or the appropriate department chair for guidance as to suggested courses for those considering a major in a particular discipline. You may also help the student make contact with department chairs or a course instructor in this regard, for, it is never too early to get students in the habit of dealing directly with faculty.