



The following is a sampling of comments that students submitted in HON 100 with regards to the four year planning document:

“I learned an incredible amount of information by completing my academic planning document. Without completing this document, I would never have been able to schedule all of my courses in a timely fashion. Before meeting with Ken Rumsey, I had absolutely no idea which degree I should pursue or what the degree requirements were. Mr. Rumsey helped me tremendously by recommending a degree plan, which corresponded with my strengths and interests. He also helped me to make sure that I had every requirement filled and that I had placed my classes in the correct chronological order.”

“I would definitely recommend this exercise to next year’s incoming freshman. This has helped me profoundly. It is very beneficial and relaxing to be able to know every class you’ll ever take here at CMU. I especially enjoyed being able to meet with advisors like Ken Rumsey, Dr. Scheide, and Dr. Ketty. They helped me pick my classes, and Mr. Rumsey even helped me decide on a major.”

“I would definitely recommend this exercise for next year’s freshman class. This year, only the honor students completed a four-year plan. However, I think it would be extremely beneficial for all students to plan their four years at CMU. This exercise helps make scheduling classes much easier. Also, it allows students to plan ahead and take their required classes in a timely fashion. This way, they will be able to complete all of their requirements in four years with out taking extra unnecessary courses.”

“This exercise was the best part of this class. I think it was so great, that I would recommend it to all freshmen. This project really caused me to look at what I wanted to do in my four years, and evaluate my original ideas of what I wanted to do with my life. This plan forced me to look further into the classes I was going to have to take to graduate from CMU with the degree I wanted. This was something I had already looked into a little on my own, but I wouldn’t have completely figured out what I needed to every last detail and which classes I needed four years down the road. Doing this assignment, I am forced to space my classes out and not bog myself down (which is something I tend to do). For others, it will keep them form procrastination, and force them to look ahead for what they need. This is a very good assignment, and could be completed for a freshman class either one or two class times early in the semester.”

“The four-year plan is the most important, helpful assignment I have done this semester. I recommend it to next year’s freshman honors, actually even freshman who are not in the honors program. The meeting I had with Ken was the most beneficial to me.”

“I would definitely recommend this exercise for next year’s freshman. Once it is finished it relieves so much anxiety and future frustration because you have your entire college career mapped out, I noticed while scheduling for the spring semester that was looking at my four year plan and picking the classes I wanted. For the most part, when I met with my other advisors they could easily look at my schedule and make suggestions and it left me more time to talk with them about the program itself. This assignment was my favorite, and I feel the most valuable, part of the class.”

“I would most definitely recommend this exercise for next year – it was one of the best projects I have done all semester. I feel so relieved after doing this document – this has helped me realize what I need to do for any major.”

“The only information I knew about planning classes prior to the academic planning document was the little knowledge I had been exposed to at freshman orientation. I had no idea that there was so much to consider...you have your major requirements, minor requirements, UP’s, degree requirements. It really is a lot to take in. I was very overwhelmed when I started to work on this project. I did not realize that there would be certain orders that classes need to be taken in. I also had not even planned on studying abroad – and am so glad I was able to work that into my schedule. I truly knew nothing before this project and I am more confident that even if I change my major I will still be able to plan my courses.”

“I think this exercise is a great one. I had no idea what classes I was supposed to take when I got to CMU. Once I had the four-year plan, everything was made much more simple. Also, everything was neat and organized (great for a list maker like me). I would leave everything the same, because it helps plot your way along the CMU path. I liked it.”

“I would recommend this exercise to every single freshman next year because it is extremely helpful. It would truly show freshman how important it is to decide on a field of study so they are not wasting time and money.”

“During this time, I also developed a relationship with my advisors that can only grow better throughout my four years. I met with my math advisor early, and he learned that I was interested in cryptography. After learning this, he immediately went and found a college that was currently studying this topic in depth. I learned that there is soon to be a cryptography class here, and the one currently offered is one of the special topic classes that they are not allowed to continue after this semester. These advisors were very passionate, excited and helpful throughout my meeting with them, and I am excited to further my relationship with them throughout my four years here.”