*Veteran and Military Services*

**Term Approval Form**

* Students need to fill out **Term Approval Form (TAF)** and have at least **12 “approved”** **credit hours** for their major to receive full VA Benefits.
* Not all courses that are approved will necessarily be degree applicable.
* If a course is not required for the degree, but it is prerequisite or unlocks courses that are required for the degree, this would be included in the minimum 12 approved hours that are needed. (E.g. DS courses, EDHE courses, Chem 101 to unlock Chem 105, etc.)
* For majors that require a minor, courses that are specific to the minor will be counted in the approved hours. If a minor is not required for the major, the courses would not be part of the approved hours.
* The VA will not cover class fees for a course that is not part of the approved hours.
* “Rounding Out” – only in the last semester can students take whatever course they want for electives if these are the only remaining credits they need for their degree

**Filling out the TAF**

* Preferred that the documents are typed rather than hand written.
* Encourage notes on this document.
* Make sure on the Yes/No questions that they are circled and initialed by the advisor

**Veteran Resources**

* Veterans Resource Center
* Bottom floor of Yerby Conference Center
* Computers, coffee, place to group study
* There is a Health Center representative for veterans at on campus Student Health Center rather than having to travel to local VA Health Center.
* Student Veterans Association- get involved and meet other Veteran students with similar backgrounds
  + https://vms.olemiss.edu/student-veteran-organization/

**Tutoring Eligibility**

* VA students eligible for tutoring paid by veterans?
* Must fill out special form for reimbursement through VA.

*International Advising*

**Role of Advisors**

* Advisors are essential to the success of international/domestic students
* Students have many different types of programs: semester abroad, faculty led programs, service learning, internships, research opportunities, etc.
* Key Responsibilities
* Listen: location, interests, courses, goals
* Define: programs, policies, deadlines
* Assist: website, applications, contacts on campus
* Review: costs, deadlines, goals, expectations
* Encourage!

**Interacting with International Students**

* Be mindful of slang as this can be confusing for some international students
* If a student is struggling to comprehend, you can change speaking speed to help students better understand – no need to talk louder
* Goes without saying but treat these students with the same respect as domestic students

**Forms**

* Faculty (Orange) and Exchange (Blue) forms have been combined into one form (Course Approval form in attached powerpoint)
* All “approved” (department preferred) programs are on the Study Abroad website
* Some programs that are not approved may still be accepted, however some of these are not recommended by the department (contact Study Abroad for questions about non-approved programs)
* Course Approval Form – hard copy will be blue, electronic form also available (contact Study Abroad for access)
* If specific departments want to create their own articulation agreement – Study Abroad would be interested in looking at that.

**Preparing Students to Study Abroad**

* *Most* UM Scholarships apply to study abroad programs
  + It is important for a student to see both financial aid and an academic advisor before studying abroad
* If students are planning to study abroad, encourage students to save electives in case courses are not part of program of study
* Always encourage study abroad – looking beyond Oxford
* For students with questions about different programs, first step is looking at Study Abroad website.
* Also have **preliminary advising** two days per week. Helps students understand the basics.
* This semester 12pm & 4pm - Monday & Tuesday in Study Abroad Office, 3rd floor Martindale

**Study Abroad Fairs & Contact Info**

* Faculty led programs will be at the Study Abroad Fair 2/8/2018
* Longer Term programs will be the following week.
* Contact info on attached powerpoint/handouts/Ole Miss Website
* Questions about VISA requirements – Jean Robinson is the best contact