

## **Liberal Studies Program Advising Syllabus 2009-2010**

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### Required Materials:

- \* Your Wildcat ID#
- \* Your Major Academic Plan (MAP)
- \* List of questions or concerns you may have for the advisor.
- \* University Catalog (either electronic or a hard copy)

### **Academic Advising Description/Definition**

Academic advising is an educational process that facilitates students' understanding of the meaning and purpose of higher education. It fosters intellectual and personal development toward academic success and lifelong learning (NACADA, 2004). At CSU, Chico academic advising provides students with the opportunity to build interpersonal relationships with their advisor for the purpose of gaining assistance in planning their educational career, in learning the skills needed for academic success, and in learning how to access the resources and services that are available to them on the university campus.

Academic advising is a collaborative educational process whereby students and their advisors are partners in meeting and ensuring academic, personal, and career goals. This partnership requires proactive participation and involvement by both parties. This partnership is a process that is built over the student's entire educational career at CSU, Chico. Both parties have clear responsibilities for ensuring that this partnership is successful.

### **Academic Advisor Responsibilities** – You can expect your advisor to:

- \* Protect and secure the integrity of the CSU, Chico degree by enforcing all university and departmental policies and requirements
- \* Treat you with respect and as an adult
- \* Understand and effectively communicate the curriculum, requirements, and academic policies and procedures.
- \* If we do not know the answer to a question, that we will find the answer or the resource that will answer your question and reply in a timely manner
- \* Encourage and guide you to define and develop clear and realistic educational plans
- \* Provide you with information about campus resources and services
- \* Encourage and guide you in gaining the skills to access the resources and services that are available to you via the Portal, [www.csuchico.edu](http://www.csuchico.edu) web site, or university offices
- \* Assist you in understanding the purpose and goals of higher education and its effects on your life and personal goals
- \* Monitor and accurately document your progress toward meeting your educational goals
- \* Be accessible for meetings during office hours, by appointment, telephone, or email

- \* Assist you in gaining decision-making skills and in assuming responsibility for your educational plans and decisions
- \* Maintain confidentiality (will not discuss issues with parents or non-university persons without your written permission; will respond to academic questions only via WildcatMail accounts)
- \* Assist you in working with, and developing relationships with faculty and instructors.

### **Advisee Responsibilities – What You are Expected to Do**

As an advisee, you have clear responsibilities in this partnership in order to be successful:

- \* Schedule regular appointments or make regular contacts with advisor during each semester
- \* Come prepared to each appointment or walk-in with questions or materials for discussion
- \* Be an active learner by participating fully in the advising experience
- \* Ask questions if you do not understand an issue or have a specific concern
- \* Refrain from asking for academic advice from friends, classmates, or parents
- \* Keep a personal record of your progress toward YOUR academic goals
- \* Organize documents in a way that enables you to access them when needed
- \* Be proactive in checking often the electronic resources via the Portal to keep track of your academic progress
- \* Become knowledgeable about college programs, degree requirements, course prerequisites, policies, and procedures
- \* Complete all assignments or recommendations from your advisor
- \* Gather all relevant information before making decisions that affect your educational goals
- \* Clarify personal values and goals and provide advisor with accurate and truthful information regarding your interests and abilities
- \* ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR DECISIONS AND YOUR ACTIONS (or INACTIONS) that affect your educational progress and goals.
- \* Check your WildcatMail and the Liberal Studies website regularly – <http://www.csuchico.edu/lbst>

### **Expected Student Learning Outcomes for the Academic Advising Experience**

Through the advising experience in Liberal Studies at CSU, Chico,

- \* You will demonstrate the ability to make effective decisions concerning your degree and career goals.
- \* You will develop an educational plan for successfully achieving your goals and select courses each semester to progress toward fulfilling your goals by using the MAP.
- \* You will demonstrate an understanding of the value of the CSU, Chico degree through the value of the major/area of concentration/minor requirements.
- \* You will utilize the resources and services on campus to assist you in achieving your academic, personal, and career goals.
- \* You will make use of referrals to campus resources as needed.
- \* You will graduate in a timely manner based on your educational plans.

### **Demonstrating Your Achievement of Learning Outcomes**

In order to accurately measure and document that you have achieved the learning outcomes of your advising, you and the advisor will develop and on-going file of your advising work. This file will consist of a variety of documents including your basic contact information, your Major Clearance Form, copies of emails, and a variety of documents that you and the advisor will develop together to demonstrate your academic goals.