

Self-Assessment Essay

Instructions for New Students

All new Sweet Briar students must write a self-assessment essay during the Orientation period. This is an opportunity to think about your plans for college and for your life after college, and to share your thoughts with your adviser. This essay is a requirement in order to register for classes.

IMPORTANT!

The REGISTRAR'S OFFICE will supply advisors with essay cards which advisors MUST sign and students MUST return to the REGISTRAR'S OFFICE (third floor, Prothro Hall) by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24, 2011.

Self-Assessment Essay Assignment

The essay should be about 500 words in length, and may be handwritten. It should be turned in to your adviser during your scheduled appointment. The essay serves two purposes: 1) it will give you a record of "where you are now," from which you will be able to gauge your progress in the years to come and 2) it will help your adviser get to know you, so that the two of you can make the best use of your time together. This essay is neither graded nor corrected, and it remains part of your advising folder, which will be seen by your first-year adviser and later your major adviser. Most importantly, please realize that we are not asking for a college admissions type of essay; rather, we are looking for a thoughtful and personal statement that reflects your current state of mind.

In your essay, you should describe how you see yourself as you begin this year of college. You should try to include the following:

- ❖ What interests do you think you would like to pursue at Sweet Briar both inside and outside of class?
- ❖ What are your major strengths as a student? What are your major weaknesses? Are you better at some subjects than others?
- ❖ How would you like to develop during your four years at Sweet Briar? Do you have an image of the person you would like to become?
- ❖ What is your biggest fear beginning college? What is your biggest hope?

OVER- IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE OF THIS SHEET