Academic Advising Approaches: Strategies that teach students to make the most of college

Chapter 11 - Constructivism

Reader Learning Outcomes

Readers will:

- Determine the theoretical and philosophical constructs of their advising practice
- Understand how systems theory affects their advising practice
- Consider how student development and cognitive learning theories impact their advising practice
- Learn how to draw mind/concept maps that represent their advising philosophy
- Draw a concept map of the system in which they advise.

Aiming for Excellence discussion questions and activities

- What theoretical foundations do you incorporate into your advising practice? How do you use these theories in your everyday work?
- How might you follow the constructivist philosophy when working with your advisees?
- Draw a mind/concept map of your advising philosophy and discuss it with your colleagues. Revisit your concept map periodically as you learn more about the advising profession and your own advising strategies.
- Draw a concept map of the system in which you work. If academic advising is at the center of the map, what are the sub-systems that are affected by and/or interact with academic advising? What are the connections between the sub-systems? How might you use the systemic approach to affect change on your campus?