The University Advisement Center’s comprehensive online advising program commenced fall 2017 and has supported student success by developing:

- Assessment tools to measure Student Advising Learning Outcomes
- Procedure and tutorial for advisement via video conference
- Online NSO for Distance Learners and International Students includes homework and videos
- Proactive data-driven interventions targeting student retention and graduation
- Handbook to support academic departments in their development of an online advising program.

Distance Learning Courses

The University offers an average of 5,000 seats per semester in distance learning courses, which are outside of distance learning majors, like the B.S. in Applied Studies and B.S. in Nursing.

2016 Survey of Incoming Transfer Students

55% were interested in participating in online advisement
21% would be open to the idea of online advisement

The goal is to expand comprehensive online support at the college level. Giving nontraditional and distance learning students access and the opportunity to engage with their major departments like never before.

Research shows that nontraditional students have a unique set of needs and by not addressing those needs, we unintentionally create barriers to student engagement and persistence (Darling, 2015). This lack of academic engagement often leaves students feeling marginalized and increases their likelihood of dropping or stopping out of college.

An advisor by a student’s side can be a vital connection between students and their education, helping them become more reflective and strategic about the choices they are making and the learning they are involved in (Hunter & White, 2004).

To mitigate the feelings of marginalization and to promote student retention, a proactive approach through online advisement would help connect a typically hard to reach student population to faculty, staff, and resources on campus.

If students are provided with an alternative for face-to-face advising through an online platform, they will have the opportunity to foster relationships with advisors who can help guide them through challenges they may encounter along the path to degree completion.

To support nontraditional and distance learning students, the University Advisement Center seeks to augment traditional academic advising methods through the development of a comprehensive online advising program.

CSU Dominguez Hills has a significant nontraditional and distance learning student population that would benefit from comprehensive online support.

Student Population
25 years +
36-40% Within the last 5 years.

Distance Learning Participation
30%

Developing an online advising program is an opportunity to engage students and enhance their college experience by providing support and guidance in an accessible manner.

SUPPORT FOR NONTRADITIONAL AND DISTANCE LEARNING STUDENTS

- Students who are distance learners or nontraditional stand to benefit the most from the development of a university-wide comprehensive online advising program, as it provides access to resources that have not always been available to them.
- Research shows that nontraditional students have a unique set of needs and by not addressing those needs, we unintentionally create barriers to student engagement and persistence (Darling, 2015). This lack of academic engagement often leaves students feeling marginalized and increases their likelihood of dropping or stopping out of college.
- An advisor by a student’s side can be a vital connection between students and their education, helping them become more reflective and strategic about the choices they are making and the learning they are involved in (Hunter & White, 2004).
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