

M.3.3 Regulation regarding Academic Advisors

1. Definition of Academic Advisor

Academic advisor is a faculty member assigned to a group of students to provide guidance for developing and achieving meaningful educational, professional, and personal goals. Our Master Program and the University of Patras recognize academic advising as a vital component of its students' educational experience. The university strives for the personal and professional success of its students and is committed to graduating highly skilled leaders.

2. Core Values of Academic Advising

Empowerment: Academic advisors motivate, encourage, and support students to recognize their potential, meet their challenges, and respect individuality.

Caring: Academic advisors mindfully care for students by building respectful relationships through empathetic listening and compassion.

Commitment: Academic advisors are committed to students' success through assessment, scholarly inquiry, and professional development.

Professionalism: Academic advisors act in harmony with the university's values and the advising profession for the benefit of students and other advisors.

Respect: Academic advisors show respect by recognizing the views and the rights of the students, maintaining a student-centered approach and mindset; and treating students with fairness.

Integrity: Academic advisors adhere to ethical behavior, and value honesty, transparency, and accountability to the student, institution, and the advising profession.

Inclusivity: Academic advisors support a multi-cultural environment and help students with different backgrounds to develop and reinforce self-perception, acceptance, and equity.

3. Academic Advising Conduct

Academic advisors & Students confront many ethical issues during the advisor/advisee engagements and hence there is a need for having a system of ethical principles for their benefit. Such principles should be credible and philosophically defensible. In general, academic advisors should bring about as much well-being as they can among students and avoid the harmful actions that may have a long-term effect on them. They should treat all advisees fairly or equitably in rights or privileges and respect the confidentiality of communication with advisees.

4. Advisor's Responsibilities

The academic advisors are assumed to meet the following expectations and responsibilities:

- Have current knowledge of the academic programs and their curricula as well as the university policies, regulations, and registration procedures.
- Be able to communicate the curricula, graduation requirements, and university policies and procedures to the students to allow appropriate choices for their degree programs.
- Closely monitor progress and offer support toward developing and achieving realistic academic plans and career goals.

- Promote proactive advising and help students to an appropriate response or recovery plan to address obstacles encountered in their academic life.
- Meet frequently enough with advisees via multiple channels of communication and interaction (face one-to-one, group meeting, and email) and maintain a respectful and confidential opportunity for the students to discuss their questions and concerns.
- Refer the students to the appropriate supporting offices or units and help them in identifying and utilizing on and off-campus resources.

5. The Process

Academic advisors are members of the teaching staff and each of them is responsible for, maximum, five (5) students.

For the present academic year, because of the complexity of the matter, the role of academic advisor has been assumed by the two Directors of the Program, Professors Pavlos Kontos (via zoom meetings) and Yong Wang.