

# ACADEMIC ADVISING NEWSLETTER

*For new RIT Dubai students - August 2020 - 1*

## LET'S MEET!

Enrollment in classes is underway and we've enjoyed meeting many of you (in-person or virtually) already!! For the rest of you, please beat the rush and complete the below ASAP so we can help you choose your courses for the Fall! The earlier you do this, the more options you will have.

### TO-DO List:

1. Submit all your **Admissions documents**
2. Submit your **TOEFL/IELTS/EMSAT score**.
3. Register for your **placement test(s)** [here](#). (Use these [guides](#) to help you prepare).
4. Go through the **Advising and Academics at RIT Dubai presentation** in this email.
5. Make your **advising appointment** (in-person or by Zoom) when you're called!

Let ' s  
meet  
soon !

## ONLINE/INPERSON?

In light of the current pandemic, the majority of RIT Dubai courses will be held **online** this semester. But even online session **will have specific meeting times**, where you will need to sign on to and interact through the Zoom video-conferencing platform. **If you are not familiar with Zoom, please click the icon for video instructions:**

(you will need your RIT login)



That being said, **some engineering classes/labs will be meeting in person**. Each class has chosen its own model, so you need to pay attention to the specific instructions for your class(es). For example a class may:

- meet fully in-person for every session
- meet once a week online and once a week in-person
- meet online for most of the semester, but have 1 or several weeks in person

Anything that is not specified in your schedule will be made more clear by your instructor once classes start.



# 2 IMPORTANT SITES



At RIT Dubai, you will be using 2 online systems to manage your information:

- 1) **Student Information System (SIS)**
- 2) **myCourses**

**SIS** ([sis.rit.edu](http://sis.rit.edu)) is a platform that houses your official information and records, including:

- your academic, biographical, and contact info
- your Class and Exam schedules
- your Final Grades and GPA
- your Course History

It is also where you will search for and enroll in courses.

**myCourses** ([mycourses.rit.edu](http://mycourses.rit.edu)) is an interactive tool for instructors and students to be able to post and access course materials. With most courses being online, you will use myCourses extensively to:

- find your course syllabus
- contact and even chat with your instructor and classmates
- read posted articles and readings
- join online discussions
- submit assignments

Please watch this [video](#) (use your RIT login) to get familiar with myCourses before the semester starts!

## ADD/DROP WEEK

The **first week of every semester** is called "Add/Drop Week." During this time, you are **free to add and drop classes**, change sections, and even visit courses to finalize your schedule. There will be no permanent record of changes you make and you will not be charged for courses dropped. **So make sure to raise any issues about your schedule with your advisor before Add/Drop ends on Sept. 6th!**

**After Sept 6th**, if you need to drop a course, it is considered a "**Withdrawal**," which means:

- the course remains on your permanent transcript
- you will receive a grade of "W" (this does not affect your GPA, but does not look great . . . )
- you will be charged for the course if there are any associated fees

