

Advising Philosophy Statement

Rachel Nemets

Throughout the past few years as an academic advisor, I have learned so much about myself that has helped guide my day-to-day practice working with students. Academic advising is much more than guiding students through their academic plans. It is understanding the journey students are on and providing sincere support to help them navigate where they are meant to thrive.

The following are key points I value as an academic advisor:

Develop Purpose

College is one of the most influential opportunities for students to learn more about themselves. I strive to steer students on a journey that helps them discover their true passions in college and beyond by challenging them to step outside of their comfort zones. Incredible discoveries can be found when trying something new. Challenging students to explore and take advantage of all the amazing opportunities college has to offer is a powerful mechanism that guides my practice as an academic advisor.

Mentorship is the Key to Success

For most students, college can be a very overwhelming time in their lives. College offers so many opportunities both academically and outside of the classroom that it can be overwhelming for students to successfully navigate and utilize resources on their own. The discovery of a student's passions and self-identity is not meant to be worked through alone. One of the aspects I love most about being an academic advisor is my ability to lend a helping hand during students' paths of discovering who they are by guiding them to the right resources.

Embrace Diversity

Students from all over the world fill up college classrooms across the globe for the common interest of furthering their education. Interactions with students from all different backgrounds is an aspect of my profession I have learned to love and embrace. Each and every student I meet with brings a unique story of their own to tell and I value the stories they do tell because they represent students' individuality and sense of self.

Understanding Transitions

Transitions throughout college can oftentimes be very challenging. As an advisor, I understand there are many different types of transitions and that students in transition need both academic and personal support (Schlossberg, 1989). Through my practice, I make it a priority for transitioning students to know they are wanted and cherished by their peers, faculty, and staff and that a variety of resources are offered to help them feel at home in college.

Choose Happiness

Overall, college is a very exciting time in a student's life. It is a time for new independence and an opportunity for growth to help establish a student's sense of self identity. Being able to discover who they are and what they are passionate about is one of the most powerful lessons students can learn throughout college. That sense of confidence will then shine through and guide students on a path where they are meant to thrive. Choose happiness because happiness leads to success.