



# University of North Alabama University Advisor Program

Academic advising is about:

1. serving a diverse student population.
2. recognizing that students have varied experiences and challenges.
3. providing information and opportunities.
4. building social and cultural capital by supporting the development of self-advocacy, self-efficacy, networking and mentoring relationships, investing in one's education, and more.
5. understanding the structural and individual level factors that play into achievement, retention, and graduation.



## Developmental Advising

Developed by Burns Crookston in 1972 and characterized by the following:

1. Emphasis on student motivation and leadership within the advising relationship
2. Advisor/advisee relationships centered on mutual learning
3. Mutually agreed upon terms of the relationship
4. Goal setting focused on life as well as academic achievements
5. Shared control and responsibility
6. Belief that students are growing and self-directed
7. Avoidance of the "prescription" of information from advisor to advisee, except where strictly necessary

## Benefits of Developmental Advising

1. Lower levels of attrition and increased persistence on the part of students
2. Higher GPA scores
3. Students self report higher levels of satisfaction with institutions, degree programs, and courses
4. Development of more well rounded and informed academic, career, and life goals for/by students
5. Increased institutional rankings based on improved measures of student success such as students' GPA scores, retention rates, etc. Improved rankings can lead to increased enrollments, endowments, etc.



*Advising is Teaching*

*Significant Advising = Significant Learning*

