

Advising Cheat Sheet

Super Star- Highly Prepared/High Performing

Priorities: Achievement, Improvement, and Praise

Academic Indicators

- High Test Scores
- GPA above a 3.5
- Focused on Accelerated Goals

Characteristics

- Very mature
- Strong work ethic
- High standards

Fears

- Failure
- Obsession with A's
- Disappointing Professors & Parents

Best Advising Style:

1. Coactive
2. Compliant
3. Indifferent
4. Tyrant

Slacker- Highly Prepared/Under Performing

Priorities: Independence and Control

Academic Indicators

- High Test Scores
- GPA below 3.5
- Unrealistic Long-term goals

Characteristics

- Very personable
- Intelligent but lacks academic motivation
- Displays confidence

Fears

- Giving 100% and failing
- Academic suspension

Best Advising Style:

1. Coactive
2. Compliant
3. Tyrant
4. Indifferent

Struggler- Under Prepared/Under Performing

Priorities: Just getting by and going un-noticed

Academic Indicators

- Low Test Scores
- GPA below 2.0
- Unrealistic Long-term goals

Characteristics

- Could lack personal responsibility
- Needs a lot of guidance/support
- Academics might not be top priority (family & work are higher)

Fears

- Am I smart enough?
- Flunking out
- Paying for college

Best Advising Style:

1. Coactive

Striver- Under Prepared/High Performing

Priorities: Upward mobility, Support, and Praise

Academic Indicators

- Low Test Scores
- GPA above 2.0
- Focused on Long-term goals

Characteristics

- Hard working
- Asks for help
- Wants to be successful

Fears

- Not being smart enough
- Not fitting in
- Failing

Best Advising Style:

1. Coactive
2. Compliant

	Warm & Communicative	Cold & Noncommunicative
Controlling & Guiding	Coactive	Tyrant
Noncontrolling & Nonguiding	Compliant	Indifferent

Advising Style

	Warm & Communicative	Cold & Noncommunicative
Controlling & Guiding	Coactive	Tyrant
Noncontrolling & Nonguiding	Compliant	Indifferent

Coactive Advisor: authoritative, yet democratic, emphasizes reasoning and explains the process, Meets regularly with students to set goals and timeline. This style of advising is characterized by high control, high guidance, high caring, and high communication. For the student, this is the most successful and satisfying advising relationship. The student receives constructive guidance, mentoring, and achieves autonomy.

Compliant Advisor: Views self as resource rather than a controller, has an open-door policy, Yet expects students to take the initiative and manage on their own. This style of advising is characterized by low control, low guidance, high caring, and high communication. With little guidance, the result for the student may be confusion and lack of focus.

Indifferent Advisor: This is the “too-busy-don’t pester me” advisor who is definitely not interested in the role of advising. Has little knowledge of how students are progressing, sets no guidelines and makes few demands. Just does not seem to care about students’ intellectual and professional development. This style of advising is characterized by low control, low guidance, low caring, and low communication. The result for the student is calamity; With no direction or encouragement, the student is likely to feel lost, hopeless, abandoned.

Tyrant Advisor: This is the authoritarian “my-way-or-the-highway” advisor. Difficult to approach and cold and unresponsive to students. Feels students should either sink or swim. This style of advising is characterized by high control, high guidance, low caring, and low communication. The result for the student is a feeling of powerlessness. The student expects to be told what to do and lacks a sense of personal control . The student waits to follow orders and tends to have low creativity and low initiative.