

Understanding Academic Advising

Advising Mission Statement

SUNY Cortland views academic advisement as serving the educational needs and ambitions of the SUNY Cortland student. The purpose is to assist students in developing meaningful educational plans that are compatible with life goals. In this spirit, the advisement process also helps the student satisfy immediate, short-term needs for selecting courses, scheduling and registration.

Students and advisors have important responsibilities in this process. Students must seek guidance, be knowledgeable about their programs and assume responsibility for degree completion. Advisors must provide sufficient time for advisement, have a comprehensive understanding of the student's course of study and the College's policies, and be ready to guide the development of students' academic and professional goals.

What does an advisor help with?

- Major and Minor choice
- Schedule adjustments
- GE and Foreign Language Requirements
- Learning opportunities
- Career choices and graduate school
- Problem-solving and decision-making
- Making the most out of your courses
- Registration
- Major and Minor requirements
- Summer coursework
- Study abroad opportunities
- Referrals
- Discussing academic success
- Understanding CAPP
(Curriculum Advising and Program Planning)

Who is my advisor?

Advisors are most often faculty in the department of your major. If you are a Pre-Major or "waiting", you may have an advisor from Advisement and Transition. You can locate your advisor on myRedDragon or the academic department of your major.

What are my responsibilities as an advisee?

- Initiating contact with the academic advisor, reading the college catalog, and the department manual.
- Being prepared for advising sessions.
- Having knowledge of and meeting academic and financial deadlines.
- Being prepared for scheduled meetings with materials and suggestions for courses.
- Seeking out the advisor for assistance in negotiating difficulties/changes in academic program plans.

What are other sources of academic information on campus?

- The Office of the Registrar - www.cortland.edu/registrar
- Advisement and Transition - www.cortland.edu/advisement
- Curriculum Advising and Program Planning (CAPP)
- Your academic department
- Academic Peer Mentors (APM) in the residence halls and Resident Assistants (RA)
- COR 101 Instructor, COR 101 Teaching Assistants, Peers
- Course Instructors
- Campus resources and offices including Career Services, Counseling, ASAP

This information can be found on page 14 of your Student Planner.