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 22, 2015, 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’ll be on leave next spring. May she still be my sophomore adviser?
It is preferable to choose a sophomore adviser who will be on campus throughout the academic year. However, if there is a compelling reason to select an adviser who will be away for one term, and provided that said adviser agrees to be available through campus visits campus, Skype,
or email, it may be acceptable to choose an adviser who will be off
campus for either the fall or the spring term.
Students may not 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?
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 Dr. Risa Sodi, Yale College Director
of Academic Advising.