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**

- Spring 2024 Classes End - May 1st
- Review Day - May 2nd
- Final Exams - May 3rd-4th & 6th-8th
- Final Grades Available on Transcript - May 16th
- 14-Week Summer Session - May 13th-August 16th
- FIRST 6-Week Summer Session - May 13th-June 21st
- SECOND 6-Week Summer Session - June 24th-August 2nd
- 8-Week Summer Session - June 24th-August 16th
- Click [HERE](#) to see the full academic calendar online

**End of Year Information**

- First-Year students can now formally declare their major! All first-year students have a major of interest when they entered Mines, but still must formally declare their major to move on to their major specific advisor.
- Is your student not ready to declare? No problem! The first-year advisors will continue to work with them until they are ready.
- Mines offers summer classes! Summer classes can be a great time to get caught up, get ahead, or lighten a semester load. Student can see summer class offerings in Trailhead.
- CASA Pre-Finals Workshop is Thursday, May 2nd! From 11am-3pm CASA tutors will be on hand to help with those last minute study questions before finals. Snacks and free chair massages too!
- CASA offers great online resources for time management, study skills, and academic wellness. Click [HERE](#) for the full list of resources.
- 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: Pre-Finals Workshop

The CASA Pre-Finals Workshop is held on Thursday, May 2nd, which is Review Day before finals. CASA tutors will be on hand to help with those last minute study questions and CASA will have snacks and free chair massages for students to enjoy and relax. Pre-Finals Workshop will be held from 11am-3pm in Aspen Hall.

Check out these programs!

Minors and ASI’s
Established Minor programs and Areas of Special Interest (ASI) are offered by undergraduate degree-granting departments and the Military Science Department. Minors are a minimum of 18 additional credit hours and ASI’s are a minimum of 12 additional credit hours. These are a great way to gain additional knowledge in another topic of choice https://catalog.mines.edu/undergraduate/undergraduateinformation/minorasi/

University Honors and Scholars
University Honors and Scholars programs foster an experiential Mines+ education. At Mines, our brand of honors and scholars experiences are student-centered, inclusive communities not confined by GPA or having had access to accelerated courses in high school. Here, we apply interdisciplinary education and an inherent curiosity to explore the world in order to cultivate a signature student experience within and beyond the traditional boundaries of the classroom https://www.mines.edu/honors/
Undergraduate Research

The office of Undergraduate Research Scholars provides students with a wide array of opportunities to conduct cutting-edge research led by Mines faculty mentors. Research opportunities include fellowships, research assistantships, and even obtaining credit for research. Programs such as First-Year Innovation & Research Scholars Training (FIRST) and Mines Undergraduate Research Fellowship (MURF) can help students get a head start in their field of interest.

https://www.mines.edu/undergraduate-research/

Mines Combined Program

Complete a bachelor’s degree and a master’s non-thesis degree in five years. This is accomplished by completing 60 hours of coursework during the first several years at Mines. After that, students enroll in bachelor’s and master’s-level courses and apply to the graduate program of interest. At the end of the fourth year, students graduate with a bachelor’s degree and complete their graduate-level coursework in the fifth year, earning a master’s non-thesis degree.

https://www.mines.edu/graduate-admissions/combined-program/

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