Welcome to SFU’s Faculty of Science!

As your professional advisor, I am here to help you with your academic needs whether you are first or fourth year. I hope you come and see me often.

My philosophy of assistance and teaching stems from my belief in students’ potential to develop academically and personally during your time at SFU.

One of my goals is to help you discover your interests, skills, and abilities and apply them to your academic course selection and career development. If you don’t know what road to take, I’ll help you decipher your map and together we’ll plan a route that fulfills your newfound wants and needs.

I’m waiting for your knock on my door! (Or call my phone, email...)  
~ Nadia Williams

ADVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist you in exploring your interests, skills & abilities in order to best decide on an academic plan that suits you
- Maintain confidentiality according to the Canadian Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act
- Be accessible for questions & discussion during the regular work week via email, phone, in person
- Encourage you to fulfill your potential
- Aide in the development of decision making skills, goal setting, & personal responsibility
- Provide you with information & tools necessary to discuss & decide upon academic & extra/co-curricular programs that best suit your skills & goals
- Respect & listen to your decisions, values, & perspectives
- Provide information on curriculum, policies, and procedures

Academic advising can help undecided students as well as decided students. While an advisor will advise students through various methods it is ultimately the student’s responsibility for his or her choices and whether or not to act on advice given.
ADVISEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Make, attend, & be prepared for at least one advising appointment per term
- Work with your advisor to develop personal, academic, & career goals, & a plan to aide in achieving those goals
- Understand requirements for bachelor degrees in the program(s) of your choice
- Remain responsive in communication with your advisor
- Approach your classes, extra-curricular, & co-curricular activities with an open mind in regards to learning new things & meeting new people
- Abide by SFU policies & procedures
- Maintain responsibility for yourself, your decisions, & your actions
- Commit to self-exploration as it pertains to your educational & vocational plans, reaching your full potential as a student of SFU

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through active, continued participation in academic advising, students can expect to:

- Have an understanding of university policies and procedures and the role they play in a student’s academic career
- Learn how to develop an educational plan in order to progress toward graduation
- Explore different majors and career options via participation in various activities
- Learn decision-making skills in relation to educational, personal, and career goals
- Learn to value the knowledge from breadth and required courses and learn to become life-long learners
- Explore and participate in extra and co-curricular activities to enhance their university experience
- Learn how to evaluate own progress
- Practice critical thinking skills by accessing and interpreting information, responding and adapting to changing situations, making complex decisions, solving problems, and evaluating actions

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISING SESSION

- Give yourself permission to spend time talking to your advisor & be open-minded about major choices, career paths, breadth courses, parallel plans, co-curricular activities etc.
- Contact your advisor a few weeks before your registration date for an appointment to avoid a wait during busy times
- Arrive on time for your appointment. If you are going to be late or need to cancel, it is understandable, communicate & tell your advisor as soon as possible
- When given exploratory assignments, follow-up with your advisor, bring your results with you, & be prepared to share your thoughts on the experience
- Write down questions you have beforehand & bring them with you
- Reflect on what you are learning about yourself in classes—what you enjoy, what you do not like, ease & difficulty

Your Academic Advisor is:

Nadia Williams
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scadv@sfu.ca

Room 2910, Surrey
(Tuesdays–Fridays)
TASC2 9903, Burnaby
(Mondays)