Dear NAME,

Welcome to the Department of Entomology – I’m so glad you will be joining us!

On Monday May 10, 2021 you received communication from the University’s Student Success Team on how to begin and complete your VSTAR (*Virtual Summer Transition, Advising, and Registration)* modules.

Once you have read through all the VSTAR sections, you’ll fill out an electronic form. This serves as your certificate of VSTAR completion or SIF (student information form). By completing this form, you will alert your college that you are ready to meet with your academic advisor.

You will then receive an email from me (to your Purdue account) requesting that you schedule your academic advising appointment (virtual appointment) using the Boilerconnect program. **Advising appointments will take place June 7th - June 18th**. During your academic advising appointment, we will develop your fall schedule.

Here is a link to FAQs for VSTAR – should you have questions <https://www.purdue.edu/orientation/vstar/faq.html>

Here is a link to important information about Insect Biology:

<https://ag.purdue.edu/entm/Pages/vstar.aspx>

**In preparation of your advising appointment, please send me email with details regarding the below items ASAP:**

1. You are currently enrolled in the **Insect Biology Program**. If this is **NOT** correct, let me know via email (apendle@purdue.edu) right away! Please let me know if you intend on having the Forensic Entomology concentration ASAP!
2. **I need to know about any college credits earned before your first semester at Purdue.** Think about AP courses, dual credit course, or any other college courses you have taken. **If you have not had the credits sent to Purdue yet, please send them to** **admissions@purdue.edu** **ASAP!** Some of these courses may exempt you from needing to take a required course at Purdue. I can’t just go by your word; Purdue must have the official grade/transcript on record and it takes a few weeks for them to be processed.
3. In order to register for a Math course, you will need to either have a high enough SAT or ACT Math score for your required course (typically MA 16010) or you must complete the ALEKS test prior to your advising appointment so we can place you in the correct Math course. Please see the following link with the guidelines and, if needed take the ALEKS placement exam before your advising appointment.

<https://www.math.purdue.edu/academic/undergrad/placement>

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course** | **Description** | **SAT Math** | **ACT Math** | **ALEKS** |
| MA 15800 | Precalculus | 570 | 24 | 60 |
| MA 16010 | Applied Calculus I | 620 | 26 | 75 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

1. Check your Purdue email **every day** for important information.
2. Let me know if you are in a **Learning community, Honors Program, Dean’s Scholars, Purdue Promise, Band or an Athletic Team.**
3. Let me know if you have a Disability and would like to meet with someone from the Disability Resource Center.
4. Check your login to your myPurdue page. If you have problems with the login process, please contact information Technology at Purdue (ITAP) at (765) 494-4000.

**NOTE**: Your record has outstanding holds that will prevent your Fall 2021 registration from being processed. To ensure your registration is not impacted, just be sure to resolve the holds before your advising appointment. You can log into your myPurdue account to take care of these items now. You can find these holds under the link “Do I have any holds” on the registration page of your myPurdue account.

* ***Action needed – Affirmance of Financial Obligations:***

Review and update your annual agreement by visiting the **Bills & Payments** page via [mypurdue.purdue.edu](https://wl.mypurdue.purdue.edu/) and click the link “*Affirmance of Financial Obligations*” found within the **Student Account** section.  Doing so will automatically release the hold on your account.

* ***Action needed – Emergency Contact:***

Add or validate an existing emergency contact by visiting the **Academics** page via [mypurdue.purdue.edu](https://wl.mypurdue.purdue.edu/) and click the link “*Emergency Contacts*” found within the **Personal Information** section.  Doing so will automatically release the hold on your account.  Lack of compliance will result in your inability to register for classes, including the ability to drop or add courses.  If an emergency contact exists, you must click the Verify/Submit Changes button at the bottom of the page even if there are no changes made.  This will trigger the automatic release of the hold.

You will receive an email from me regarding scheduling your online advising appointment once your VSTAR experience is complete. Advising appointments are intended to be between the student and advisor only. Parents – feel free to email me any questions you might have!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns!

I look forward to receiving an email from you soon with the above mentioned details and seeing you soon for our advising meeting.

Amanda Wilson

IBIO Academic Advisor

apendle@purdue.edu