Daniela’s Academic Advising Philosophy

I firmly believe that the purpose of a quality education is to empower individuals and communities to liberate themselves and others from fear and oppression while exposing them to the many ways in which they can “define success in [their] own terms, achieve it by [their] own rules and build a life [they] can be proud of” (Ann Sweeney).

Thus, in my role as academic advisor I strive to support students from diverse backgrounds to (re)discover their personal power and greatness as they navigate their undergraduate journey. In our academic advising appointments students can count on me to:

1) Honor and embrace their full and most authentic self
2) Use kind, inclusive, and reassuring language
3) Ask lots of questions to prompt self-reflection and
4) Bring a thick layer of accountability to ensure they achieve their academic goals

Students can think of me as someone who will not let them settle for anything less than their personal best, but will also remind them to have fun, practice self-compassion and savor the everyday experience of being a college student at UCD.

There is nothing more inspiring and motivating to me as an academic advisor than being in the presence of students that continue to persist in educational environments that are not designed for them WHILE co-creating the welcoming and inclusive environment they deserve. As a professional, I am super grateful for the opportunity to build a fulfilling career where my life’s purpose and experience come together to create better outcomes for ALL undergraduate students as they strive for academic excellence and a brighter future for us all.

When not advising, you can see me leaning into creativity, innovation and technology to sharpen my academic advising skills, seeking valuable knowledge to share with colleagues in campus committees and conference presentations, as well as promoting sustainable work cultures so that we can better serve our students thrive at UCD.

Thank you for reading! I look forward to seeing you soon!