

Selecting a Sophomore Adviser FAQs

1. Who is eligible to be a sophomore adviser?
Sophomore advisers may only be faculty members or assistant or associate deans of Yale College.
2. Who would be a good choice as a sophomore adviser?
If you are planning to major in a program in the sciences, engineering, or mathematics, your sophomore adviser will be the [Director of Undergraduate Studies](#) in your potential major or the department's designated representative.

If you are planning to major in a non-STEM field, there are several criteria you might consider when selecting your sophomore adviser:

- a shared academic interest or an affiliation with a department that you are considering for your major
- a course or a subject matter taught by a faculty member that appealed to you
- a successful advising relationship with your freshman faculty adviser that you would like to continue into next year

DUSes and designated departmental representatives are also especially valuable as sophomore advisers.

3. Where do I find the Sophomore Year Adviser form?
Click [here](#) or go to <http://sophomore.yalecollege.yale.edu/selecting-adviser>
4. What is the deadline for turning in my sophomore adviser form?
Wednesday, April 19, 2017, by 5:00 p.m.
5. To whom do I turn it in?
Your residential college dean's office.
6. Who needs to sign my sophomore adviser form?
Your sophomore adviser (-to-be) and you.

7. I want Prof. X to be my sophomore adviser but she's on leave next spring. May she still be my sophomore adviser?

No. In order to be eligible, your sophomore adviser must be in residence at Yale during both fall and spring terms. However, if there is a compelling reason to select an adviser who will be away for one term, and if you obtain the approval of your residential college dean, it may be possible to choose an adviser who will be off campus for either the fall or the spring term.

Students **may not** under any circumstances choose as a sophomore adviser a faculty member or dean who will be off campus for both the fall and spring terms.

8. I want Prof. Y to be my sophomore adviser, but he's a visiting/adjunct professor and won't be teaching in the fall [or in the spring]. May he still be my sophomore adviser?

No. Unless Prof. Y has a Yale appointment for both terms, he may not serve as a sophomore adviser.

9. I'm thinking of a double major. One of the majors is in the STEM area? Who should be my sophomore adviser?

Given the sequential nature of most STEM majors and the greater need for accurate advice, it is preferable for you to choose your sophomore adviser from the STEM major. In most cases, that adviser will be the DUS.

You are encouraged, however, to treat the DUS of your "other" major as an unofficial adviser and consult often with him or her about the requirements of that major.

10. I'm thinking of a double major (neither in the STEM area). Who should be my sophomore adviser?

You may choose a faculty member or DUS from either major (or a Yale College dean). You are encouraged, however, to treat the DUS of your "other" major as an unofficial adviser and consult often with him or her about the requirements of that major.

11. I'm thinking of majoring in MCDB. Does the DUS become my sophomore adviser?

If you would like your sophomore adviser to be from MCDB, contact the department's undergraduate registrar, [Crystal Adamchek](#). The registrar serves as the point of first contact for students seeking advisers and will recommend appropriate faculty members.

12. I still have questions about choosing my sophomore adviser. To whom should I turn for answers? Your residential college dean will be able to answer your questions. You are also welcome to send questions to [Dean Risa Sodi](#), Yale College Director of Academic Advising.