



NSSE 2013

Academic Advising Module

Western Michigan University

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Academic Advising Module

This module examines students' experiences with academic advising, including frequency of use, accessibility, information provided, and primary source of advice.

Academic Advising Comparison Group

This section summarizes how your Academic Advising module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Academic Advising' column of this report.

Group label	Academic Advising
Date submitted	6/28/13
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this comparison group by selecting institutions from all module participants.
Group description	This group contains five of our peer institutions and the remaining institutions are of the same Carnegie Classification of RU/H: Research Universities (high research activity).

'Academic Advising' institutions (N=18)

Auburn University (Auburn University, AL)
 Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH)
 Colorado School of Mines (Golden, CO)
 Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS)
 Missouri University of Science & Technology (Rolla, MO)
 Temple University (Philadelphia, PA)
 Texas Tech University (Lubbock, TX)
 University of Akron (Akron, OH)
 University of Alaska Fairbanks (Fairbanks, AK)
 University of Colorado Denver (Denver, CO)
 University of Massachusetts Lowell (Lowell, MA)
 University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)
 University of Montana (Missoula, MT)
 University of Nevada, Reno (Reno, NV)
 University of North Texas (Denton, TX)
 University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)
 University of Texas at Arlington, The (Arlington, TX)
 West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV)

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				WMU		Academic Advising		WMU	Academic Advising	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?										
	ADV01	0	0	31	7	473	8	2.3	2.2 *	.11
		1	1	83	18	1,725	25			
		2	2	164	37	2,323	34			
		3	3	93	21	1,297	19			
		4	4	47	10	531	8			
		5	5	12	3	179	3			
		6	6 or more	21	5	307	4			
			Total	451	100	6,835	100			
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	26	6	518	8	3.1	3.0 **	.16
		2	Some	71	16	1,344	19			
		3	Quite a bit	148	33	2,280	34			
		4	Very much	182	40	2,244	33			
		—	Not applicable	23	5	450	7			
			Total	450	100	6,836	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	31	7	543	8	3.2	3.0 ***	.21
		2	Some	61	13	1,316	19			
		3	Quite a bit	131	30	2,178	32			
		4	Very much	199	44	2,300	33			
		—	Not applicable	26	6	492	7			
			Total	448	100	6,829	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	38	8	949	14	3.0	2.8 ***	.24
		2	Some	83	19	1,464	21			
		3	Quite a bit	120	27	1,936	29			
		4	Very much	175	39	1,977	29			
		—	Not applicable	30	7	489	7			
			Total	446	100	6,815	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	47	10	909	13	3.0	2.8 ***	.25
		2	Some	73	17	1,577	23			
		3	Quite a bit	121	27	1,922	29			
		4	Very much	170	38	1,785	27			
		—	Not applicable	35	8	615	9			
			Total	446	100	6,808	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	70	15	1,056	15	2.8	2.7	.07
		2	Some	90	20	1,580	23			
		3	Quite a bit	111	25	1,789	26			
		4	Very much	132	29	1,742	25			
		—	Not applicable	46	11	654	10			
			Total	449	100	6,821	100			
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	45	10	812	12	3.0	2.9 ***	.17
		2	Some	70	16	1,416	21			
		3	Quite a bit	130	29	2,017	30			
		4	Very much	179	39	2,148	32			
		—	Not applicable	22	5	416	6			
			Total	446	100	6,809	100			
g. Helped you when you had	ADV02g	1	Very little	68	15	1,142	16			

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				WMU		Academic Advising		WMU	Academic Advising	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
academic difficulties		2	Some	70	15	1,336	20	2.8	2.6 **	.15
		3	Quite a bit	90	21	1,417	21			
		4	Very much	127	27	1,468	22			
		—	Not applicable	92	21	1,438	21			
		Total		447	100	6,801	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	79	17	1,324	19	2.7	2.5	.10
		2	Some	86	20	1,361	20			
		3	Quite a bit	90	20	1,370	20			
		4	Very much	117	25	1,404	21			
		—	Not applicable	76	17	1,337	20			
Total		448	100	6,796	100					
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	96	22	1,457	22	2.5	2.5	.06
		2	Some	94	21	1,555	23			
		3	Quite a bit	82	18	1,435	21			
		4	Very much	117	26	1,452	21			
		—	Not applicable	57	13	878	13			
Total		446	100	6,777	100					

3. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)

Variable name	Response options	Count	%	Count	%
ADV03	— Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	144	32	2,212	32
	— Academic advisor(s) available to any student	91	20	750	12
	— Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	28	6	574	8
	— Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	6	1	147	2
	— Web site, catalog, or other published sources	19	4	339	6
	— Friends or other students	47	11	1,036	14
	— Family members	81	18	1,266	18
	— Other, please specify:	10	2	196	3
	— I did not seek academic advice this year	22	5	314	5
	Total		448	100	6,834

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				WMU		Academic Advising		WMU	Academic Advising	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?										
	ADV01	0 0		65	8	1,660	13	2.3	2.2 *	.08
		1 1		210	28	3,545	27			
		2 2		193	27	3,797	28			
		3 3		119	16	2,002	15			
		4 4		70	9	1,037	7			
		5 5		31	4	373	3			
		6 6 or more		54	7	1,104	8			
		Total		742	100	13,518	100			
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1 1	Very little	63	8	1,448	11	3.0	2.9 *	.08
		2 2	Some	158	20	2,712	20			
		3 3	Quite a bit	228	31	4,082	30			
		4 4	Very much	265	36	4,497	33			
		—	Not applicable	31	4	783	6			
		Total		745	100	13,522	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1 1	Very little	70	9	1,605	12	3.0	2.9 *	.08
		2 2	Some	155	21	2,595	19			
		3 3	Quite a bit	218	29	3,877	29			
		4 4	Very much	264	36	4,425	33			
		—	Not applicable	37	5	1,003	8			
		Total		744	100	13,505	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1 1	Very little	123	16	2,514	18	2.8	2.7	.07
		2 2	Some	148	20	2,756	20			
		3 3	Quite a bit	204	27	3,391	25			
		4 4	Very much	234	32	3,858	29			
		—	Not applicable	35	5	976	7			
		Total		744	100	13,495	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1 1	Very little	136	18	2,612	19	2.6	2.6	.02
		2 2	Some	165	22	2,960	22			
		3 3	Quite a bit	180	24	3,086	23			
		4 4	Very much	169	24	3,185	24			
		—	Not applicable	93	12	1,616	12			
		Total		743	100	13,459	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1 1	Very little	191	25	3,663	27	2.3	2.3	-.03
		2 2	Some	189	26	2,883	21			
		3 3	Quite a bit	129	17	2,277	17			
		4 4	Very much	109	15	2,365	18			
		—	Not applicable	123	17	2,305	17			
		Total		741	100	13,493	100			
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1 1	Very little	139	18	2,686	20	2.7	2.6	.06
		2 2	Some	162	22	2,878	21			
		3 3	Quite a bit	188	26	3,342	25			
		4 4	Very much	208	28	3,495	26			
		—	Not applicable	46	6	1,087	8			
		Total		743	100	13,488	100			
g. Helped you when you had	ADV02g	1 1	Very little	172	23	3,010	22			

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				WMU		Academic Advising		WMU	Academic Advising	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
academic difficulties		2	Some	105	14	2,205	16	2.4	2.5	.00
		3	Quite a bit	136	18	2,234	16			
		4	Very much	138	19	2,664	20			
		—	Not applicable	188	25	3,361	25			
		Total		739	100	13,474	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	194	26	3,537	26	2.4	2.4	.02
		2	Some	136	19	2,351	17			
		3	Quite a bit	112	15	2,219	17			
		4	Very much	152	21	2,601	19			
		—	Not applicable	146	20	2,749	21			
Total		740	100	13,457	100					
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	247	33	3,753	29	2.2	2.4 **	-.12
		2	Some	148	20	2,704	20			
		3	Quite a bit	127	17	2,369	17			
		4	Very much	129	18	3,032	22			
		—	Not applicable	90	12	1,578	13			
Total		741	100	13,436	100					

3. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)

Variable name	Response options	Count	%	Count	%
ADV03	— Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	163	22	4,322	32
	— Academic advisor(s) available to any student	133	18	1,281	11
	— Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	147	19	2,453	17
	— Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	20	3	774	6
	— Web site, catalog, or other published sources	64	8	794	6
	— Friends or other students	73	10	1,598	11
	— Family members	68	9	1,097	8
	— Other, please specify:	35	5	477	4
	— I did not seek academic advice this year	40	5	722	6
	Total		743	100	13,518

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	WMU	WMU	Academic Advising	WMU	Academic Advising	WMU	Academic Advising			
ADV01	450	2.3	2.2	.07	.02	1.4	1.4	7,284	.025	.11
ADV02a	426	3.1	3.0	.04	.01	0.9	0.9	6,803	.001	.16
ADV02b	420	3.2	3.0	.05	.01	0.9	1.0	6,758	.000	.21
ADV02c	414	3.0	2.8	.05	.01	1.0	1.0	476	.000	.24
ADV02d	410	3.0	2.8	.05	.01	1.0	1.0	465	.000	.25
ADV02e	401	2.8	2.7	.05	.01	1.1	1.1	6,558	.180	.07
ADV02f	423	3.0	2.9	.05	.01	1.0	1.0	6,816	.001	.17
ADV02g	351	2.8	2.6	.06	.02	1.1	1.1	5,694	.007	.15
ADV02h	370	2.7	2.5	.06	.02	1.1	1.1	5,796	.053	.10
ADV02i	386	2.5	2.5	.06	.01	1.2	1.1	6,254	.251	.06

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	WMU	WMU	Academic Advising	WMU	Academic Advising	WMU	Academic Advising			
ADV01	739	2.3	2.2	.06	.01	1.6	1.6	15,608	.028	.08
ADV02a	710	3.0	2.9	.04	.01	1.0	1.0	789	.034	.08
ADV02b	703	3.0	2.9	.04	.01	1.0	1.0	782	.027	.08
ADV02c	706	2.8	2.7	.04	.01	1.1	1.1	14,465	.082	.07
ADV02d	651	2.6	2.6	.04	.01	1.1	1.1	13,694	.633	.02
ADV02e	616	2.3	2.3	.04	.01	1.1	1.1	685	.444	-.03
ADV02f	695	2.7	2.6	.04	.01	1.1	1.1	14,297	.110	.06
ADV02g	550	2.4	2.5	.05	.01	1.2	1.2	11,604	.916	.00
ADV02h	592	2.4	2.4	.05	.01	1.2	1.2	12,274	.645	.02
ADV02i	648	2.2	2.4	.05	.01	1.2	1.2	716	.002	-.12

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by gender and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by gender and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t-tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t-tests uses Cohen's *d*.
- e. Statistics are weighted by gender and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values differ from Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t-tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the comparison group is due to chance.