ACADEMIC ADVISING

For Parents of International Students

2017

By Karen Morgan, PH.D.
PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

• Understanding American Education system
• Students’ Privacy Protection—FERPA and myPurdue Proxy
• Common challenges of international students
• Roles & Responsibilities of Academic Advisors
• Grades and Academic Integrity
• Tools & Resources for Academic Success
UNDERSTANDING US HIGHER EDUCATION

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
• Instruction consists of lectures, labs, discussions, learning technologies, group work, and directed teaming

• Participation (feedback) expected to determine comprehension

• Instructors and students evaluate one another
Academic advisors are limited in the information they can share with parents as defined by FERPA. We can answer questions about policies and procedures, but we cannot release information about academic records without student’s consent.
Students can give parents, legal guardians, or other trusted parties access to view certain pieces of their student information online. This access is referred to as proxy access, and the person who is granted this authorization is called a myPurdue proxy.

More information on how to set up a proxy account in this PDF: myPurdue Proxy Q &A
CHALLENGES STUDENTS MAY ENCOUNTER

• Distraction: owning a car, parties, video games
  • Attendance Issues
  • Inability / Unwillingness to Participate in Class
• Family problems
• Academic Dishonesty
CHALLENGES STUDENTS MAY ENCOUNTER

- Not reading Purdue emails
- Not communicating in a timely manner
- Unfamiliarity with U.S. teaching methods, not reading course syllabus
- Unfamiliarity with university regulations
- Unintentional disrespectful communication with Faculty / Staff
- Failing to ask for help when needed
- English Language Difficulties
- Relying on friends too much
ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- Purdue Course Recommendations
  - number of credits
  - number of major courses
  - Making progression
- Retaking Classes
- Changing Major
- Double/Dual Degree
- University Policy
- Refer students to campus resources such as counseling, health center, immigration, etc.
# The Role of Academic Advisors

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<tr>
<th>Choosing a Major</th>
<th>Advisor WILL...</th>
<th>Students will...</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>...help explore options</td>
<td>...make the choice of which major students wish to study</td>
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<td>...make recommendations based on goals, interests and academic performance</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Plan of Study</th>
<th>Advisor WILL...</th>
<th>Students will...</th>
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<td></td>
<td>...be the expert on degree requirements, institutional policies and university procedures</td>
<td>...register for their own courses</td>
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<td>Make course recommendations to keep students on track for graduation</td>
<td><strong>IMPORTANT: CHOOSING COURSES THAT WERE NOT RECOMMENDED BY ADVISORS MAY RESULT IN PROLONGED GRADUATION TIME</strong></td>
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<th>Academic Success</th>
<th>Advisor WILL...</th>
<th>Students will...</th>
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<td>...help identify tools and resources for students</td>
<td>...communicate with their advisors early in the semester if they are having trouble in a class so there is time to work together to develop a strategy/plan to improve performance</td>
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When should a student retake a class

- A low grade (D or F) and the advisor recommends it after discussion.
- Must obtain a higher grade before a student can move on to the next level course and his advisor recommends it after discussion.

- Many classes have pre-requisites.
- Purdue has a 3 attempt policy.

It does not look good to employers or grad school to see many re-takes & W’s

Purdue Grading System

- A+/A
- A–
- B+
- B
- B–
- C+
- C
- C–
- D+
- D
- D– (Lowest passing grade; marginally passing minimal objectives of the course)
- F (Failure; failure to achieve minimal objectives of the course. The student must repeat the course satisfactorily in order to establish credit in it)

FACT: Most students DO NOT have a 4.00 GPA at Purdue. Earning a C, C+, B-, B & B+ are all good and respectable grades.
myCCO

• One-on-One Counseling
  • Major & Career Exploration
  • Graduate School Preparation
  • Internship/Job Search Preparation

• https://www.cco.purdue.edu/students/international-students.aspx

• Workshops & Events

• On-Campus Recruiting, Job Postings, and International Career Fairs
OTHER ACADEMIC RESOURCES

There are many resources available to help you including:

• Tutoring
• Help Rooms
• Supplemental Instruction
• Writing Lab – OWL
• English Chat Sessions
• Study Groups
ANY QUESTIONS?