

Academic Advising

What is academic advising?

Advising is an intentional process, grounded in teaching and learning, and [it] provides each student with guidance for developing and achieving meaningful educational, professional, and personal goals.

Successful advising...depends upon a shared understanding of, and commitment to, the advising process by students, advisors, and the university.

Academic advisors engage students in learning, promote students' academic success, and foster students' personal, ethical, and intellectual growth, all of which will carry into their roles as citizens and lifelong learners.

(See website: <https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/advisory-center/families/academic-advising.html>)

Concept of Academic Advising includes curriculum, pedagogy, and learning outcomes.

Why is academic advising important?

Academic advising is integral to Stetson University's

1. Educational mission
2. Students' persistence, retention, and success
3. Faculty members' roles

What is developmental academic advising?

Stetson's expectations for academic advising (consult section on "Expectations for Faculty Advisors") are based on a developmental advising philosophy. Developmental advising is a systematic process based on a close student-advisor relationship intended to aid students in achieving educational, career, and personal goals through the utilization of the full range of institutional and community resources. It is also referred to as intrusive or proactive advising.

Using best practices in developmental advising, faculty advisors...

1. Know and apply current student development theory around advising
2. Focus on students and their on-going needs over an extended period of time, with one advising session building upon another
3. Challenge students to achieve their learning potential and to take academic risks
4. View students as partners actively engaged in intellectual and personal growth
5. Help students think about and articulate what is important to them in their academic as well as their personal lives
6. Assist students in setting short-term and long-term goals, discussing ways to achieve those goals, and helping students monitor progress in fulfilling those goals

Possible student learning outcomes for academic advising (see footnote):

Advisees should be able to meet these six student learning outcomes:

1. Craft a coherent educational plan based on an assessment of their abilities, aspirations, interests, and values
2. Use information from various sources to set goals, reach decisions, and achieve those goals
3. Make timely progress toward degree completion
4. Articulate the value of their Stetson education
5. Cultivate the intellectual habits that lead to a lifetime of learning
6. Behave as global citizens who engage in the wider world around them

Footnote:

Adapted from CAS <http://standards.cas.edu/getpdf.cfm?PDF=E864D2C4-D655-8F74-2E647CDECD29B7D0>