Information and Guidelines for Students*

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2018/03/11

• Guidelines for how I work with graduate students:

  1. I normally meet with all students I supervise every two weeks in a two-hour group meeting, set at a time convenient for all participants. I have found that students learn a great deal from each other in these meetings, and that they are also useful for imparting professional norms and expectations.

  2. Students who are out of the area Skype in to meetings. Meeting times are arranged to accommodate participants from anywhere in the world.

  3. In summers, meeting frequency drops to approximately monthly.

  4. Regular attendance is expected.

  5. Documents that students wish to share with others in the group will normally be deposited in a GitHub repo 48 hours prior to the meeting and be read by all participants.

  6. One student assumes quarterly responsibility to coordinate the meetings (reserving the room, ensuring technical set up and Skype connection, etc.).

  7. Unless it is unavailable, meetings take place in the Blue Room.

  8. All participants are expected to report research and professional progress at every meeting. It is usually best to do so in writing.

  9. Students may use these meetings to receive feedback on papers, presentations, grant proposals, and the like prior to finalizing the material. Students are free to bring repeated iterations of the same material to group meetings, and often do so.

  10. Materials presented to the group are considered confidential and should not be circulated to others without explicit permission from the author.

*For comments on an earlier draft, I thank Brian Hamel and Tara Slough.
11. Occasionally, meetings focus on a specific topic (e.g. your c.v.; your homepage; writing a grant proposal).

12. First year students who select me as their advisor are invited to join the group.

13. Students who transition to another advisor no longer participate in the group.

14. Students who complete their Ph.D.s but have not obtained tenure-track employment may choose to continue in the group.

15. Students are free to request an individual meeting with me. Sometimes, however, matters that students wish to discuss individually may be better discussed in the group. Any problem you have has been or will be a problem for someone else, and the group serves as an all-purpose site for professionalization, intellectual feedback, and moral support.

16. Students conducting field research are asked to fill in the Fieldwork Travel Form available under the Resources tab on my homepage so that I am aware of your location at all times and to make sure to register their travel with the university in order to mitigate risk. The university offers students (and their families) travel insurance, including emergency medical evacuation and security extraction.

17. You will need many letters of recommendation from me, and it is part of my job to write them. Especially before I get to know you well, please try to allow me a week to write and submit.

18. If you need me to serve as P.I. on a grant proposal, please make sure to allow preparation time to write the proposal, seek my feedback, and complete the necessary paperwork prior to submission.

- Students should currently expect the following when working with me:

  1. For writing, please use \LaTeX or RMarkdown.
  2. Lab materials will be stored on GitHub.
  3. For data analysis, please use Stata or R.
  4. Please generate your graphics in ggplot2.
  5. Lab communication will take place through Slack.
  6. Responses to group communication are expected within 48 hours.
  7. To communicate with me, please use email or (if urgent) iMessage.