

Empowering Student Success



School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore

Academic Advising Case Study 2024-2025

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At a Glance

Overview of the academic advising pilot

25

Stage 1 Students
(cohort)

14

Academic Advisors

Approx. 2 students
per advisor

Student-to-Academic
Advisor Ratio

The Academic Advising Model

One planned meeting per trimester, alternating between individual and group settings

Academic Advisor Communications

Academic advisors sent welcoming emails to invite students to meet

Trimester 1:
Individual Meeting

Discussions with students are individualised

Trimester 2:
Group Meeting

Change of focus to increase student participation

Key Meeting Focuses

Core advising topics and the templates created to support the process

Core Topics (Stage 1)

- Academic Progress:** Reviewing progress and study plans
- Subject Choices:** Guiding students on module selection for the next stage
- Introducing Essential Academic Practices:** What to learn by stage, academic integrity, research skills and how essays are evaluated
- Signposting:** Students signposted to useful resources and supports

Academic Plan Templates

- Templates:** Created to cover learning objectives, module choices, and study plans
- Post-Meeting Plan:** Used to record key actions, agreements and supports
- Language Support:** Plans were translated into Gaeilge by the UCD translation service for use in the academic advising system

Lessons Learned

Key insights from the implementation of the Academic Advising approach

Strengths of the Approach

- Clear Focus:** Objectives around academic progress and subject choice were clear for the Stage 1 cohort
- Bilingual Resources:** Providing translated Academic Plans in Gaeilge demonstrated a commitment to supporting use of the language

Areas for Consideration

- Engagement Strategy:** The low email reply and meeting attendance rates indicate a need to review communication strategies
- Language:** Students may find the prospect of having the meeting in Gaeilge too difficult, and this may have impacted student engagement
- Possible Future Focus:** Transition to university, proficiency in Modern Irish and consistency in assignments may be considered as areas of focus going forward



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