

Student Development and Learning Theories

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Abstract

This session will focus on providing participants with an overview of student development and learning theories and how they pertain to the academic advising world. While there are numerous theories of college student development and of learning, we will focus on four that have direct and clear application for academic advisors: Astin's Theory of Involvement, Chickering's Theory of Identity Development, Perry's Theory of Intellectual and Ethical Development, and Kolb's Theory of Experiential Learning. Vignettes will be used to discuss the application of each theory in real-life settings. The session will focus on the interconnection of theory, research, and practice, and how each informs the other. High audience participation is expected.

Outline

1. Purpose of theories
2. Astin's Theory of Student Involvement
3. Chickering's Theory of Identity Development
4. Perry's Theory of Intellectual and Ethical Development
5. Kolb's Theory of Experiential Learning
6. Implications and Discussion
 - a. Each theory is accompanied by a vignette to help illustrate the theory's application

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