

Expectations in Supervision

Division of Research and Innovation

To be completed by both the Higher Degree Researcher and their Supervisor within one month of candidature commencement and uploaded as part of the Core Component of the Structured Program (CCSP). You may find it useful to go back to this document throughout your candidature.

Student Name	
Student ID	
E-mail Address	
Current School/Discipline	

Supervisor's Responsibility

The Higher Degree Researcher (HDR) and Supervisor are asked to read each pair of statements below, discuss and agree their mutual position on each. Once you have discussed each of your answers, please select a mutually agreed position and record below.

For example, with statement 1, if you both believe very strongly that it is the supervisor's responsibility to select a good topic you would select '1'. If you both think that it is equal responsibility of the supervisor and candidate, you would select '3' and if you think it is the candidate's responsibility select '5'.

Student's Responsibility

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Supervisor responsibilities	1	2	3	4	5	Higher Degree Researcher's responsibilities
The supervisor is responsible for selecting the						The candidate is responsible for selecting their own
candidate's research topic.						research topic.
The supervisor decides which theoretical framework						The candidate decides which theoretical framework or
or methodology is most appropriate.						methodology they wish to use.
3. The supervisor should develop an appropriate scope						The supervisor should leave the development of scope
and timeline of research/study for the candidate.						and timeline of research/study to the student.
The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the						The candidate is responsible for ensuring that they are
candidate is aware of and has access to the services						aware of and have access to the services and facilities
and facilities they need.						they need.
5. The supervisor is responsible for advising the						The candidate is responsible for finding and being
candidate of all relevant policies, procedures, and						familiar with all relevant policies, procedures, and
requirements.						requirements.
6. The supervisor and the candidate should consider						The supervisor and the candidate should not consider
personal circumstances in managing candidature.						personal circumstances in managing candidature.
7. With the University's expectation of at least fortnightly						With the University's expectation of at least fortnightly
meetings, the supervisor is responsible for organizing						meetings, the candidate is responsible for organizing
meetings with the candidate.						meetings with the supervisor.
8. With the University's expectation of timely feedback,						With the University's expectation of timely feedback,
the supervisor is responsible for ensuring feedback is						the student is responsible for ensuring the feedback
appropriate for the candidate to progress.						they receive is appropriate for them to progress.
9. If the supervisory panel provides conflicting feedback,						If the supervisory panel provides conflicting feedback,
the Principal Supervisor is responsible for giving the						the candidate should decide the right direction to take.
candidate clear direction.						
10. The supervisor should check regularly that the						The candidate should work independently and not
candidate is working consistently and on task.						have to account for how and where time is spent.
11. The supervisor and the candidate should consider						The supervisor and candidate should not consider
emotions when giving and receiving feedback.						emotions when giving and receiving feedback.
12. The supervisor should insist on seeing all drafts of						Candidates should decide when to submit drafts of
work to ensure that the candidate is on the right track.						work to the supervisor.
13. The supervisor is responsible for correcting written						The candidate is responsible for correcting written
work (e.g. structure, content, consistency, accuracy,						work (e.g. structure, content, consistency, accuracy,
completeness, spelling, grammar and punctuation).						completeness, spelling, grammar and punctuation).
14. The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the						It is up to the student to ensure the thesis is ready for
thesis is ready for submission by the required date.						submission by the required date.

Scale adapted from version developed by Margaret Kiley and Kate Cadman, from original scale developed by Ingrid Moses, Centre for Learning and Teaching, University of Sydney; and the Expectations of Research Supervision tool developed by Kearns and Finn, 2017 – updated 27 February 2023

ertification by Principal Supervisor	Student name	Signature here	 Date
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Principal Supervisor name Signature here Date	ertification by Principal Supervisor		
	Principal Supervisor name	Signature here	Date