

**Jodi Dworkin****Professor, Extension Specialist, & Associate Department Head**

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This advising statement (outlining my approach to advising and my expectations for advisees) is a working document to enhance our relationship. It is designed to open a dialogue for discussing your goals, and how we can best work together to help you reach those goals.

**Communication:**

The easiest way to get in touch with me is via email. I usually respond quickly (usually within a day). If something needs a response and you haven't heard from me, assume it is still in my inbox and please send me a reminder. If my door is open, you are always welcome to stop in for a chat, to share something amazing that happened, or discuss a challenge or difficult situation you are encountering.

**Meetings:**

In general, I expect students to participate in weekly or bi-weekly team meetings, and to show up to each meeting prepared with any tasks that needed to be complete ahead of time and ready to contribute to the conversation. I also schedule individual meetings (usually weekly or bi-weekly) with students. That ensures we have time to connect when needed and also allows for just a quick check-in if there's nothing pressing to discuss. If meetings are short, that's okay.

**Feedback:**

I am always willing and available to provide feedback. I appreciate advance notice so I can block time on my calendar and give your work sufficient attention. I am usually able to get feedback to you within 5 days (often quicker). I always provide a lot of feedback on writing. As I go through a paper, I include all my thoughts, questions, and accolades. Please take this as a sign that I have devoted significant time to whatever you have sent me. I expect that you think about every comment and expect that you won't simply accept my track changes or suggested edits. Comments are an opportunity to think about how someone else has read your work, think about whether or not that was what was intended, and then envision how you might be able to make your point differently. You are always welcome to reject a suggestion or edit your document in another way.

**Program Requirements:**

We will check in at least annually about your program requirements and degree progress. I expect that you will spend time with the graduate handbook, and be familiar with processes and forms. I may miss something; please do not expect me to keep track of it for you.

**Publications & Presentations:**

I view the portfolio as a minimum set of guidelines. I expect students to graduate with multiple first author publications and even more co-author publications. In addition to building your CV, you are gaining critical experiences to support your development as a scholar and your independence. Similarly, I expect students to be actively submitting to present at least one peer-reviewed professional conference paper or poster each year. I want students to be authors, and to understand how scholarly contributions contribute to authorship so they feel confident in negotiating that and advocating for themselves. I expect students will recognize my contributions and the contributions of others with authorship. Authorship is something we will discuss throughout a project. Please ask questions.

## **Leadership & Professional Development:**

I expect you to find professional spaces that you can call home and to be engaged with the communities in those professional organizations – they don't need to be the same places I call home. However, there is value in at least sometimes engaging in similar spaces as it allows me to connect you with other current and emerging scholars in the field. This includes seeking out service opportunities and committee roles in the department, college, university, and profession, as well as volunteering to review conference proposals and journal manuscripts. This kind of networking is critical for your growth and development as a scholar, and identifying future career opportunities.

## **Personal Life:**

I have one and expect you to have one too. And this requires communication. When there are no classes during spring break and winter break, your RA and TA appointments continue, and I expect that you'll continue to make progress on your work. If you are traveling, please communicate about that ahead of time so we can plan accordingly and adjust work as needed. If you have family needs that may require you to participate in a meeting virtually or bring children to meetings – no problem – just communicate with me so we both know what to expect.

## **Ethics:**

I expect all of my students to abide by the [University of Minnesota](#) code of conduct, and all ethical standards of research as outlined by the [APA](#) and the [National Council on Family Relations](#) (NCFR).

## **What I expect from you:**

- Take responsibility for your own learning, identify research questions or outreach projects that you are interested in and propose publications and presentations.
- Be willing to challenge yourself and me.
- Hold high expectations for both of us and your peers.
- Be willing to work hard, make a lot of revisions, and attend to details (do not expect me to be your APA editor).
- Be intellectually curious.
- Meet deadlines.
- Go above and beyond – if you don't know how to do something, don't wait for our weekly meeting to ask, go find the answer or reach out with questions. If you are running analyses and you don't find what you're expecting, ask yourself why, and find other ways to ask your question.
- You will be presented with opportunities – it is your responsibility to take them (and we can talk about when to say no).
- As you move through the program, I will expect you to take on more responsibility, leadership, and initiative for your scholarship.

## **What you can expect from me:**

- Support and mentoring to help you reach your goals
- Regular meetings and email conversations
- Timely responses
- Willingness to problem solve
- Support for developing research projects, ideas, and your scholarly voice
- Opportunities for publications and presentations
- Meet deadlines
- Intellectual curiosity
- High expectations for both of us
- Opportunities to talk about and create work-life balance