One of the benefits of the BDPs is access to individualized advising. The BDP advisors are:

**Julia Chinnock**  
julia.chinnock@austin.utexas.edu  
- Digital Arts & Media  
- Environment & Sustainability  
- Media, Culture & Identities  
- Museum Studies

**Ashley Clark**  
a.clark@austin.utexas.edu  
- Conflict Resolution & Peace Studies  
- Ethics & Leadership (Business; Health Care; the Media; and Law Politics & Government)  
- Human Rights & Social Justice  
- Public Policy  
- Social Inequality, Health & Policy

**Joanna Tryon**  
joanna.tryon@austin.utexas.edu  
- Children & Society  
- Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship  
- Social Entrepreneurship & Non-profits

### BDP Advising Philosophy

The BDP advisors practice academic advising that is student-centered and that grows out of a commitment to each student’s development as a thoughtful, purposeful, and life-long learner. We use an individualized, proactive approach to advising as we assist students in exploring and articulating their interests, developing meaningful educational plans, exploring opportunities and resources, clarifying academic and career goals, and accomplishing objectives. We see ourselves as student advocates who play an integral role in giving undergraduates the tools they need to creatively shape their college experience. In keeping with the mission of the Bridging Disciplines Programs, we support students in becoming versatile thinkers who are able to bring together the perspectives, tools, and skills of multiple disciplines to come to a more sophisticated understanding of complex issues and questions.

### Appointments

As a BDP student, you need to be an active participant in your education and take responsibility for all that you do in your college career. BDP advisors look forward to forming a partnership with you as you work to achieve your goals. In order to work in a collaborative effort and have successful advising sessions, please remember to:

- **Come prepared for your appointment.** This means being knowledgeable about your degree plan and BDP requirements, having ideas about your future coursework and connecting experiences, and being willing to discuss your current and future goals.

- **Keep the advising appointments you have made and be punctual.** If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will be asked to reschedule. Please notify our office as soon as possible if you need to cancel or reschedule, and we will make sure to reciprocate with the same courtesy.

- BDP advisors are extremely busy certain times of the year. **We ask that you schedule appointments as early as you can and be patient about email responses.**

- Feel free to speak to your BDP advisor about any non-academic issue you may have. Although we are here to advise you for your academic program, we will always work to help you resolve the issue or refer you to other resources when appropriate.

- Visit us often for any reason and consider the BDP office your ‘home base’ on campus. We always enjoy seeing you and hearing about the great things in your life!
Please note: Pursuant to UT Austin policy (HOP 8-1060, VII-C), guns are not permitted in any BDP staff members’ individual offices. Oral notice will be given upon arrival. Please make any necessary accommodations before arriving for your appointment.

CONTACT & COMMUNICATION

- Keep your email address current and read all correspondence from the BDP office and your BDP advisor. We will use email to notify you of registration information, progress toward certification, and events within and outside of the BDP.
- You will be placed on a BDP student listserv, as well as one for your individual BDP.
- You will receive the BDP Bulletin via email, which will have reminders, announcements, and other important information.
- Announcements about possible internship or research opportunities are posted to the BDP Opportunities Blog. We will also make announcements through our Facebook page.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

As a BDP student, we expect you to:

- Be proactive, take initiative, and own your academic experience.
- Identify your interests and career goals, and learn how these connect to academic resources at UT.
- Come prepared for advising sessions by thinking about courses or connecting experiences before your appointment.
- Actively follow up on ideas and/or referrals you and your advisor discuss in an advising appointment.
- Coordinate your BDP requirements with those of your degree plan, and utilize advising in your major or college to work toward completing those requirements.
- Use BDP experiences to refine future goals and plans and reflect on these experiences in writing.
- Remember that advisors are available for more than just registration—we are here to assist you in whatever ways we can.

ADVISING EXPECTATIONS

BDP advisors are here to:

- Promote your involvement in interdisciplinary experiences.
- Help you take advantage of university resources, such as working with faculty members, getting involved in research, studying abroad, and participating in internships.
- Help you integrate your degree requirements with your BDP certificate.
- Help you connect your academic interests with your post-graduate plans and goals.
- Promote your ability to identify disciplinary perspectives and understand complex interdisciplinary issues.
- Help you select courses and experiences that will enhance your understanding of your BDP subject area and the benefits of addressing a topic through multiple perspectives.
- Help you draw connections between knowledge and skills learned through coursework and those learned through research and internship experiences.
- Provide you with individualized guidance, support, and advocacy.

Students and Advisors assume shared responsibility for the advising process.