



Supervision as Negotiated Practice

Recommendations for Supervisors of Honours and Coursework Dissertation Students

1. Prepare for supervision (understand the requirements, role, responsibilities, and boundaries of supervision)
2. Clarify expectations with co-supervisors
3. Clarify expectations with students
4. Meet regularly to monitor progress
5. Ask students to send a meeting summary with actions required after each meeting
6. Provide timely, constructive feedback
7. Involve the student in working through the process of developing a research question
8. Teach students the skills required to write a literature review
9. Guide students towards appropriate literature on methodologies, methods and analysis, helping them shape their ideas into a feasible research project
10. Guide students in data collection, analysis and interpretation, but do not do it for them
11. Encourage students to write frequently and provide feedback on technical components of writing as well as content
12. When project issues arise, work with students to identify the sources of the issue, evaluate possible solutions and monitor the effectiveness of strategies implemented
13. When progress stalls for personal reasons, help the student determine the nature of the problem, decide on a course of action and monitor progress
14. Supervisory expectations set at the beginning of the research project may need to be renegotiated over time to maintain an effective supervisor-student relationship
15. Keep the time spent on supervision as close to workload allocation as possible