Smart Planner Introduction

Smart Planner is an interactive online eAdvising tool that functions in PeopleSoft to help students be more proactive with their course planning. The result is a more efficient and engaging experience that gives students a visual presentation of their current academic status and their future path. The intent is to aid students in completing their degree quicker and more effectively while also providing the campus with course need information for enrollment planning. For more information of the Smart Planner, please review our How-To Guides. (coming soon)

Success Visualized

Progress towards completion of the student’s academic goals is presented in a simple graphical representation on the landing page in the planner.

Requirements for majors, and general education are displayed in a recommended sequence on one page using real time information regarding the individual student’s progression. Test Credit, Transfer Credit, Remediation, and courses taken at Cal State Maritime and approved course substitutions are all taken into account in addition to course prerequisites and Fall or Spring only course offerings, providing the students with a custom recommendation for success.

Students can further customize their recommendation by increasing or decreasing the number of units they plan to take in a semester, and add summer session courses. When the number of units planned is altered or session terms added, the recommendation will be updated to provide the student with a new customized recommendation.

Comprehensive Planning
Smart Planner allows for the selection of courses to meet individual requirements where a range of courses are available, such as electives or general education. It includes an interactive filter to allow students and advisors to select courses that best fit their degree requirements. As courses are selected or planned, the filters for courses already planned are removed to help avoid duplicating requirements. Note: only NEEDED courses from the student’s Academic Requirements Report (CAAR), or the red boxes, are displayed in the Degree Planner.

Benefits to the Campus

Once the majority of students are using Smart Planner, student selections can be used to predict course demand, allowing Cal Maritime to make more informed resource management decisions. Other benefits include providing students with prescriptive advising online 24/7 and providing comprehensive advising appointments vs. course selection appointments.

Ease of use

Smart Planner provides drag and drop ease of use for a more user friendly experience in further customizing the student’s path to degree completion. The drag and drop feature obeys programmed prerequisites and fall/spring only course offerings to ensure a student’s recommended roadmap is feasible.
Smart Planner also works with the Schedule Planner tool so that students can move the next term’s suggested courses to the Schedule Planner. Students then use the Schedule Planner to find the class schedule that works around their personal lives (i.e. work, athletic practice, lunch, study time, etc.)

Smart Planner vs. Academic Requirements Report (CAAR)

Smart Planner should not be viewed as a replacement for the Academic Requirements Report (ARR). Some degree requirements cannot be built into a sequence, such as GPA and Residency requirements. Students should continue to view their ARR for a more comprehensive view of their progress at Cal State Maritime. For convenience, the Smart Planner contains a link to the ARR with planned courses which are represented with a blue star to help students determine if they are planning appropriately for those requirements that cannot be placed into a Smart Planner sequence.