

**THE ROLE OF THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR TOWARDS GUIDING THE
STUDENT IN USING THE APPROPRIATE RESEARCH METHOD**

Abstract

The prime aim of this study is to evaluate the role of an academic advisor in counseling what research methods would be appropriate for the topics they choose. This orientation is crucial in tertiary education because novice learners desperately need authentic, reliable, and valid counseling to single out research methodology in their academic careers. Sometimes, the students drop out for lack of proper guidance in the educational institutions. Hence, the study also examines the academic counselor's profile from students' perspectives. To achieve the objectives, previous literature has been ransacked to find the gap, and the convenient sampling – 100 students, 50 from each gender – has been taken from Gezira University, Sudan. The data collected has been subjected to SPSS to derive the descriptive analysis for interpretation. The results showed that the role of the academic advisor is statistically significant because of the correlation between counselors and the students who have to select the course, choose a topic for research, and finally employ a befitting research methodology to demonstrate that they have achieved their outcomes. However, further studies are required to examine other dimensions of academic counseling in attaining the goals.

Keywords: *academic advisor, counseling, research method, correlation, topic*

Introduction

Counseling is essential to the mission of teaching and learning, and it helps students succeed. The main goal of the counseling community is to integrate counseling into students' educational experiences through one-on-one counseling with a focus on the individual student in a safe and nurturing setting. Academic advisors' job is to help students learn and grow, facilitate their intellectual exploration, and help them connect what they know to themselves and from the world. To help students better understand their educational experiences, counselors use a developmental framework to guide their work on formulating their long-term plans, short-term goals, and long-term career aspirations. A counselor's job is to help students examine their experiences, feelings, values, abilities, and aspirations in a non-judgmental, respectful, and supportive manner. Mentors

teach students degree requirements, institutional policies and procedures, university structure and culture, and refer them to campus support services.

Currently, education has a significant impact on people's lives worldwide. It plays a critical role in ensuring the growth and stability of individuals throughout their lives. Education is one of the many resources that can be used to provide wise, efficient, and effective management tools. Ahmad D. Marimba stated in (Iatrellis O., 2017) that education is a conscious effort to lead students toward physical and spiritual growth to form their primary personality. Primarily, educational institutions are responsible for the development of capable students. The quality of university outputs can compete not only in achieving knowledge but also in creating a job. From this state, the public university must provide some designated tutors to assist the students in reaching their entire academic life. But certain teachers also provide guidance, mind mapping, and motivation to achieve their vision in the learning process. We find that the academic advisor has a role in guiding students towards using the appropriate research approach.

Research Questions, Aims & Objectives

The characteristics of an excellent academic advisor can be used to determine the effectiveness of the roles of academic advisors. Academic advisors need to have good character because they are responsible for their advisees. (Khairat, A. (2015)) As academic advisors, they have to be both personally and professionally interested in being an advisor. Second, listen to students' concerns with an open mind, attempting to understand them from all angles. Third, allocate regularly enough scheduled time to meet the advising requirements of students assigned to them. A good advisor needs to schedule their time effectively to provide better academic guidance.

When it comes to providing students with accurate and useful information, academic advisors must be knowledgeable about all aspects of university policy and practice. If an academic advisor is guiding or motivating students, they should share as much information as possible about the students' progress in the classroom. Sixth, a student's academic advisor tries to understand their concerns from a student's perspective. Academic advisors believe that long-term planning is essential. Lastly, academic advisors must point students in the direction of additional sources of information and assistance when it appears that this is the most beneficial course of action for the individual students involved.

Research Aims:

The main objective of this research is to support the development of a new job offer for Gezira University, Sudan. This study investigates the effect of academic counseling on guidance towards research methodology.

Research Questions:

The research seeks to answer the following questions:

- What is the role of the academic advisor?
- What is the role of the academic advisor in guiding research methodology?

Research objectives:

- Work on emphasizing the role of the academic advisor in solving students' problems.
- Work to confirm the role of the academic advisor in guiding students towards the use of the research methodology.

Literature Review:

Introduction:

This part of the research involves a review of the previous five years' worth of literature to come up with a better intervention during the study.

The review uses a narrative approach because it is the most appropriate strategy for an action research project with a practical purpose and does not show that a gap exists in the literature (Willis, R., 2019).

A few terms related to the research advisor's area of expertise have been employed. There are several activities that academic advisors carry out to help students achieve their academic goals under their peculiar circumstances. (Pedoman Education UIN Makassar, 2014:59) An advisor is a college faculty member who is assigned to assist a student with academic planning, according to the American Association of Registrars and Admissions Officials (Khairat, A. (2015)). As stated by Crockett, the college counselor serves as an educational coordinator for the counselor (Crockett, 1978:52). For this reason, mentors must have the ability to assist students in developing achievable objectives and in matching those objectives with appropriate institutional resources.

There have been several studies looking into the impact of academic advisors on students' motivation to learn. According to Aksan (2010), who researched "Hubungan Kinerja Penasehat Akademik Dengan Motivasi Belajar di Jurusan Pendidikan Biologi Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan Universitas Islam Negeri Makassar," only a few impressions from academic advisors to students' learning motivation were supported by evidence that the results of the data showed there was a 14.44% influence of the roles. There is a good relationship between the academic advisor and the student's motivation to learn. It is Tri Sunarsih (2009)'s research on "Hubungan Antara

Motivasi Belajar, Kemandirian Belajar, dan Bimbingan Akademic" that suggests that students' motivation must be tied to their learning goals. STIKES A. Yani, Yogyakarta, is one of the schools that Tri Sunarsih studied. At the end of this semester, the academic advisor determines whether or not a student is motivated to learn.

It was also found by Pargett (2011) that every faculty has a significant impact on the development of higher education students in his theses on "The Effects of Academic Advising in College Student Development.". Relationship building between students and academic advisors can have a positive impact on student development, as well as overall motivation and satisfaction. Academic advisors' contributions to student success have been documented by NurHasyim and Hafiuddin (2010) in their thesis titled "Peran Pembimbing Akademik Dalam Mengoptimalkan Hasil Studi Mahasiswa: Studi Pada Politeknik Negeri Jakarta." Students' success can be aided by their academic advisor's encouragement. Students who receive more encouragement from their academic advisors are more likely to meet their educational goals sooner. We can therefore conclude that academic advisors can have a significant impact on student's motivation to learn.

Scope:

- **Objectivity border:** We find that the research is limited to the role of the academic advisor in guiding the student towards using the appropriate curriculum.
- **spatial boundaries:** The research will be limited to students of Gezira University, Sudan.
- **time limits:** The search will be limited to the period from 2022 to 2023.

Research Design & Methodology

Research is quantitative and measures many hypotheses based on the success. Variables related to academic advisor statistical exams, for example, The Pearson correlation is used to test the empirical relationship between the equations of the independent variable (the

role of the academic advisor) and its continuity, which is the choice of research method. The research used a quantitative data collection method and a data survey method. SPSS has also been used for analytical purposes. information. - data. It had 100 participants from Gezira University, Sudan. The questionnaire was distributed and everyone who answered the questionnaire was invited to participate in the study. The descriptive and analytical approach was used to explain the phenomena and events in this analysis. Subject and methodology of the case study, this approach is suitable for the presented data, accurate and informative about the case, and its suitability for the analysis and comparison process. Research and software are used to interpret the survey and test hypotheses.

Research Design

Research design helps to establish boundaries for research, which involve defining the study environments, the type of research to be carried out, the analysis unit, and the other research-related issues. A research design is a research project plan for investigating and responding to research questions. Three main types of research projects exist, namely: (1) descriptive, (2) exploratory design, and (3) incidental or explanatory design; This study focuses mainly on testing an integrated model that identifies the factors affecting study success. The research problem and goal are indicated. In the next stage, a descriptive research concept was used to describe the characteristics of the respondents and to determine the frequencies, percentages, mean and standard deviations of the buildings used. In this study, several quantitative hypotheses were evaluated based on the academic impact on the student's choice of research methodology such as structural equation modeling.

The quantitative data set and survey method were used in this study, and data were collected from the students of Gezira University in Sudan, the next stage: the development of a focused group

discussion. Next stage: Completing the data analytics framework. The last stage: The data for writing and editing the final research thesis was collected using the survey method.

Sampling

A procedure for allocating people into one of the groups (arms) of a sample is randomization or random distribution (Del Mar & Hoffmann, 2015). It is the fundamental assumption needed for statistical data analysis. Randomization, particularly in subgroup studies, will maximize statistical strength, minimize selection bias and minimize allocation bias (or confounding). This contributes to the distribution similarly within the classes of all features, measured or non-measured, visible or invisible, and known or unknown. As per the research design and results, randomization uses different methods.

In simple random sampling, each individual in the population has the same opportunity to be included in the survey. This is used when there is a tiny, homogenous population and the sampling frame is available. For example, the lottery process, the random number table, or the machine-generated computer (Henry, 2009).

The required sample size has been determined with SPSS, the sample size 100 and for analysis 100 answers were obtained from Students at Gezira University, Sudan.

Research Instrument

With an objective description, the research instruments such as measurement scales, questionnaires, and scoring systems must be defined. These instruments should be tested before their use, and research personnel must use them correctly to prevent any bias. To anyone involved in the analysis, these tools should be clear and easily understandable (Cook & Beckman, 2006).



Figure (1) Types of Quantitative Data Collection

The questionnaire in this study is accompanied by a letter covering the purpose of the study and ensuring the confidentiality of the information collected. The participants were informed about the study's understanding of the study environment at Gezira University, Sudan. In addition, for appropriate inquiries or for obtaining study results.

Statistical study

According to the field, the purpose of this analysis is to finalize the influence of an academic advisor in guiding the use of appropriate research methodology at King Saud University in Saudi Arabia with a sample of 100 students Gezira University, Sudan. The study uses the quantitative approach of the methodology.

An analytical study

This contains an overview of the methodology of this study, the study population, the study sample, and the study tool, in addition to the study's variables, indicators of validity and reliability, and the statistical treatments used in it.

Statistical Methods

- SMA
- Standard deviation
- Measures of central tendency
- Alpha Cronbach
- Research Variability

Dependent variable

Scientific research is one of the most important skills in which you search for a solution to a problem, or support or negate a scientific hypothesis with reliable evidence. Therefore, it is considered one of the basic requirements in graduate studies and other work and is also one of the most important means of theoretical and practical development for the individual and society. The research method represents a set of steps that the researcher follows, provided that these steps are considered and scientifically approved, and the researcher adheres to them in a logical and scientific sequence, organized and clearly defined, to be able to reach a tight result based on evidence, logic and the accepted rules and controls of scientific research. Therefore, in his research journey, the researcher must have patience, honesty, perseverance, and honesty

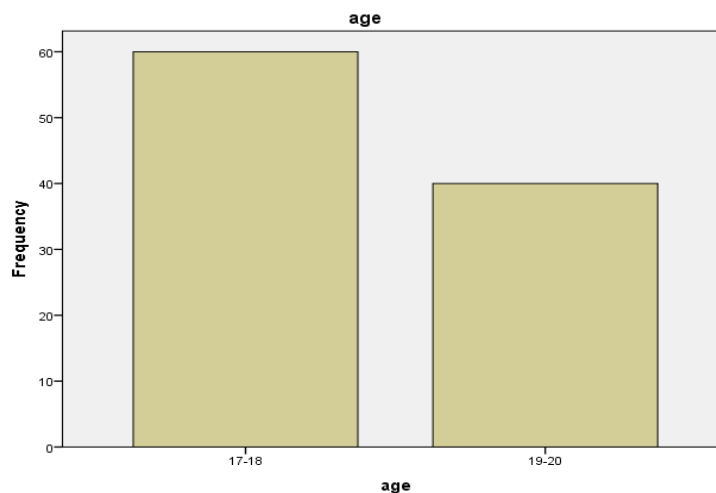
Independent variables

Those who serve as academic advisors are faculty members who are already in a position of authority in the department. All of the activities undertaken by the Academic Advisor to help the student meet their academic goals are referred to as "academic guidance" in this context. (Pedoman Edukasi UIN Makassar,2014: 59).

- **First, identify the demographic factors:**

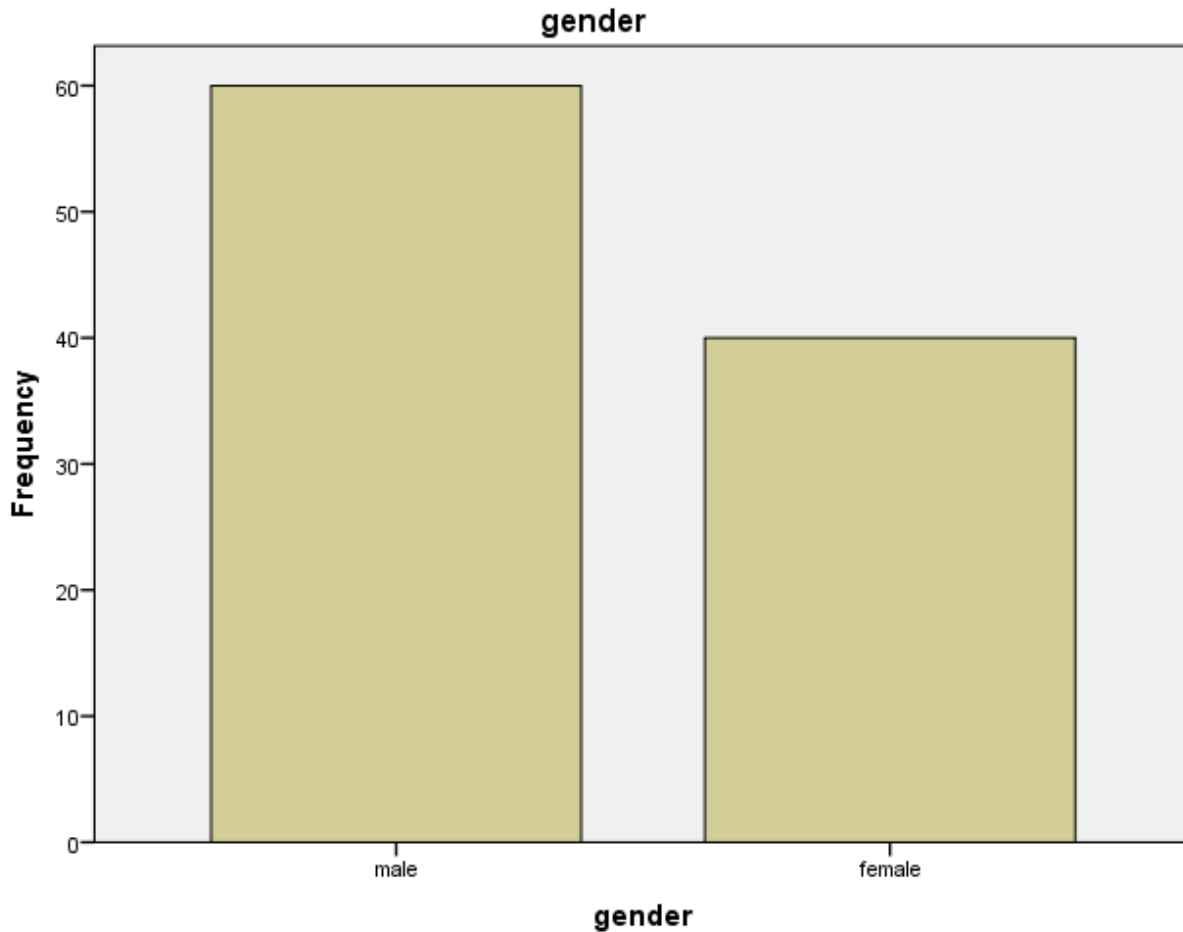
age					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	17-18	60	60.0	60.0	60.0
	19-20	40	40.0	40.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

By looking at the previous table, we find that the sample includes 60 ages ranging from 17-18 years at a rate of 60 percent, and 40 ages ranging from 19 to 20 at a rate of 40 percent.



		gender			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	male	60	60.0	60.0	60.0
	female	40	40.0	40.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

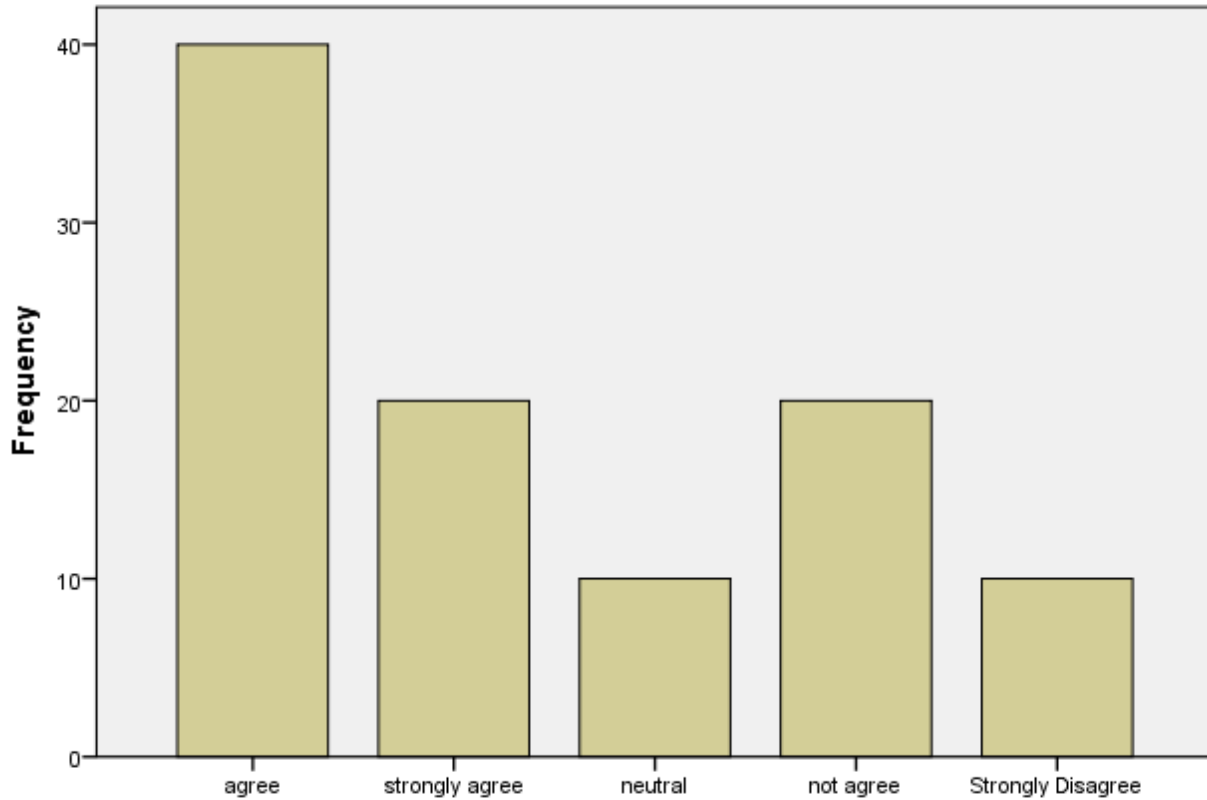
By looking at the previous table, we find that the sample includes 60 males with 60 percent and 40 females with 40 percent.



Academic advisors provide consideration to students who wish to finish their studies or drop out					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	40	40.0	40.0	40.0
	strongly agree	20	20.0	20.0	60.0
	neutral	10	10.0	10.0	70.0
	not agree	20	20.0	20.0	90.0
	Strongly Disagree	10	10.0	10.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked about academic advisors considering students who wish to finish their studies or drop out, the answers were 40 agree, 20 very agree, 10 neutrals, 20 disagree, and 10 strongly disagree.

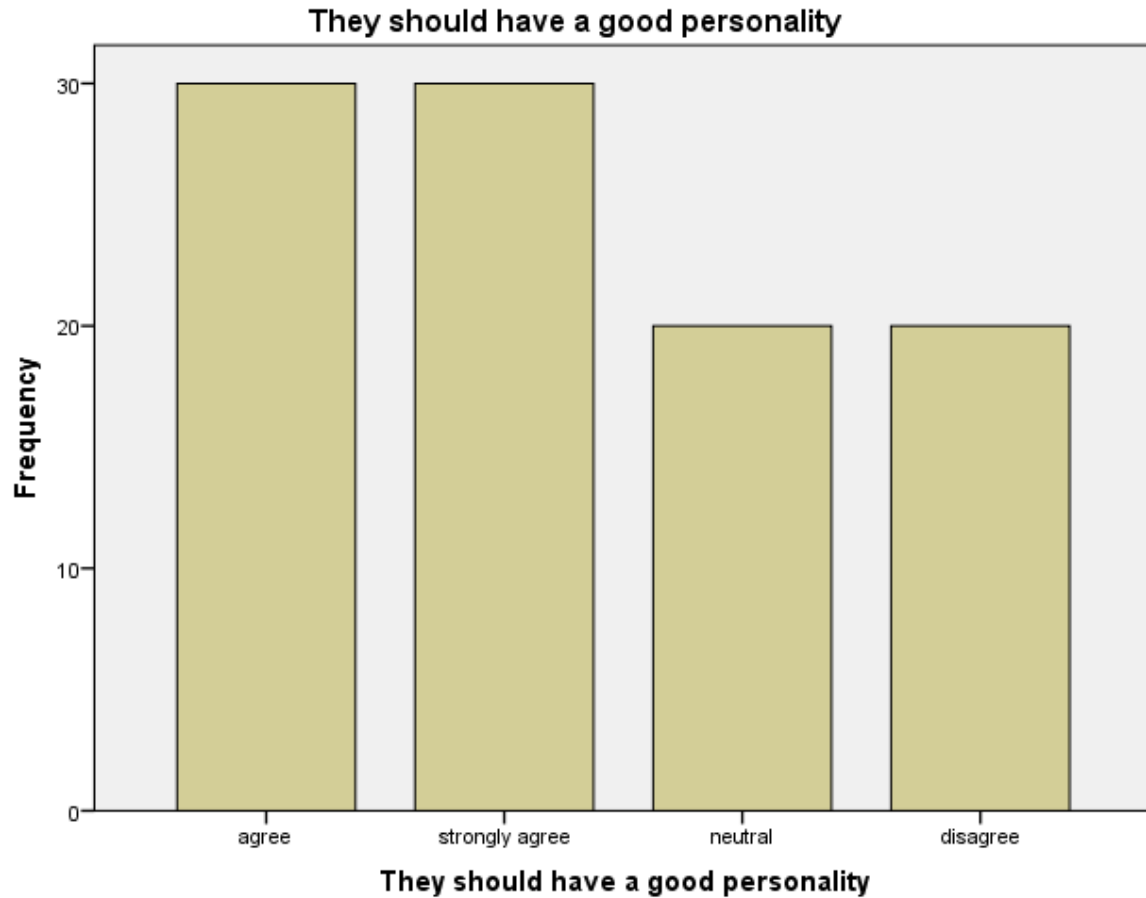
Academic advisors provide consideration to students who wish to finish their studies or drop out



Academic advisors provide consideration to students who wish to finish their studies or drop out

They should have a good personality					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	30	30.0	30.0	30.0
	strongly agree	30	30.0	30.0	60.0
	neutral	20	20.0	20.0	80.0
	disagree	20	20.0	20.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

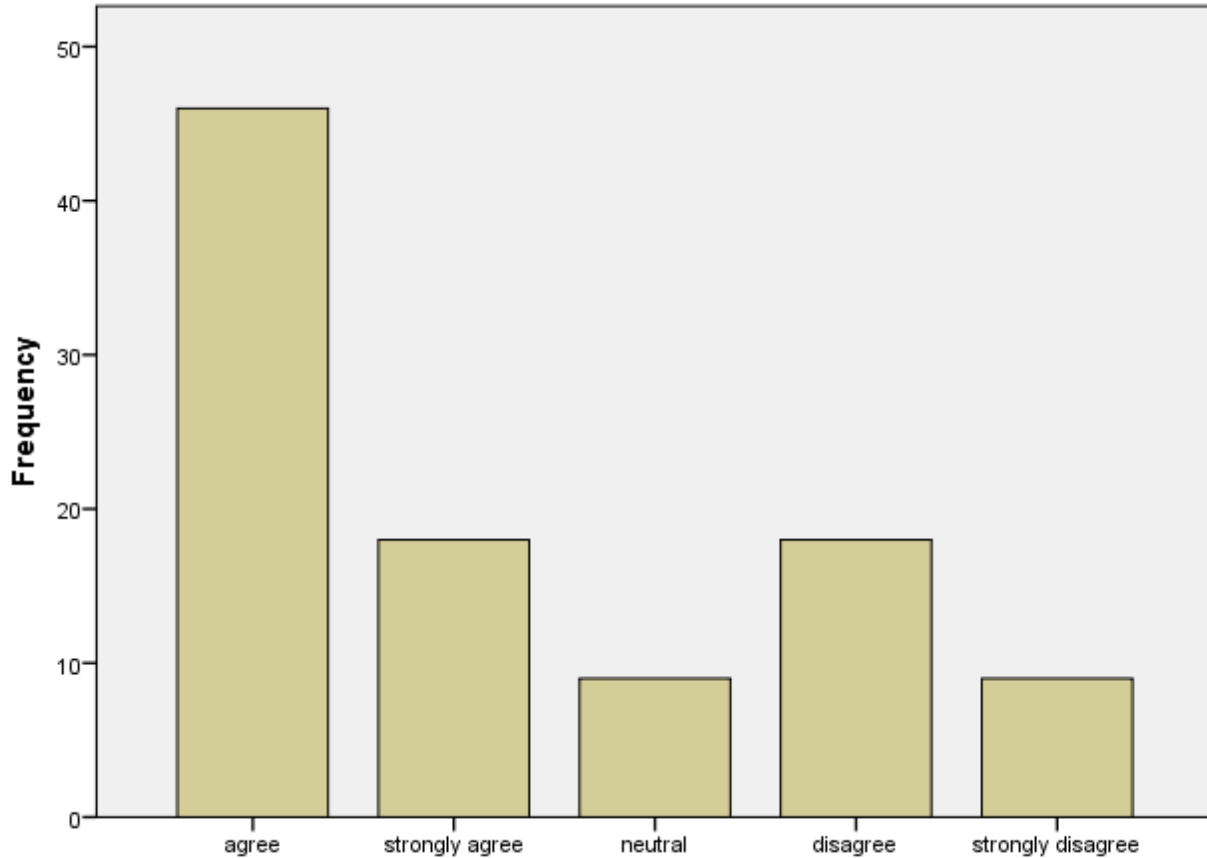
When asked about, they must have a good personality The answers were 30 agree, 30 very agree, 20 neutrals, and 20 disagree.



The academic advisor has a role in helping students					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	46	46.0	46.0	46.0
	strongly agree	18	18.0	18.0	64.0
	neutral	9	9.0	9.0	73.0
	disagree	18	18.0	18.0	91.0
	strongly disagree	9	9.0	9.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked about the academic advisor, he has a role in helping students The answers were 46 agree, 18 very agree, 9 neutrals, 18 disagree, and 9 strongly disagree.

The academic advisor has a role in helping students

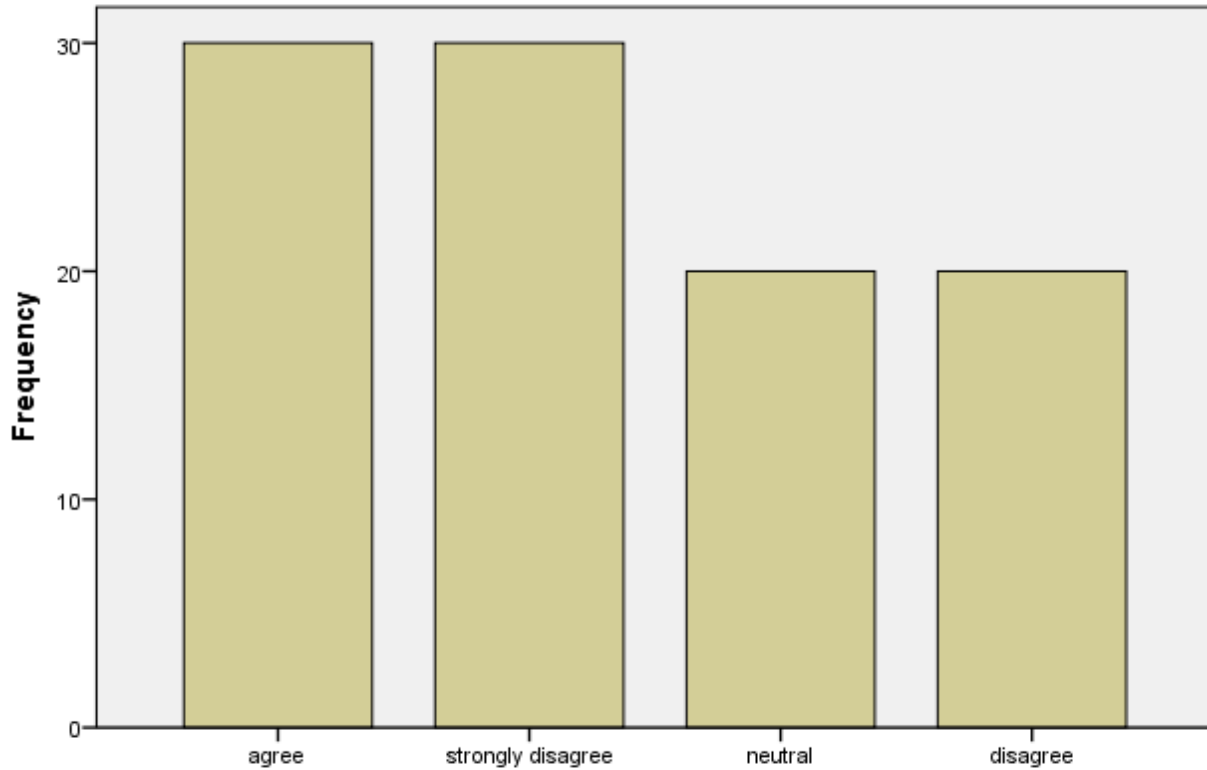


The academic advisor has a role in helping students

The academic advisor knows everything about university policy and practice in enough detail to provide students with accurate and usable information					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	30	30.0	30.0	30.0
	strongly agree	30	30.0	30.0	60.0
	neutral	20	20.0	20.0	80.0
	disagree	20	20.0	20.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked, the academic advisor knows all about university policy and practice in sufficient detail to provide students with accurate and usable information The answers were 30 agree, 30 very agree, 20 neutrals, and 20 disagree.

The academic advisor knows everything about university policy and practice in enough detail to provide students with accurate and usable information

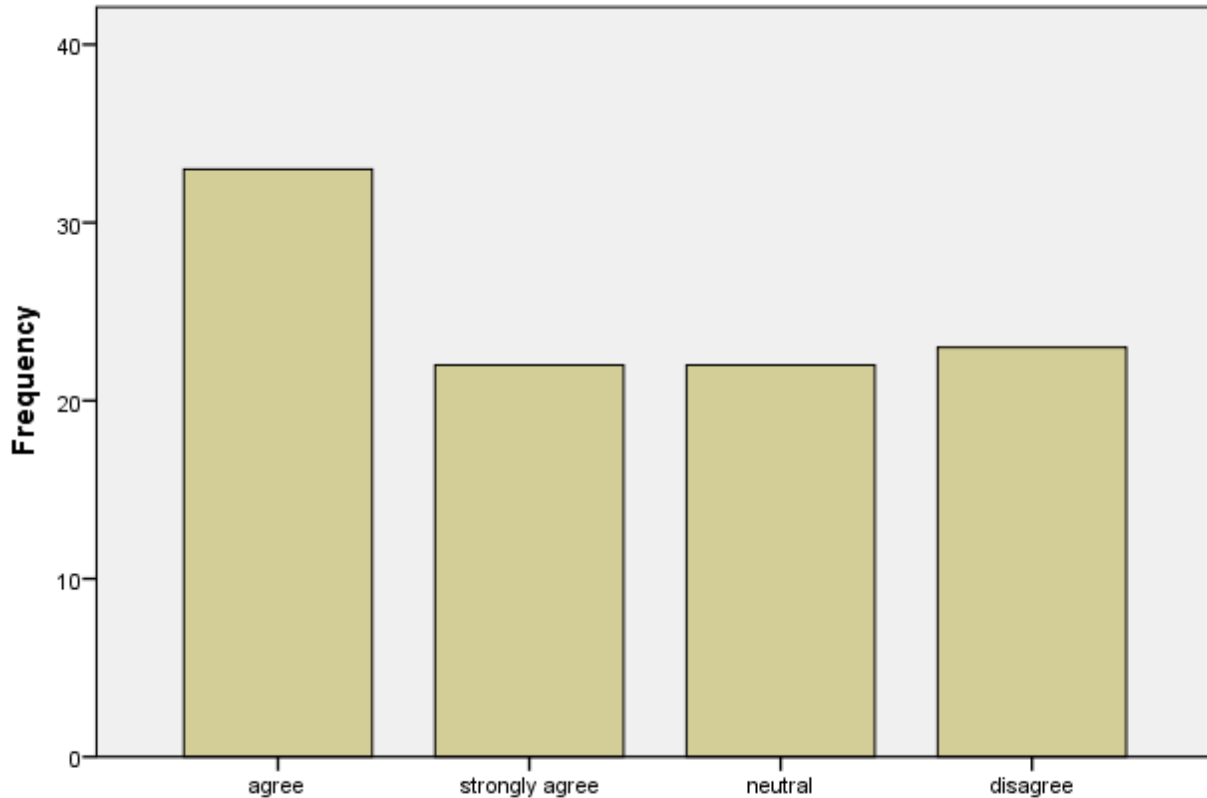


The academic advisor knows everything about university policy and practice in enough detail to provide students with accurate and usable information

The role of the academic advisor is to guide students and help them choose a research topic					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	33	33.0	33.0	33.0
	strongly agree	22	22.0	22.0	55.0
	neutral	22	22.0	22.0	77.0
	disagree	23	23.0	23.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked, the role of the academic advisor is to guide students and help them choose a research topic The answers were 33 agree, 22 very agree, 22 neutrals, and 23 disagree.

The role of the academic advisor is to guide students and help them choose a research topic

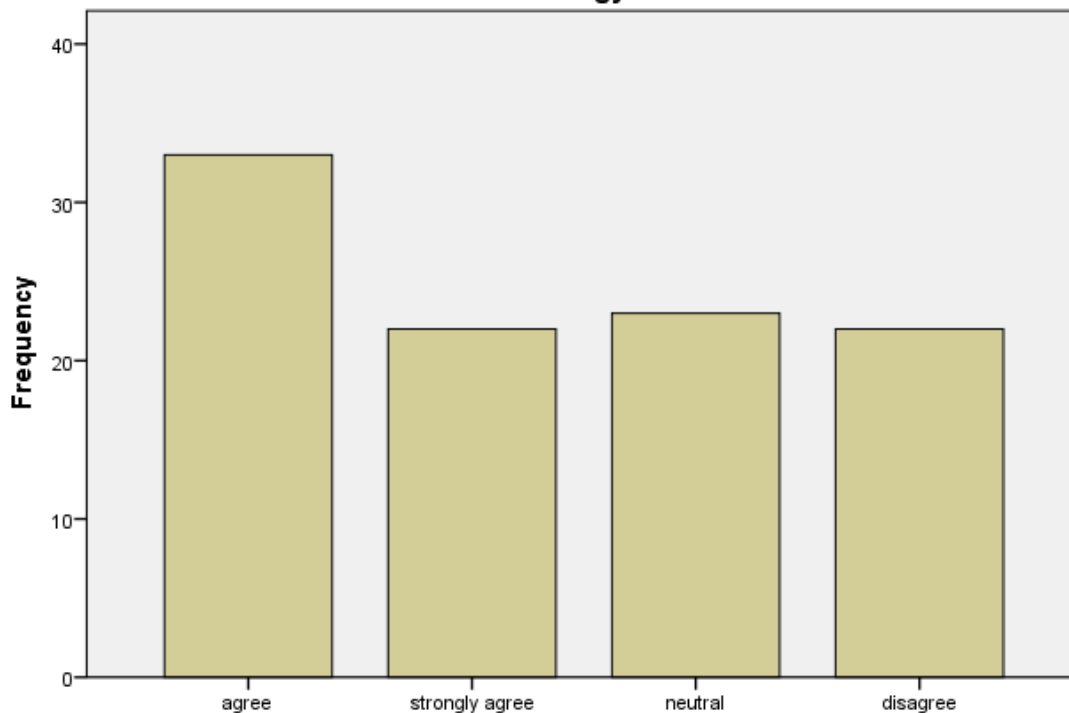


The role of the academic advisor is to guide students and help them choose a research topic

The academic advisor assists the students in choosing the research methodology					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	33	33.0	33.0	33.0
	strongly agree	22	22.0	22.0	55.0
	neutral	23	23.0	23.0	78.0
	disagree	22	22.0	22.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked, the academic advisor assists the students in choosing the research methodology The answers were 33 agree, 22 very agree, 22 neutrals, and 23 disagree.

The academic advisor assists the students in choosing the research methodology

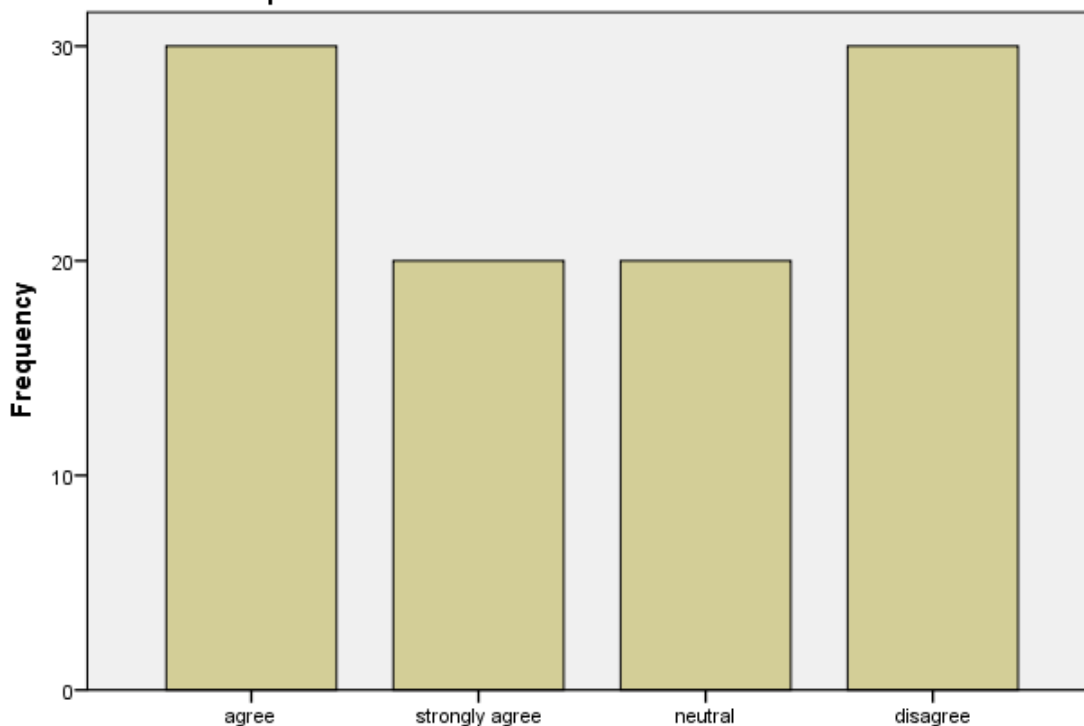


The academic advisor assists the students in choosing the research methodology

Helping the academic advisor for students to choose the curriculum leads to the production of a correct scientific material					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	30	30.0	30.0	30.0
	strongly agree	20	20.0	20.0	50.0
	neutral	20	20.0	20.0	70.0
	disagree	30	30.0	30.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked, the help of the academic advisor for the students to choose the curriculum leads to the production of correct scientific material The answers were 30 agree, 20 very agree, 20 neutrals, and 30 disagree.

Helping the academic advisor for students to choose the curriculum leads to the production of a correct scientific material

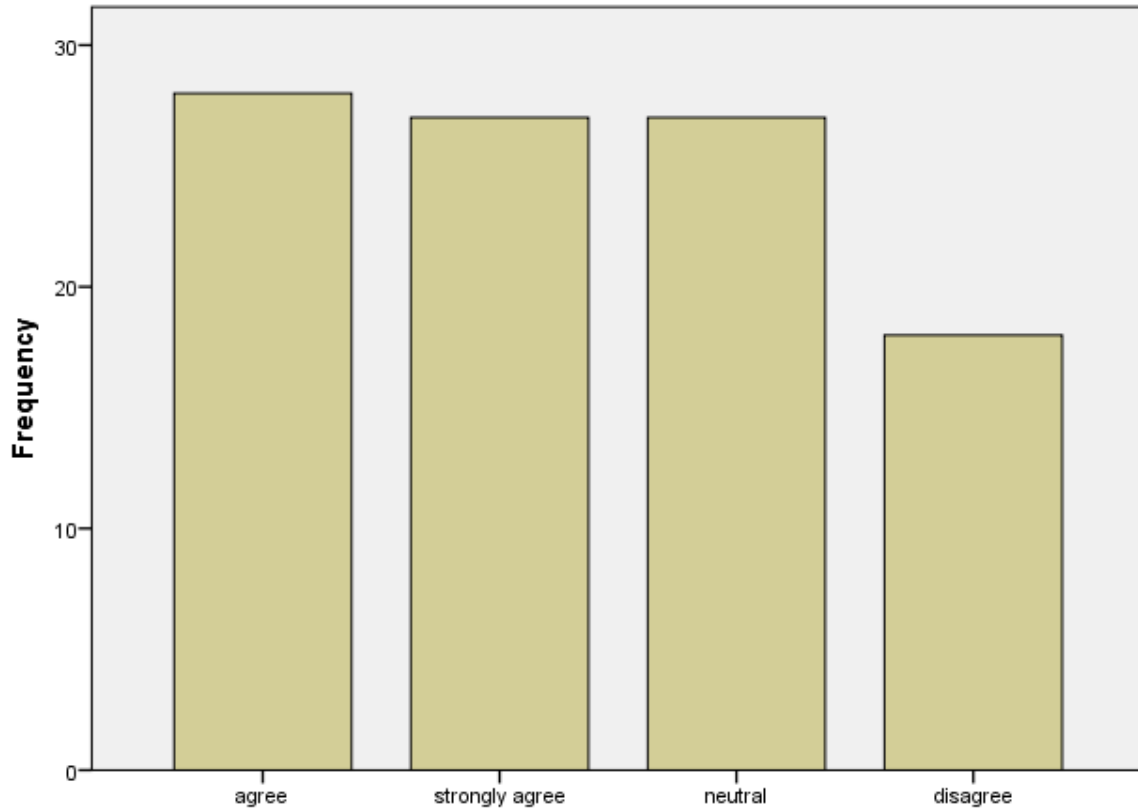


Helping the academic advisor for students to choose the curriculum leads to the production of a correct scientific material

The role of the academic advisor is not limited to mere guidance					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	28	28.0	28.0	28.0
	strongly agree	27	27.0	27.0	55.0
	neutral	27	27.0	27.0	82.0
	disagree	18	18.0	18.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked about the role of the academic advisor is not limited to mere guidance The answers were 28 Agree, 27 Very Agree, 27 Neutral and 18 Disagree.

The role of the academic advisor is not limited to mere guidance



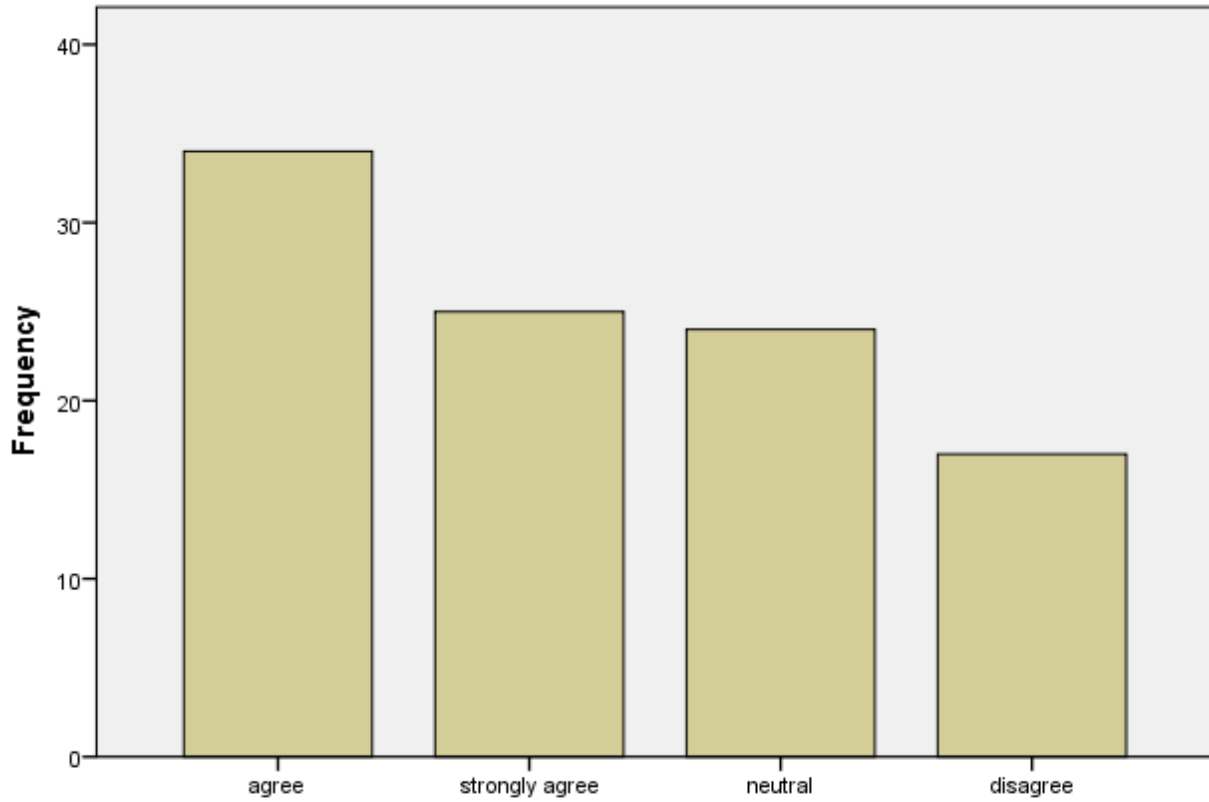
The role of the academic advisor is not limited to mere guidance

The academic advisor assists the students after choosing the research methodology

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	agree	34	34.0	34.0	34.0
	strongly agree	25	25.0	25.0	59.0
	neutral	24	24.0	24.0	83.0
	disagree	17	17.0	17.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

When asked about the academic advisor assisting the students after choosing the research methodology The answers were 34 Agree, 25 Very Agree, 24 Neutral and 17 Disagree.

The academic advisor assists the students after choosing the research methodology



The academic advisor assists the students after choosing the research methodology

The correlation:

Correlations

			A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8
	Pearson Correlation	1	.967**	.949**	.961**	.974**	.980**	.969**	.986**	.970**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A1	Pearson Correlation	.967**	1	.928**	.926**	.898**	.945**	.918**	.935**	.943**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A2	Pearson Correlation	.949**	.928**	1	.939**	.889**	.875**	.872**	.896**	.957**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A3	Pearson Correlation	.961**	.926**	.939**	1	.916**	.932**	.891**	.923**	.926**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000		.000	.000	.000	.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A4	Pearson Correlation	.974**	.898**	.889**	.916**	1	.975**	.969**	.987**	.927**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000		.000	.000	.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A5	Pearson Correlation	.980**	.945**	.875**	.932**	.975**	1	.972**	.986**	.917**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000		.000	.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A6	Pearson Correlation	.969**	.918**	.872**	.891**	.969**	.972**	1	.987**	.918**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000		.000	.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A7	Pearson Correlation	.986**	.935**	.896**	.923**	.987**	.986**	.987**	1	.935**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000		.000
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
A8	Pearson Correlation	.970**	.943**	.957**	.926**	.927**	.917**	.918**	.935**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	
	N	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Results & recommendations:

- There is a statistically significant relationship between the role of the counselor and the student's choice of the appropriate curriculum.
- The academic advisor contributes to producing correct educational content and correct guidance.
- We find that the Pearson correlation coefficient between the academic advisor and the choice of curriculum is .949 with a significance value of 0.000, which is also smaller than 0.01 and indicates that it is a statistical function and therefore there is a direct relationship.
- The role of the academic advisor is not limited to directing the student towards the use of the curriculum.

Researchers in English education encourages students to be more active in sharing, communicating, and incorporating information about their academic activities with their academic advisors for them to have a greater desire to complete their studies. Additionally, the researcher urged academic advisors to shape the academic advisor's timing, location, and educational background to be crucial. According to the researcher, it would be ideal if the professors serving in the role of academic advisors were all majoring in psychology. In addition, there will be a monthly or even bi-monthly meeting schedule. To keep the academic counseling process well-oiled, regular sessions can be held in a single room. Along with encouraging institutions in general to innovate standard operating procedures for academic advisors, the researcher also encourages the institution to the researcher. By the time it's needed, it'll be better if it's changed or innovated. To ensure that academic advisors are held to a higher standard of accountability, strict regulations must be in place regarding academic advising.

Conclusion:

The purpose of this study was to determine the role of academic advisors in helping students select a suitable course of study. A questionnaire was used to gather data for this quantitative descriptive study Gezira University, Sudan. There were 100 students in total, 50 of each gender. In this study, data were collected quantitatively through a questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive statistics. There is a statistically significant correlation between the roles of academic advisors and the selection of a course of study, according to data analysis. To summarize, the relationship between the academic advisor's and the student's roles in stimulating learning can be drawn. By analyzing the results, it can be concluded that students need authentic, valid and reliable counseling on each step from the selection of the course to the choice of the topic for research to achieve their academic goal. Hence, the more focus is required on training for solid counseling in academic institutions to reduce the drop outs, improve the performance of the students, and finally to achieve the ultimate goals to play a constructive role in today's globalized world.

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