

CASA First-Year Family Newsletter

August/September 2023 Issue



Welcome to the CASA First-Year Family Newsletter! This opt-in newsletter will be sent out three times per semester to help keep parents, families, and guardians up-to-date on academic advising for the first-year student. We will feature different advisor profiles, academic services, tips to support your student, programs, and important dates each month.

Important Dates

- Last day to ADD a course - August 28th
 - Labor Day holiday (campus closed) - September 4th
 - Last day to DROP a course - September 6th
 - Term bill due date - September 7th
 - Career Day - September 12th and 13th (Click [HERE](#) for more information on the Career Center)
 - Click [HERE](#) to see the full academic calendar online
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Advisor Highlight: Rickey Ortiz

Rickey Advises first-year students with last names A-D



About Rickey: I was born and raised in Pueblo, Colorado. I am proud to say that I am a Colorado native. My first job in higher education was in the financial aid office as a work-study at UCCS. That is where I fell in love with working on a college campus. I enjoy welcoming first year students to college and getting to know their personal, professional and academic goals. I am passionate about helping students adapt to the college lifestyle.

Advice from Rickey: the time in college goes fast, so I encourage you to get involved as much as possible. I challenge you to try to make the most out of every opportunity that is provided to you here at Mines. I am always happy to help connect you to our campus!



Student Staff Highlight:

Janeth Garcia-Tarango

CASA Lead Peer Advisor

About Janeth: Colorado native with Mexican descendancy. I am a junior in Chemistry at Mines. I love the picturesque mountains during a sunset, and I adore all dogs.

Advice from Janeth: As a first-generation student, I am aware of the importance of family during the transition of a college journey. Communication between a family is key and a supportive common ground for all members will help ease that process. Never be afraid to ask for help, regardless of the situation. Advocating for oneself is a great habit to build as it will help students flourish in a new environment. Find a safe space that allows students to be their authentic selves and have fun with this exciting change!

Tips and Tricks to Help Your Student

- Time Management is a needed skill and one that works best by getting into good habits early in the semester. Having a tool to help students understand how they spend their time as well as planning on what needs to be done can help them adjust to changes in anything from homework assignments to work schedules. CASA has free planners that students can pick up at our office anytime! Electronic options like Google Calendars can also help students stay on top of everything.
- CASA offers great online resources for time management, study skills, and academic wellness. Click [HERE](#) for a full list of resources.
- Major exploration is a big part of being a first-year student. If your student does not know what they want to major in yet, that's ok! There are many resources to help students explore. Some places to start are:
 - The Mines Catalog has the full degree listings, course descriptions, and university policies. Click [HERE](#) for the online catalog.
 - Departmental websites provide great overviews, degree plans, faculty highlights, and more. Click [HERE](#) for a full list of departments.
 - The Career Center has great information on different STEM careers, salary outcomes, and industries that recruit here at Mines. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
 - CASA will host the Major Exploration Fair in Spring 2024! Stay tuned for more details.
- All first-year students are enrolled in our advising Canvas course. Canvas will have information on degree plans, registration, academic policies, minors, and more.

Academic Support: Tutoring



CASA provides no-cost tutoring to all undergraduate students to support all core classes and multiple upper-level courses. Our tutors are highly trained sophomore, junior, and senior students that are dedicated to helping students through those academic challenges. Tutoring is a walk-in service and is available in-person and online.

<https://www.mines.edu/casa/tutoring/>

Check out these programs!

Mining Engineering

Mining Engineering is a broad profession, which embraces all required activities to facilitate the recovery of valuable minerals and products from the earth's crust for the benefit of humanity. It is one of the oldest engineering professions, which continues to grow in importance. It has been said, "If it was not grown in the field or fished out of the water, then it must have been mined."

<https://mining.mines.edu/>



Geological Engineering

Our faculty, staff, and students work in a number of fundamental and applied areas important to earth, energy, and environment that include mineral and energy resources, underground construction and tunneling, geological hazards, and geochemistry, as well as surface and ground water resources.

<https://geology.mines.edu/>

Geophysical Engineering

Geophysics is the study and exploration of the earth's interior through physical measurements collected at the earth's surface, in boreholes, and from aircraft and satellites. Using a combination of math, physics, geology, chemistry, hydrology, and computer science, a geophysical engineer analyzes these measurements to infer properties and processes within the earth's complex interior.

<https://geophysics.mines.edu/>



Petroleum Engineering

The primary objectives of petroleum engineering are the safe and environmentally sound exploration, evaluation, development, and recovery of oil, gas, geothermal, and other fluids in the earth. Skills in this branch of engineering are needed to meet the world's ever-increasing demand for hydrocarbon fuel, thermal energy, and waste and pollution management.

<https://petroleum.mines.edu/>

FERPA - Family Educational Rights to Privacy Act of 1974

The Family Educational Rights to Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records, affording them certain rights with respect to those records. FERPA gives students who attend Mines the right to inspect and review their own education records. Furthermore, students have other rights, including the right to request amendment of records and to control the disclosure of personally identifiable information from those records.

<https://www.mines.edu/compliance/ferpa/>

Contact CASA

casa@mines.edu | 303-384-2600

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