

Academic Advising and Career Life Planning

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Abstract

One of the major goals of higher education is to help students attain their academic goals while providing for their personal and vocational needs. Advisors who understand career life planning can assist students not only with major selection, but also with career exploration and entering and succeeding in the workplace. The concept of advising as teaching emphasizes the importance of career advising for academic goal attainment and the value of aligning educational choices with future career plans.

This topical will explore the integration of academic advising and career life planning from both an individual advisor perspective and an institutional viewpoint. It will highlight the importance of career advising for all students and its specific value for those who come to the college/university experience without clear direction.

The session will identify the steps of career advising, the similarities between academic and career advising, and how advisors can develop skills and competencies for effective career advising. Additionally, the session will highlight how integrating the functions of career advising provides students with a holistic approach to making appropriate academic and career decisions.

As a result of participation in the topical, participants will:

- Gain a deeper understanding of academic advising and career advising
- Understand the importance on integrating academic advising and career life planning
- Increase knowledge about the theoretical background of career advising
- Gain practical suggestions for using career advising in advising sessions

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