Responsibilities of Advisers at Grinnell College

Advising is an extension of teaching, a conscious concern for the questions that students have about the importance of their studies, the direction of their intellectual development, the value of their educational objectives.

Grinnell College relies upon the student and his or her adviser working together to develop a program of study recognizably liberal in both breadth and depth, and adapted to the special interests and long term goals of the student. Advisers should be thoroughly familiar with the “Academic Program” section of the College Catalog, with the “Academic Regulations” section of the Student Handbook, Vade Mecum, and with the Advisers’ Handbook.

The responsibilities of the faculty adviser are:

1. To help the student plan his or her program of study.
2. To provide a sympathetic hearing and, as needed, advice or referral on academic, career, and personal problems.
3. To be readily available to the student, giving to each an opportunity to know a faculty member well, and a sense that someone is personally interested in his or her welfare.
4. To encourage each student to develop the ability to make responsible decisions.

Tutorial professors serve as first year students’ advisers. Transfer students not in tutorials are assigned advisers in the department in which they have indicated an interest.

...from the Advisers’ Handbook, 1996-97