



Supervisor-Student Relationship Survey

Read each a pair of statements below. Each expresses a point of view that supervisors and their graduate students may take. Estimate your position and mark it on the scale. For example, if you believe strongly that supervisors should select the research topic, you would circle "1" on the scale and if you definitely think it is the students responsibility to select a topic, circle 5.

Supervisor's selection:

Course of Study	It is a supervisor's responsibility to select a promising topic	1 2 3 4 5	It is a student's responsibility to select a promising topic
	The supervisor should decide the theoretical framework	1 2 3 4 5	A student has the right to choose a theoretical standpoint even if it conflicts with the supervisor's views
	The supervisor should direct a student in the development of their program of research and study	1 2 3 4 5	A student should be able to work out a schedule and research program
Communication	A supervisor should remind a student about submitting an annual progress tracking form	1 2 3 4 5	A student should be proactive in completing progress tracking forms
	A supervisor should initiate meetings with a student	1 2 3 4 5	A student should initiate supervisory meetings
	A supervisor should check constantly that a student is on track and working consistently	1 2 3 4 5	Students should find their own way without having to account for how they spend their time
Thesis	A supervisor should ensure that the thesis is completed within minimum time	1 2 3 4 5	Provided a student works steadily they should take the time they need to finish
	A supervisor has direct responsibility for the methodology and content of the thesis	1 2 3 4 5	A student has total responsibility for ensuring that the methodology and content of the thesis are suitable
	A supervisor should assist with the actual writing of the thesis if the student has difficulties and ensure that the presentation is flawless	1 2 3 4 5	A student must take full responsibility for the presentation of the thesis, including grammar and spelling
	A supervisor should insist on seeing drafts of every section of the thesis in order to give feedback on the work	1 2 3 4 5	It is up to the student to ask for feedback from supervisors

[Based on Moses, I. (1985). Supervising Postgraduates. In Holdaway, E., (Eds.). Supervision of Graduate Students. The Canadian Journal of Higher Education, XXV(3), 1-29.]



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Student's selection:

Course of Study	It is a supervisor's responsibility to select a promising topic	1 2 3 4 5	It is a student's responsibility to select a promising topic
	The supervisor should decide the theoretical framework	1 2 3 4 5	A student has the right to choose a theoretical standpoint even if it conflicts with the supervisor's views
	The supervisor should direct a student in the development of their program of research and study	1 2 3 4 5	A student should be able to work out a schedule and research program
Communication	A supervisor should remind a student about submitting an annual progress tracking form	1 2 3 4 5	A student should be proactive in completing progress tracking forms
	A supervisor should initiate meetings with a student	1 2 3 4 5	A student should initiate supervisory meetings
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	A supervisor should assist with the actual writing of the thesis if the student has difficulties and ensure that the presentation is flawless	1 2 3 4 5	A student must take full responsibility for the presentation of the thesis, including grammar and spelling
	A supervisor should insist on seeing drafts of every section of the thesis in order to give feedback on the work	1 2 3 4 5	It is up to the student to ask for feedback from supervisors

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Supervisor-Student Relationship Discussion Points

Possible Discussion Topics	Notes from Discussion
1. Supervisory meetings (e.g., how often)	
2. Communication between meetings (e.g., email; frequency)	
3. Feedback expectations (e.g., how often; turnaround times)	
4. Expectations for written work (e.g., submitting chunks or large sections; submitted electronically)	
5. Student funding	
6. Teaching/ Teaching Assistant responsibilities	
7. Research responsibilities (e.g., hours in lab; lab etiquette; safety training)	
8. Publication and intellectual property	
9. Authorship policies	
10. Professional development (e.g., conferences; writing courses; workshops)	