



## Counseling and student personnel psychology (CSPP) advising philosophy

Upon acceptance into the CSPP program, each incoming student is assigned a faculty advisor. Advisor assignments are made based on students' identified academic and career interests. We encourage students to meet with their advisor to discuss academic planning and progress, practicum opportunities, professional development goals, and academic adjustment. Advisors also serve as a primary point of contact with the broader program and department, and can connect students with necessary resources for assistantships, research opportunities, and professional resources. The advisor, the director of graduate studies (DGS), and the director of graduate studies (DGS) administrative assistant monitor student progress toward degree completion.

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### Advisor role

- Monitors student's progress toward degree (along with DGS and DGS Administrative Assistant)
- Provides resources and/or opportunities for participation in research activities
- Evaluates professional development
- Connects students with professional development opportunities in the greater community
- Recommends areas for improvement or supplemental learning
- Provides academic advising
- Serves as primary contact between students and program
- Provides notice of foreseeable challenges
- Provides honest letters of recommendation with sufficient notice (more than one month)
- Provides mentoring, feedback, and assistance with career development concerns, including selection of practicum site, licensure questions, and post-graduation employment and education opportunities



## Advisor communication

Email, in-person meetings, and online (e.g. Google Hangout) meetings. Students can expect a formal letter of progress following their first year of the program.

## Advisor meeting role

Students are encouraged to meet with their advisor at least once during each academic year.

## Advisor availability

Advisors are available for meetings during the Fall and Spring semesters, with summer availability on a case by case basis.

## Student expectations for advising meetings

This is your time—plan and bring an agenda (and any other documentation for review) that will drive the meeting.

- Take notes during the meeting.
- Be prepared—if you do not have an agenda, reschedule the meeting.

## Advisee expectations

Consult with your advisor before deviating from recommended course schedule and planned milestone timelines.

- Inform your advisor when additional supports are needed (e.g., referral for mental health services, writing consultation, disability resource center etc.).
- Engage in self-reflection and information seeking regarding your track and areas of academic/professional interest.
- Research potential practicum sites, including application requirements, deadlines, and intended training objectives.
- Students will obtain advisor approval for presentation, publications, and any extracurricular, volunteer or paid activities that are in any way related to their program of study while enrolled in the program.

## Switching advisors

Students are permitted to switch advisors in cases where their academic and/or professional goals change to be more in line with other those of other faculty members. Before switching, students should meet with their assigned advisor to discuss the desire to switch, and to assess whether the current advisor may be able to meet the students' additional needs. If it is mutually determined that an advising switch would be beneficial, students should then send an email with both the old and new advisors copied, detailing the desire to switch.