





Academic Advising Manual

Department of Physical Therapy & Health Rehabilitation

Majmaah University

This manual emphasizes most of the practical and prospective aspects of academic advising delivery system to the benefit of the student community. Deliberately, they don't address everything about academic advising. Ought to be utilized as steppingstone to success and constructive counselling for an academic excellence through an academic advising, providing the framework for a coherent approach to implementing a well-functioning academic advising program that would meet our institutional goals at the Faculty of College of Applied Medical Sciences, Department of Physical Therapy & Health Rehabilitation, Majmaah University, AlMajmaah, KSA.

The information is based primarily on Academic Advising & counselling which shall benefit the process of successful graduates towards the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

1. Academic Advising:

Academic advising is a key to success for growth and global stand of any higher educational institution. At the faculty of Department of Physical Therapy & Health Rehabilitation, College of Applied Medical Sciences (CAMS), Majmaah University, AlMajmaah, academic advisers are treated as valuable assets to student's community as they plan their undergraduate career and, finally, prepare for graduation to meet the demands of the market industry. Academic advising is a legitimate process that stands for guiding the students / Advisee on different issues related to their academic advancement and to help them find solutions to different academic problems. Academic advising is related to assisting students with educational decision, degree requirements, academic policies/ procedures, as well as broader concerns such as career and graduate institutional options in the Major.

Academic advising synthesizes and investigate students' educational experiences within the structure of their ambitions, abilities and lives to extend learning beyond campus boundaries and time frames. This Academic advising system is based on Four Stakeholders involved in the process of Academic advising at the Faculty of Department of Physical Therapy & Health Rehabilitation, College of Applied Medical Sciences, Majmaah University are:

- 1) The Advisee / Students.
- 2) The advisor / Counsellor (faculty member Played as Academic Advisor or Career Advisor).
- 3) The Head of the Academic Advising Unit/Committee.
- 4) And the Department counsel / Program.

2. Role of the Academic Advisor and Advisee / Student:

An Academic Advisor is a faculty member of the Department for the process of guiding the students / Advisee on various affairs related to their current academic and future progress. Following are some of the responsibilities designate for the Academic Advisor:

- (1) Advising the undergraduate students regarding curriculum study plan relevant to the Program at the faculty of Department of Physical Therapy & Health Rehabilitation.
- (2) Analyze, view and sign the check sheet after each semester to examine the progress of a student.
- (3) Arrange, administer and announce open days on an annual basis.
- (4) Direct student orientation and advising services.
- (5) Coordinated internship and abroad study (Career advising).
- (6) Welcomes and Manages the student transfer system (inter departmental or international).
- (7) Monitoring the student absenteeism percentage to prevent semester detention.
- (8) Advisor administer the online feedback system for various outcomes of the program, course and other services on time by utilizing the electronic Edugate system.
- (9) Advisors also provides information and guidance to outgoing students to seek an interview at reputed hospitals for Internship training.

The advisee / Student has the responsibility to:

- (1) Admit that advising is a shared responsibility and accept final responsibility for all decisions.
- (2) Analyze personal values, abilities and goals.
- 3) Assemble for pre-planned advising sessions and bring relevant materials when contacting the advisor.
- (4) Contact and make appointment with the advisor when required or when in need of assistance.
- (5) Become knowledgeable about policies, procedures and requirements, i.e. add/drop policies and deadlines, graduation and general education policies.

3. Credit Hours Limit vs. GPA:

The policy of credit hours limit vs. Grade Point Average (GPA) is listed under the university rules. In the table given below is the description of the policy given by the Deanship of Admission and Registration.



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4. Course Transaction (Add, Drop):

Form-6 is available for the students to register for upcoming levels and are entitled to enroll in any course for which they have passed / cleared the Pre-Requisite using a add & drop form duly signed by the respective persons. Moreover, the Students are asked to discuss the Course transaction with the academic advisors in order to satisfy the need for the track (Level 6 and above students), they wish to pursue in their future semesters. Figure 1.

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Figure 1: ADD & DROP FORM

5. MU Grading system and GPA:

The grading system at MU is clearly stated well so that the student should have an eye watch on his progress:



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6. Physical Therapy Graduation Requirements:

The required credit system for the bachelor's degree in physical therapy, is given below:

The per semester credit system is monitored by the academic advisors periodically through the Edugate system so that the students have enrolled for required credit weightage each semester which helps the students to graduate on time without any further delays.

الخطةالدراسية الحديثة

المتطلبات الإجبارية والاختيارية:					
النسبة المنوية من مجموع ساعات الخطة الدراسية	مجموع الساعات المعتمدة	نوع المتطلب	متطلب		
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7. ODUS System:

ODUS stands for On Demand University System. ODUS system is responsible for the following:

- (1) Course Schedule
- (2) Course Transaction (Add and Drop)
- (3) Student Transcripts
- (4) Student Progress Monitoring Tool
- (5) Faculty Evaluation Survey Results

8. Physical Therapy Academic Advising Policies:

- A. Assigning advisor
- B. Reporting on Student Progress
- C. Advising on Student Progress
- D. Graduation Requirement checking

A. Assigning Academic Advisors:

A student advisor is allocated by the department / Program, in the beginning of each semester. Maximum number of students per Academic Advisor is Twenty (20) based on the strength of the students per year of admission and distributed equally among all faculty so that the students gets benefited with quality of time. The Department announces the list of advisors using available means (Facebook, Emails, Notice Board and other means of communication) and students are asked to fill in a form (Form 1) that can contain his/her basic information. Two copies of the signed form are kept one with the academic advisor and the other with the department. Fig 1. shows the process.

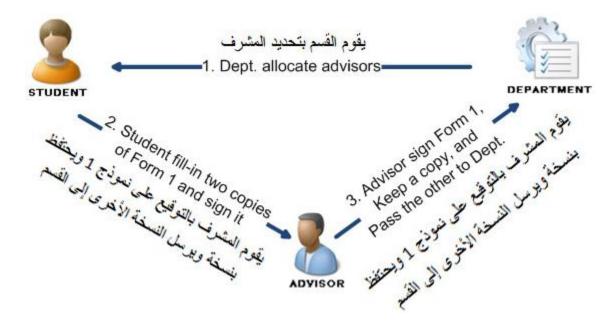


Figure 1: Allocation and Documentation of Academic Advising Process.

B. Reporting on Student Progress:

A form-5, cumulative GPA analysis form is to be filled in the first week of the semester where course registration takes place, every student is asked to visit his/her to receive advice on courses to be registered. The advisor must check on the student performance in the last semester and

compare it with the previous semester to include whether the student performance has been changed. Based on his observation, advisors are asked to:

- (1). Counselling shall be carried out to find out the reasons for decline in performance.
- (2). Helps student to choose his/her courses in the next semester and advised to perform well to improve the GPA.
- (3). Alerts the department if there were abnormal changes in the student performance (Increase or decrease in GPA by a difference of 0.5 to take appropriate measures).



Figure 2: Progress Reporting Process

C. Advising on Course Choice:

As a part of progress reporting on student performance, student is encouraged to discuss his/her choices of courses. Based on MU regulations and student performance in the last attended semester, academic advisor helps students to make his/her decisions. Those choices are documented in Form 2.

After registration is finalized (usually) in the second week of the semester, advisors are asked to check the student timetables on ODUS System and report on whether the student has followed the advice given and agreed during the week. Advisor reports student to the department for further actions on Pre-Requisite Violations or on any other concerns that he / she finds.

E. Graduation Requirement Checking:

Advisor di follow the instruction given by the Department and check on each student to make sure that he/she has fulfilled all the requirements for graduation. As the student fulfill all requirements for graduation, department will ask to fill in a Form in order to receive a certificate that certify that they have completed successfully the requirements of a career track.

The Physical Therapy Program is offered as a full-time on-campus day-time program, requiring for graduation the successful completion of eight semesters consisting of 137 credit hours which are delivered in the form of lectures, tutorials, laboratories, clinical practice, self-study and ending with a non-credit but mandatory one year rotatory internship at any of the prestigious hospital/hospitals in the Kingdom. The one-year mandatory internship consisting of a comprehensive clinical training with rotation to Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Critical Care Unit (CCU), Orthopaedic, Neurology, Cardiopulmonary, Paediatric, Burns and surgery Department is mandatory. The student shall have completed all academic requirements to qualify for internship program. The students receive the bachelor's degree in physical therapy after successful completion of all clinical rotations, competencies and objectives.

The Check sheet for Graduation requirement is given below:

Complete a minimum of 137 Credit Hours

Earn a GPA of at least 2.75

Pre-Requisite are checked, and no violation found.

9. Events at the Department for Academic Advising:

The department of the Faculty of Dept. Physical Therapy arranges the following events for Academic Advising.

1. Open days: The Physical Therapy CAMS, MU arranges Open Days at the start of every academic year, the office doors of the Academic advisors are decorated with **Vision & Mission signs**. So that anyone who wants to know more about the department and the field come to the academic advisors to know more. The Office hours of the Faculty members who are working as Academic

Advisor by the department shows the time on which a student can come to his office and can get help.

- **2. Orientation Day Meetings:** The Dept. Physical Therapy, CAMS, MU announces on Twitter, Face book, Email, LinkedIn, WhatsApp, Pinterest, Reddit, Gmail and MU website (Vice Dean page) the form necessary to be signed by the academic advisors. The students on the first week of registration sits with the advisors to make the necessary meeting for getting the advice on their selection of subjects during the semester, the student is advised on electives and also track choices (as per the Levels).
- **3. Record of Meetings with the advisors:** Students are encouraged to get help by scheduling a meeting with their advisors by:
 - (1) Looking into the schedule displayed on the office door.
 - (2) Through electronic-Egugate system
 - (3) Email the advisor by contacting him/her via his/her official email address @mu.edu.sa
 - (4) In rare situations, arrange a telephonic meeting (for which the record will not be available).

The minutes of meetings are documented and verified periodically for improving the quality of education to benefit all students to a successful career towards the vision 2030.