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# **NSSE 2017 Topical Module Report**

## **Academic Advising**

Ohio University

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## About This Topical Module

This module examines students' experiences with academic advising, including frequency, accessibility, and types of information provided. It also asks students to identify their primary source of advice. The module complements a question on the core survey about the quality of students' interactions with academic advisors. Complementary FSSE set available.

## Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Carnegie Class' column of this report.

Group label	Carnegie Class
Date submitted	5/17/17
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this group by selecting institutional characteristics as follows:  Basic Classification (Doc/Higher)
Group description	Carnegie Class for Advising

## Carnegie Class (N=29)

Augusta University (Augusta, GA)  
 Binghamton University (State University of New York) (Binghamton, NY)  
 Brigham Young University (Provo, UT)  
 Catholic University of America, The (Washington, DC)  
 Florida A&M University (Tallahassee, FL)  
 Florida Institute of Technology (Melbourne, FL)  
 Kent State University (Kent, OH)  
 New Jersey Institute of Technology (Newark, NJ)\*  
 New Mexico State University (Las Cruces, NM)  
 North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University (Greensboro, NC)  
 South Dakota State University (Brookings, SD)\*  
 Stevens Institute of Technology (Hoboken, NJ)  
 University of Alabama in Huntsville (Huntsville, AL)\*  
 University of Alaska Fairbanks (Fairbanks, AK)\*  
 University of Maine (Orono, ME)  
 University of Massachusetts Boston (Boston, MA)  
 University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (North Dartmouth, MA)  
 University of Massachusetts Lowell (Lowell, MA)\*  
 University of Memphis (Memphis, TN)\*  
 University of Missouri-Kansas City (Kansas City, MO)\*  
 University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)  
 University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)  
 University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)\*  
 University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)\*  
 University of South Dakota (Vermillion, SD)\*  
 University of Southern Mississippi (Hattiesburg, MS)\*  
 University of Texas at El Paso, The (El Paso, TX)  
 University of Texas at San Antonio, The (San Antonio, TX)  
 University of Vermont (Burlington, VT)

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				OU		Carnegie Class		OU	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
<b>1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?</b>										
	ADV01	0	0	10	2	1,216	9	<b>2.6</b>	2.2 ***	.29
		1	1	64	17	2,677	24			
		2	2	134	34	3,310	32			
		3	3	93	23	2,021	19			
		4	4	59	15	827	8			
		5	5	19	5	315	3			
		6	6 or more	19	4	546	5			
			Total	398	100	10,912	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?</b>										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	28	7	854	8	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.10
		2	Some	81	20	2,226	20			
		3	Quite a bit	135	34	3,835	35			
		4	Very much	141	36	3,206	30			
		—	Not applicable	12	3	809	6			
			Total	397	100	10,930	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	32	7	856	8	<b>3.1</b>	3.0	.09
		2	Some	70	17	2,050	19			
		3	Quite a bit	138	35	3,644	34			
		4	Very much	147	37	3,393	32			
		—	Not applicable	10	3	967	7			
			Total	397	100	10,910	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	51	12	1,423	13	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	.00
		2	Some	94	24	2,304	21			
		3	Quite a bit	122	31	3,284	30			
		4	Very much	117	30	3,015	29			
		—	Not applicable	13	4	882	7			
			Total	397	100	10,908	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	46	12	1,375	13	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	.02
		2	Some	102	25	2,475	23			
		3	Quite a bit	118	30	3,301	31			
		4	Very much	113	28	2,718	26			
		—	Not applicable	18	5	1,038	8			
			Total	397	100	10,907	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	63	16	1,506	14	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	-.07
		2	Some	102	26	2,443	22			
		3	Quite a bit	106	27	3,196	29			
		4	Very much	101	25	2,734	26			
		—	Not applicable	22	6	1,027	8			
			Total	394	100	10,906	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				OU		Carnegie Class		OU	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	41	10	1,237	11	<b>2.9</b>	2.8	.02
		2	Some	95	24	2,364	22			
		3	Quite a bit	128	33	3,414	31			
		4	Very much	124	32	3,121	30			
		—	Not applicable	7	2	769	6			
		Total		395	100	10,905	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	59	15	1,698	15	<b>2.7</b>	2.6	.04
		2	Some	88	23	2,262	21			
		3	Quite a bit	92	23	2,382	22			
		4	Very much	103	25	2,321	22			
		—	Not applicable	54	14	2,230	19			
		Total		396	100	10,893	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internships, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	77	19	2,123	19	<b>2.6</b>	2.5	.05
		2	Some	81	21	2,362	22			
		3	Quite a bit	86	22	2,336	21			
		4	Very much	88	22	2,060	20			
		—	Not applicable	63	16	2,015	18			
		Total		395	100	10,896	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	86	21	2,350	21	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	.04
		2	Some	98	24	2,610	24			
		3	Quite a bit	90	24	2,277	21			
		4	Very much	88	22	2,141	21			
		—	Not applicable	32	8	1,507	13			
		Total		394	100	10,885	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?</b>										
	ADV04	1	Never	142	35	4,160	37	<b>1.9</b>	2.0	-.04
	_15	2	Sometimes	169	43	4,058	37			
		3	Often	58	15	1,853	18			
		4	Very often	25	7	813	8			
		Total		394	100	10,884	100			
<b>4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one.)</b>										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	165	42	3,564	35			
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	30	7	943	8			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	45	11	750	7			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	17	4	432	4			
		—	Website, catalog, or other published sources	15	4	538	5			
		—	Friends or other students	54	14	1,762	16			
		—	Family members	50	13	2,208	18			
		—	Other, please specify:	5	1	231	2			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	12	4	455	4			
		Total		393	100	10,883	100			

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				OU		Carnegie Class		OU	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
<b>1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?</b>										
	ADV01	0	0	33	10	2,093	14	<b>2.5</b>	2.2 ***	.21
		1	1	68	20	3,961	27			
		2	2	104	31	3,713	27			
		3	3	50	15	1,940	14			
		4	4	31	9	965	7			
		5	5	15	5	404	3			
		6	6 or more	37	11	1,091	8			
			Total	338	100	14,167	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?</b>										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	32	9	1,524	11	<b>3.0</b>	2.9 *	.13
		2	Some	58	18	2,986	21			
		3	Quite a bit	111	33	4,388	30			
		4	Very much	119	36	4,304	31			
		—	Not applicable	18	5	988	6			
			Total	338	100	14,190	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	34	10	1,525	11	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.09
		2	Some	60	18	2,855	20			
		3	Quite a bit	99	30	4,165	29			
		4	Very much	123	36	4,380	32			
		—	Not applicable	22	6	1,265	8			
			Total	338	100	14,190	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	53	16	2,507	17	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.00
		2	Some	78	23	3,030	21			
		3	Quite a bit	95	29	3,759	27			
		4	Very much	90	26	3,739	28			
		—	Not applicable	22	6	1,137	7			
			Total	338	100	14,172	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	65	18	2,566	18	<b>2.6</b>	2.6	-.03
		2	Some	79	24	3,139	22			
		3	Quite a bit	82	25	3,498	25			
		4	Very much	78	23	3,229	24			
		—	Not applicable	34	10	1,733	11			
			Total	338	100	14,165	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	84	25	3,551	24	<b>2.4</b>	2.4	.02
		2	Some	67	20	3,221	23			
		3	Quite a bit	72	21	2,739	20			
		4	Very much	63	19	2,470	19			
		—	Not applicable	52	16	2,181	15			
			Total	338	100	14,162	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				OU		Carnegie Class		OU	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	55	16	2,551	18	<b>2.8</b>	2.6 *	.13
		2	Some	66	20	3,248	23			
		3	Quite a bit	82	25	3,659	26			
		4	Very much	105	32	3,458	26			
		—	Not applicable	28	8	1,239	8			
		Total		336	100	14,155	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	67	19	2,854	20	<b>2.6</b>	2.5	.08
		2	Some	53	16	2,668	19			
		3	Quite a bit	67	20	2,585	18			
		4	Very much	81	24	2,757	21			
		—	Not applicable	65	20	3,297	22			
		Total		333	100	14,161	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internships, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	86	25	3,484	25	<b>2.4</b>	2.4	.03
		2	Some	68	21	2,772	19			
		3	Quite a bit	69	21	2,583	18			
		4	Very much	70	21	2,655	20			
		—	Not applicable	43	12	2,645	19			
		Total		336	100	14,139	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	58	17	3,650	26	<b>2.7</b>	2.4 ***	.26
		2	Some	72	21	3,185	22			
		3	Quite a bit	80	24	2,642	19			
		4	Very much	99	29	2,999	22			
		—	Not applicable	27	8	1,639	11			
		Total		336	100	14,115	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?</b>										
	ADV04	1	Never	154	46	6,972	47	<b>1.8</b>	1.8	.00
		2	Sometimes	119	35	4,477	32			
		3	Often	38	11	1,837	14			
		4	Very often	25	8	853	7			
		—	Not applicable							
		Total		336	100	14,139	100			
<b>4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one.)</b>										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	113	34	4,018	31	<b>1.8</b>	1.8	.00
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	30	9	1,132	8			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	85	25	2,573	18			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	18	5	1,038	7			
		—	Website, catalog, or other published sources	7	2	839	6			
		—	Friends or other students	30	9	1,826	12			
		—	Family members	31	9	1,545	10			
		—	Other, please specify:	10	3	436	3			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	12	4	741	5			
		Total		336	100	14,148	100			

## First-Year Students

Variable name	N		Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
	OU	Carnegie Class	OU	Carnegie Class	OU	Carnegie Class	OU	Carnegie Class			
ADV01	392	2.21	2.64	.07	.02	1.35	1.48	5,526	.000	.29	
ADV02a	378	2.94	3.03	.05	.01	0.93	0.93	5,206	.074	.10	
ADV02b	380	2.97	3.05	.05	.01	0.93	0.95	5,137	.106	.09	
ADV02c	377	2.81	2.81	.05	.01	1.01	1.03	5,174	.926	.00	
ADV02d	372	2.76	2.78	.05	.01	1.01	1.01	5,085	.676	.02	
ADV02e	364	2.74	2.66	.06	.02	1.05	1.03	5,081	.173	-.07	
ADV02f	382	2.84	2.87	.05	.01	0.99	1.00	5,222	.662	.02	
ADV02g	334	2.64	2.68	.06	.02	1.07	1.08	4,464	.444	.04	
ADV02h	326	2.51	2.57	.06	.02	1.10	1.10	4,546	.353	.05	
ADV02i	357	2.47	2.52	.06	.02	1.09	1.10	4,826	.415	.04	
ADV04_15	388	1.97	1.93	.04	.01	0.88	0.93	5,515	.422	-.04	



### Seniors

Variable name	N		Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
	OU	Carnegie Class	OU	Carnegie Class	OU	Carnegie Class	OU	Carnegie Class			
ADV01	338		2.51	2.16	.09	.02	1.74	1.68	7,027	.000	.21
ADV02a	320		3.01	2.87	.05	.01	0.97	1.01	355	.015	.13
ADV02b	316		2.98	2.90	.06	.01	1.00	1.01	6,495	.123	.09
ADV02c	317		2.70	2.70	.06	.01	1.05	1.09	6,529	.961	.00
ADV02d	305		2.58	2.61	.06	.01	1.07	1.09	6,244	.638	-.03
ADV02e	285		2.41	2.39	.07	.01	1.13	1.12	6,001	.742	.02
ADV02f	309		2.79	2.65	.06	.01	1.09	1.09	6,468	.025	.13
ADV02g	267		2.61	2.52	.07	.02	1.15	1.14	5,454	.203	.08
ADV02h	294		2.44	2.40	.07	.02	1.14	1.15	5,729	.598	.03
ADV02i	308		2.72	2.42	.06	.01	1.10	1.15	343	.000	.26
ADV04_15	335		1.80	1.80	.05	.01	0.92	0.92	7,015	.988	.00

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### Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent  $t$ -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent  $t$ -tests uses Cohen's  $d$ ;  $z$ -tests use Cohen's  $h$ .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the  $t$ -tests. Values differ from  $N$ s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent  $t$ -tests or  $z$ -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses  $z$ -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

#### *Key to symbols:*

- ▲ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- △ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▽ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▼ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ( $p < .05$ ) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.